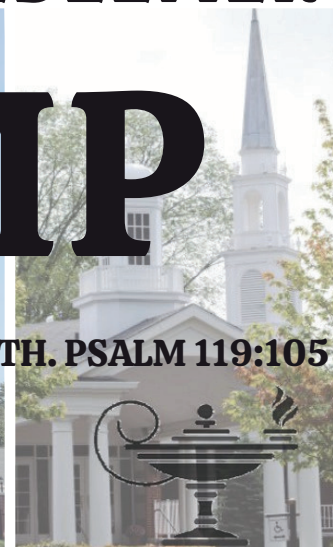
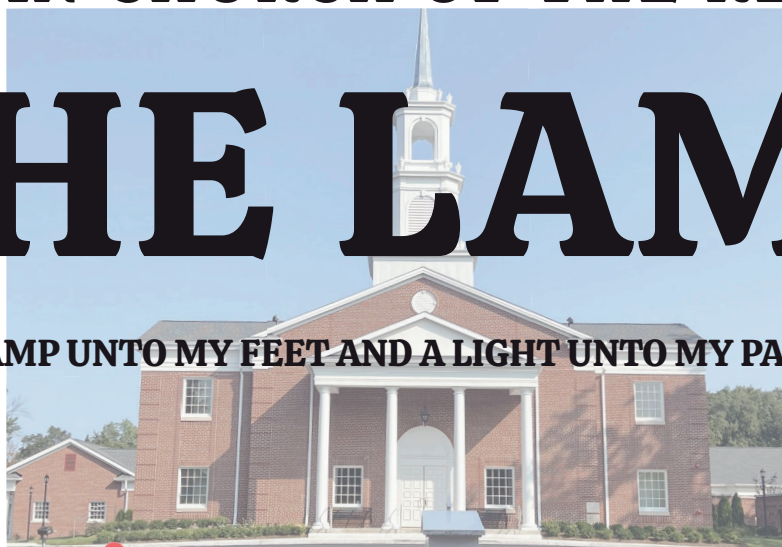
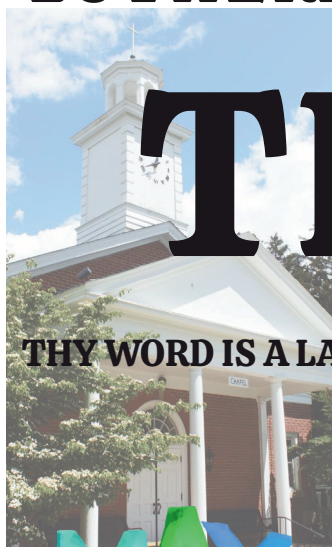


LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH. PSALM 119:105



MAY
2025

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IN LOVING MEMORY

Excerpt from *"My Life Stories,"* written by Pastor Ron Farah

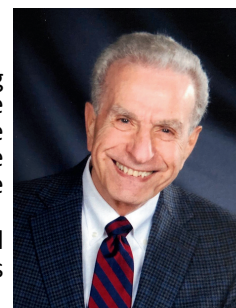
Writing this book has been an extremely fulfilling experience. I have enjoyed thinking and writing about the memories of my life from my childhood years to the present. They have brought to mind the many ways I have been blessed by God. I have been humbled by the way He has chosen to use me in many positive ways whether it

was through my work or through my relationships with family and friends. I have been deeply touched thinking about the way He has blessed me through the people he brought into my life, people who have loved me, enriched me, and corrected me. It has been good and enlightening to recognize some of my failings and shortcomings – we can never stop working at becoming the kind of person God would like us to be.

As I approached the writing of this last chapter it seemed only right to focus on the most important factor of my life – my faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord and the effect that faith has had on me. It is so easy to go through life thinking about what YOU want and do not want and what YOU like and do not like. These become, so easily, your priorities in life. But it becomes a problem when what you want and like does not match God's plan for you. Those moments present a challenge, often an unconscious challenge, of trying to determine who should be the God that rules our life. It comes down to two choices. The first choice is my Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who beautifully and wonderfully reveals Himself to me through His Holy Word. The second choice is to make myself my own god so that I can do what I want and think what I want. To loosely quote the Apostle Paul mankind lives with the ongoing decision of worshiping its true creator or turning its back on that creator and becoming its own god. Too often we do not life the guidance God gives through his Word and choose, therefore, to reject that Word. We have all done it and will continue to do it as long as we live on this earth even though we may recognize it is not the best way to go. We find ways to convince ourselves that the true God is willing to make exceptions that allow us to satisfy our own needs and desires even though those needs and desires may conflict with his Word. Truth be told, some people find that works for them.

But now I must speak about what I believe and what I have discovered in this regard. When the creature rejects its creator and goes its own way there is a significant chance that it could lead to dissatisfaction and unhappiness. I have discovered that the challenge of going along with the Word of God will, in the end, lead to much greater peace and happiness. I have discovered that accepting God's definition of who I am prepares me for life much better than me defining for myself who I am. I have discovered that finding my purpose in life through God and his Word produces much better results over against trying to discover for myself my purpose in life. I have discovered – sometimes after falling flat on my face – that living my life according to the goals God laid out for me is so much more fulfilling – though sometimes more challenging – than the goals I laid out for myself.

Yet, in spite of learning all these things which are good for me, the temptation to be my own God continues to live within me. To once again paraphrase the Apostle Paul, I struggle with the fact that the things I know I should do I don't do and the things I know I should not do I do. How can I even look at myself in the mirror without feeling I have too often failed which can lead to the feeling of being a total failure. Then, Paul adds the words, "But thanks be to



Continued on Page 7

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009

Phone: 248-644-4010

E-mail: redeemer@redeemberirmingham.org

Website: www.redeemberbirmingham.org

Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Rev. Randall J. Schlak - Senior Pastor	ext. 119
Rev. James Greenwalt - Assistant Pastor	ext. 117
Gary Priskorn - Dir. of Men's and Senior Ministry	ext. 123
Kitty Sweitzer - Dir. of Women's Ministry	ext. 111
Nicole Olds - Dir. of Children's Ministry	ext. 124
Steve SeGraves - Dir. of Music	ext. 129
Laura Vowell - Dir. of Family Life, Middle School, Confirmation & Outreach	ext. 121
Gia Scheidt - Dir. of High School	ext. 120
Eric Wisniewski - Assistant Dir. High School	ext. 120
Kim Davis - Dir. of Fellowship	248.613.4200
Pat Raezler - Dir. of Westmaple Nursery	ext. 126
Rose Kiehle - Office Manager	ext. 116
Carrie Morris - Office Coordinator	ext. 114
Jamie Thompson - Office Coordinator	ext. 118
Laura Jones - Accountant	ext. 110
Fred Suczynski - Building Maintenance	ext. 113
Dr. Sandy Pourcho - Counseling Center	248.568.6040

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Mondays - 7:00pm (Chapel)

*Livestreamed Service

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

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

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

MARCH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Worship	500	559
Bible Class	117	113
Sunday School	24	20
Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	754	487
Visitors	95	120
Income and Expenses	2025	2024
Income Received	\$164,898	\$249,769
Budget Requirements	\$162,886	\$189,071
General Fund Expenses	\$183,470	\$187,448
YTD Fiscal-Year Income	\$1,432,368	\$1,442,037
YTD Fiscal Year Expenses	\$1,326,909	\$1,241,937

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Stewardship in the Body of Christ

Baseball season is upon us. The southern images of spring training give way to the pageantry of Opening Day. On that day, the hopes and dreams of every major league team, player and fan focus on doing whatever it takes to get to the Fall Classic, the World Series. Baseball is a secular way that so many of us confess that hope "springs" eternal.

With all of this in mind, baseball can also teach us a new perspective about stewardship. Think about the game itself. Baseball is a team sport. The home team faces off against the visitors. Yet while it is a team game, there are repetitive, individual confrontations that take place within the game. The baseball game cannot start without the individual pitcher against the hitter. Once the batted ball is in play, the battle is between the ability of the fielder against the speed of the baserunner. Once there is a runner on base, an attempt to steal a base pits the runner against the catcher. A base hit into the outfield pits the outfielder against a runner trying to score.

Baseball is a team game with many smaller units at play. Without all those smaller units working together and achieving their tasks, the team will lose.

Romans 12 puts our stewardship of the Gospel in a similar setting. The church is certainly described as a team, if you will.

Verse 3: *"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."* This is where the Body of Christ is really seen as a team. No one member of the baseball team can win the game by themselves. In the same way, no one part of the Body of Christ can accomplish stewardship of the Gospel alone. The pastor cannot. The congregational chair cannot. The lead soprano in the choir cannot. But each of these individuals have been added to the local congregation to be built into a team that can win the victory with Jesus.

Verses 4-5: *"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."* In baseball, the pitcher pitches. The catcher catches. The hitter hits. When a pitcher attempts to hit, the result is usually not very pretty. Catchers often do not excel at running the bases. The hitter usually does not do well when they are sent to the mound to pitch. Every member of the Body of Christ has a unique set of abilities and functions. Not everyone preaches. Not everyone leads. Not everyone sings well. Yet when the congregation assembles together as a team, it can succeed in ways unattainable by the individual.

Verses 6-8: *"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."* Each member of the team has a role to play. Abilities and opportunities are

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

entrusted to the individual members of the Body of Christ to be used for the ultimate purpose of stewarding the Gospel for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor. The one preaching is no more or less important than the others. The one serving or the one teaching, the leader or the merciful one — all are equally important in the faithful stewardship of all that the Lord has entrusted to the Body of Christ. All this stewardship is for the sake of the other!

A baseball team can have five All-Star pitchers but cannot win if the hitters do not hit. The best lineup in the league will struggle if the pitchers cannot get anyone on the other team out. Pitchers need the defense behind them to play well. Coaches need to lead well. When they all work together, you have a winning baseball team. When the Body of Christ has all its members faithfully stewarding the unique individual talents that have been entrusted to them, the victory goes to Jesus! This is the goal of faithful stewardship! It is all about Jesus!

**Credit LCMS Stewardship Newsletter*



IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION



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, alter items, or trees - any items the church may need). For more information on this, please contact **Pastor Randy**.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Dear God, as May begins, we thank you for the beauty of the season and the new opportunities it brings. May your blessings be upon us, guiding our steps and filling our hearts with joy and peace. As the world awakens from the slumber of winter, and the earth is adorned with blossoms of hope, we come before You in gratitude for the beauty of springtime. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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 May
are available around the building.***

MAY Lamp

PASTORAL ACTS **BAPTISMS**

3/23/2025 Bennett Morris Schlitt
son of Ian and Jenna Schlitt

3/30/2025 Elizabeth Eileen and Evelyn Ethel
Jimenez
*twin daughters of Daniel and Kathryn
Jimenez*

3/30/2025 Madison Blair and Callum Alexander
Fleck
*twin daughter and son of Brian and
Molly Fleck*

WEDDINGS

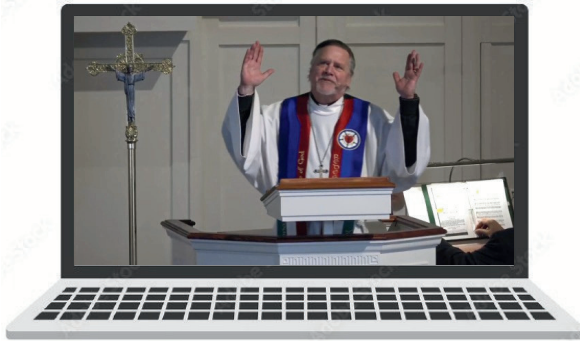
3/29/2025 Jacob William Hessen and Amanda
Lynn Ingledue

FUNERALS

3/26/2025 Emily Norah Hilborn-Smith



PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

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



WHEN VIEWING ON SMARTPHONE OR TABLET:
Right below the church description, select the word **VIDEO** to watch the current live video and **ABOUT** to learn more about Redeemer. You can watch **PAST VIDEOS** under the Showcase option.

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

- Go to the church website.
www.redeemberbirmingham.org
- Click the second Vimeo square on the front page of the website.
- This will take you to "Redeemer's Showcase" page where you can view all of Redeemer's past videos. Choose the category you'd like and select the video.



Please don't hesitate to contact the Church Office if you encounter any difficulties viewing videos.

KINDLY NOTE: If you are struggling to hear the audio on Vimeo, simply click on the closed-caption option to read the dialogue. The closed caption button is labeled CC (in a box) located at the bottom right of the screen.

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GETTING A FLORAL LIFT!*

EXCITING NEWS - we have a new flower vendor! Tiffany Florist, a landmark in Birmingham since 1973, is taking the reins. As of May 1st, there will be a slight increase for Altar flowers, but Lectern flowers will be slightly less. New rates are as follows:

- Sanctuary: \$75
- Chapel: \$55
- 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 your email you receive to confirm your sign-up. Alternatively, you can email your dedication to the **Church Office**, drop off your check at the Church Office, or leave payment in the Sunday morning offering plate **clearly marked "Altar Flowers."**

Please remember to leave the flower liners for the following week when collecting your flowers! Sanctuary flowers can be picked up after Sunday's 10:30am service, and Chapel flowers after Monday's 7:00pm service. For assistance, please reach out to the **Church Office** for support.

**Sign-up links can be found on the church's website by selecting "WAYS TO SERVE" and then "Altar and Lectern Flower Sign-Up."*



Tiffany Florist - 784 S. Old Woodward Ave., Birmingham, MI 48009

We are a real brick and mortar florist. We receive fresh flowers daily from around the world. We strive to source local whenever possible. We have partners with a small urban flower farm called The Flower Project for our local florals. We have been serving this area for many years and are known for high-quality, long-lasting flowers and a 100% satisfaction guarantee. We only carry premium roses and flowers that are known for their long vase life. We also strive to source local flowers whenever possible.



Hearing Loop
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

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.

MAY Lamp

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

VOLUNTEER AT REDEEMER



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

COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion in your pew during the church service, **kindly inform one of the ushers before the service starts**, and they will be sure to accommodate your request.

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.

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.

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!



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!

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!

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).



HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

May 14

June 11

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

May 28

July 23



Should you receive a phone call or an email from Pastor Randy requesting gift cards or valuable items, **PLEASE IGNORE IT!** Be sure to look carefully at the email address – if it does not come from

rschlak@redeemberbirmingham.org,

it is **NOT** from Pastor Randy. **Please delete the email and AVOID RESPONDING.**

If you are unsure, kindly forward the email to or contact the Church Office, and we will look into it further for you.

UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

Kindly log in to your ShelbyNext Membership, church database, to verify or update your family's profile information. For quick access to the church directory and calendar while on the move, download the **ShelbyNext Membership app** on your phone or smart device (the domain name is **redeemberbirmingham**). Alternatively, you can log in via the church's website on your desktop computer by selecting "CHURCH MEMBERSHIP."

If you would like assistance with updating your profile or need help with your login credentials, please reach out to the Church Office.

****Please be aware that we no longer send out printed directories since our online database is always changing. If you prefer a printed copy, kindly contact the Church Office, and we will happily provide you with the latest directory.***

NOTE: If your adult children have relocated to their own address, please inform us so we can update their details while keeping the family linked in our database. If they have moved and no longer wish to receive communications or are attending another church, we can remove them from our database.

charles
SCHWAB

DONATE YOUR STOCK TO REDEEMER

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

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

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

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

LUTHERAN SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP



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

Parents re-enrolling your children at either Our Shepherd or LHNW for the 2025-2026 school year, please inform Carrie Morris in the Church Office by May 15th.



HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

Continued from Page 1

God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Do those words change things? Absolutely! Now I look in the mirror and see not a failure but a person who is loved by God so much that he was willing to send his Son to earth to suffer and die for me on the cross – a death that earned for me the forgiveness of all my failures (sins). And that was followed by His resurrection from the dead which assures me of eternal life in heaven in his presence. Such love is an encouragement that should lead me to want to follow him according to his Word "to the ends of the earth." I, often, find myself contemplating the amazing face that God loves me so much in spite of who I am.

What I know of God comes from his Word. In that Word I find guidance and direction for my life which, if followed, really works. In that Word I find his overwhelming love shown so clearly through the gift of his Son. In my quest for peace and happiness here on earth I often follow a path of my own choosing only to discover how much better it would be to follow His path. What a joy it is to get redirected onto His path.

In closing, I want to thank my wife, Talitha, for gifting me the opportunity to write this book. It has turned out to be an amazing journey. Words cannot describe my love for her and how important she is in my life.



LIBRARY LIGHTS

As the days become longer, brighter, and warmer, consider stopping by the Redeemer Library for a few books or a movie to fill your time! We have everything from non-fiction (in both books and movies) to youth picture books and adult fiction. Many of our books are faith-based, which can be hard to find in a public library. Find your next favorite character, learn about Christ's life or just get lost in history. The Redeemer Library is a magnificent place to explore!

In our DVD section, the feature film **Sunrise in Heaven** is a beautiful story about a woman who turns to her faith in God as her husband, who is hospitalized due to a car accident, fights for his life while in a coma. This movie, based on a true story, is an inspiring example of putting all your faith in God and in prayer.

Our fiction section contains many books and series by Christian author, **Karen Kingsbury**. Her books are beautiful, modern stories about growing, loving, and changing family relationships and life circumstances with keeping Christ at the center. Her "**Baxter Family Drama**" series has been recently turned into a TV series, but you can read it from our library! Book 1 in the series, "**Redemption**," tells the story of Kari Baxter Jacobs who must find a way to move forward in the midst of her husband's affair. Her faith and family are a source of strength, but is love enough and can there be any recovery of this breach of trust?

Elementary and Middle School-aged kids love the book series "**Diary of a Wimpy Kid**" by **Jeff Kinney**. There are over 20 books in this graphic novel series about an unforgettable and unlikely middle school hero, Greg Heffley. Greg turns to journaling about his new middle school experiences in a hilarious and totally relatable way. From friendships (new and old), athletics try-outs, school lunch, tests and the dog days of summer... no topics are left unexplored.

We hope you find something to enjoy in our library!



THE VALUE OF VBS

Did you know... In 1943, when VBS first started, the registration fee for the entire 3-week program for ages 3-14 was \$1.00 to cover the cost of materials. Within a short time, the fee was raised to \$1.25.

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



May 1

National Day of Prayer
Chicks with Sticks

May 2

Confirmation Rehearsal

March 3

Confirmation Day

May 4

Mt. Everest Guest Speaker
Prime Timer Event

May 6

Prime Timer's Committee
Planning Meeting

May 10

Tim Zimmerman and
The King's Brass Concert

May 11

Mother's Day

May 14

Fred Hollis Memorial Bocce Ball
Tournament
Leadership Team Meeting

May 15

Chicks with Sticks

May 17

Langsford Men's Chorus Concert

May 21

Wednesday Lunch and Worship
VBS Decoration Crafting Night

May 22

Westmaple Graduation

May 26

Memorial Day
Church Office and Building Closed

May 28

Board of Elders Meeting

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



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



June 1

100th Anniversary Celebration
Service and Brunch

June 9-12

Vacation Bible School Prep
Week

June 11

Leadership Team Meeting

June 16-20

Vacation Bible School

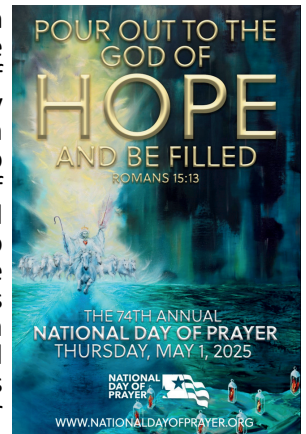
*Please visit the church website
for a full list of events:
www.redeembermirmingham.org*



POUR OUT TO THE GOD OF HOPE AND BE FILLED

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

The annual National Day of Prayer will be held on **Thursday, May 1st**, inviting people to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. Our Task Force is a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation on the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The Task Force represents a Judeo-Christian expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.



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!

KID KAT KAMP 2025

Kampers will ARRIVE on SUNDAY, AUGUST 3RD
and LEAVE Kamp on SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH!



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

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN TO ALL!

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

If you have any questions about Kamp, please review our Registration Page and Kamp FAQs on the church website. If you still have questions, please send us an email (redemerkamp@gmail.com).

MAY Lamp



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

No charge to attend - no sign-up needed.

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

Questions? Please contact Gary Priskorn.



CALLING ALL BAKERS!

VBS provides snacks for the kiddos attending, but the teens and adults that volunteer their time love a little something, too!

Please consider providing a snack (bagels, baked goods, chips/pretzels, fruit/veggies, etc.) for our hard workers.

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



WE NEED YOU!

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

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

Thank you for making this week possible for our kiddos!

REDEEMER'S 100TH **ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** ***JUNE 1, 2025***

In just a weeks' time, 150 people have signed up to attend Redeemer's 100th Anniversary Luncheon Bash!

So, what is this all about? Immediately following the 10:30am service on Sunday, June 1, 2025, and after you have listened to guest Pastor Mark Wuggazer - a Redeemer kid born and raised in this church! - we will celebrate with a delicious Nino Salvaggio brunch featuring salads, quiche, fruits, pastries, sandwiches, desserts, and a special consideration for our children - a Dino-nugget and mac-and-cheese bar complete with Ranch dressing! There will be table entertainment for the young ones while the young at heart will enjoy each other's company and conversation with a very short program, a few remarks, and a lovely meal meant to bring us together in fellowship and celebration.

Tables will be set for 8 people (maybe squeeze 9-but you have to let Kitty know!). You will need a ticket (*free*) to save a seat. Of course, we will always have room for one more, but you will save the committee a last-minute frenzy by signing-up in-advance.

We are in need of many helpers who will only be asked to serve for a short amount of time to get things rolling. Then, at the end of luncheon, you will find me in the kitchen cleaning up, alongside YOU -I hope!

This is a special, one-of-a-kind day, and you won't want to miss it! Questions? Call or email Kitty!

Tickets will be available until Sunday, May 18th and can be picked-up during Coffee Hour or from Kitty's office. Free will donation appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS **NEEDED**

100th Anniversary Celebratory Church Service and Congregational Luncheon

We are in need of helping hands in-advance of our celebration to make the day as special as possible!

Some light work and small tasks will go a long way to help prepare for this wonderful occasion. If you would like to lend a hand, please contact Miss Kitty to learn more!

PRAISES FOR PALMS!

Many thanks and pats on the back for Tom and Kathy Eley, and their team of palm cross volunteers! The team made over 800 crosses this year and we only had a few left over.

Those leftover crosses made their way to Westmaple Nursery School, and the children loved them! Thanks everyone for helping to make these beautiful, little reminders of the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem unfolding God's plan! We are grateful!

CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS!



JAMES BURKE

"Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."
Colossians 2:7

James goes to school at BCS where his favorite class is science. He plays tennis for his school team, as well as for his Country Club. His dog, family, and friends make him happiest in life. His favorite vacation was one to Greece where he got to visit the Parthenon. In his free time, he likes to build Legos, watch movies, play video games, and play with his dog. James hopes to go to UofM and play tennis. His favorite Confirmation memory is going on the JAMS retreats, the 5&5 parties, and attending class. Fun fact about James is he lived in China for 2 years! He admires his parents most because "they are awesome."



BLAKE DOBBS

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"
Psalm 27:1

Blake goes to school at Berkshire Middle School where his favorite subject is math. At school, Blake is in the National Junior Honors Society. He plays a LOT of soccer, daily he says. His family and friends make him the happiest. His favorite hobbies are fishing, being outdoors, playing Rocket League, and more soccer. Blake's favorite vacation was a trip to JW Marriot Ridge in Arizona. He remembers the waterslides, being with family, and the car museum. His plans for the future are to attend college and study to be an accountant. During Confirmation, Blake enjoyed learning more about the gospel and the important events in the Bible. He admires Jesus most because "he has had a big impact on my life and He loves me and He saved me."



CAM FRIEDRICH

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."
Philippians 2:3

Cam goes to school at Royal Oak Middle School where his favorite class is history. He is big into sports and plays baseball where he is a pitcher and catcher, and football where he is quarterback. His family, friends, football, and baseball make him happiest in life. When not playing sports, he enjoys playing cards and watching TV. His favorite vacation was a cruise where he got to enjoy unlimited strawberry daiquiris and the private island resort. In the future, Cam wants to attend college and play baseball. His favorite part of Confirmation was learning about Jesus and all the fun activities. He most admires his Mom because "she's hardworking and does everything for me and my siblings."



GRANT HARPER

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

Grant goes to Berkshire Middle School where he loves gym and plays the drums in the band. When not in school he plays baseball and bowls with the Miracle League. He also plays Special Olympics Bocce with school. His favorite trips include going on cruises, Disney World, and Cedar Point. His most-favorite thing to do is go to the Detroit Tigers games.



CALEB HURST

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."
Matthew 6:34

Caleb goes to school at BCS where science is his favorite subject. He plays tennis and baseball. His rabbit makes him the happiest in life. In his free time, Caleb likes to play sports and video games. His favorite vacation was to Disney Land where he rode Space Mountain. He hopes to attend Michigan State University in the future. His favorite memory from Confirmation was having fun in class.



JOHN KAMM

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."
Romans 8:28

JD attends Our Shepherd Lutheran School where his favorite subject is social studies. At school he is in the chess club, safety captain, is a service member, and plays soccer. Going to his grandparents' house to sit by the fire and spending time with cousins and friends make him happiest in life. JD enjoys reading, playing soccer, and video games. His favorite vacation was going to Florida where the house had a special table just for playing Galaga. He hasn't thought a lot about the future but thinks that being a lawyer might be it. His favorite Confirmation memories have been the JAMS retreats. He admires his parents most because "they are good people with good morals."

MAY Lamp

CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS!



DUKE KIRILUK

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13*

Duke attends Detroit Country Day School where algebra, history, and science are his favorite subjects. He plays hockey, tennis, and golf. Spending time with family and friends, fishing, hockey, tennis, and golf make him happy. His favorite vacation was to Nantucket where he remembers swimming in the waves and surf fishing. He sees college in his future where he'd like to go into real estate management. His favorite Confirmation memory is playing floor hockey with Evan. A fun fact about Duke is that he won a U18 fishing tournament called the August Blues. He admires his mom and dad most because "they are good, loving people that care for everyone."



NICK MUSHOVIC

*"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."
Matthew 7:13-14*

Nick goes to school at Sacred Heart where language arts is his favorite subject. Having fun at school and talking to his friends makes him happiest in life. He likes to play video games. His favorite vacation was to Hawaii where he remembers swimming at the beach. In the future he would like to attend UofM. His favorite Confirmation memories are the 5&5 parties. Nick admires his parents most because "my mom is very religious and knows what's best and my dad is a hard worker."



MEARA SEGRAVES

*"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
Psalm 73:26*

Meara attends St. Michael Lutheran School where her favorite subjects are science, English, and art. She is the President of her student council and does Irish dancing. She is happiest when she's spending time with family including the dog, hanging out with friends, reading, or doing art. In her free time, she likes to hang out with friends, read, and draw. Her favorite vacation was to Niagara Falls where she remembers how pretty the waterfalls were and the boat ride into the mist. Her plans for the future are college, marriage, and kids. Her favorite Confirmation memory is the service hours she did both with family and in the community. Meara admires her teacher most because "she always seems to know the right thing to say and do. She stays calm in crazy situations but knows when to be strict."



EVAN YUHN

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your path."
Proverbs 3:5-6*

Evan attends Detroit Country Day School where science is his favorite subject. At school he plays soccer, basketball, and tennis. Outside of school, he plays year-round hockey, and in the summer swims and plays more tennis. Being with family and friends, sports, and church events make him happiest in life. His hobbies are being outside and playing video games. His favorite vacation was a Caribbean Cruise where he got to go scuba diving. He loved the thrill of learning and seeing the beautiful fish. In the future, Evan plans to go to college and become a veterinarian while hopefully playing sports. His favorite Confirmation memory is the fall retreat last year and the pizza nights. Evan admires his sister most because she has gone before him successfully in school, in hockey, and everything else... As well as Jesus who teaches us everything we need!



LUCA ZULIANI

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9*

Luca attends Detroit Country Day School where his favorite subject is history. He is very active in sports, playing football, skiing, golfing, and swimming. Watching movies makes him happiest in life. Luca enjoys reading, building Legos, and watching lots of movies. His favorite vacation was a trip to Hawaii where he went whale watching. His future plans are to attend college and major in history. His favorite Confirmation memory is doing the skits. Luca admires his dad most because "he's really cool and gets me."

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OVER THE YEARS

In 1925, Redeemer's "Official Directory" published the following: "The Sunday School is the Church of Tomorrow. The Savior calls to you! Will you not heed the call? Send your children! Our textbook is the Bible! Our teachers are ready to teach!" "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." - Proverbs 22:6

Since the beginning, the religious training of our children has been an integral part of our church heritage. In 1942, 27 students were enrolled in Redeemer's Sunday School, growing exponentially to a whopping 110 in 1943. The next seven years saw an accelerated growth in attendance, literally bursting the seams of the church. Lessons were taught in the kitchen, the Lounge, the Sacristies, and any other area available for instruction. By 1950, the need for the addition of the Youth Wing to the main building was overwhelmingly clear. Our Sunday School grew like a butterfly spreading its wings, and a second Sunday morningservice was offered to accommodate the growing number of families with children. Redeemer member, Janet Jung, led the opening second service held in the large room now known as the Chapel.

Vacation Bible School began in 1943. After 82 successful years, can you imagine how many children have been blessed with the stories of Jesus? VBS is still held in June and runs Monday through Friday for a week of smiles and laughter. There have been many exciting and magical themes for VBS, including Island in the Sun, Son Castle Faire, and Son Town. Some themes featured space, animals, nature, and all were based on Scripture. Our teachers transform the entire church with themed decorations, Bible lessons, crafts, costumes and plays, and opening and closing ceremonies with VBS songs the kids commit to memory. The days of Ritz crackers and orange drink have been replaced with homemade goodies showcasing the theme. It could not be a more festive outreach event teaching children of the community about the heartfelt love and friendship of Jesus, as depicted in parables and narratives throughout the Bible. And like the mercy and forgiveness of our Lord knows no bounds, the attendance at VBS grew at astounding rates, with over 400+ children scampering throughout the halls. And to emphasize the sheer aspect of grace and giving, as our Lord has taught us to do, volunteers also increased each year to currently over 100 adults and teens.

Our playground was built and dedicated to the memory of Clara Knudsen in 1952. Some of you may remember the infamous but fun "merry-go-round" on the playground. Kids either threw up or were thrown off by the fast, circular motion. Children complained but parents were relieved when too many bloody noses and bruises necessitated its removal!

By 1965, Sunday School attendance towered over 500 and 34 staff members! Sunday School had a Superintendent and a Secretary for each. One wonderful and dedicated Superintendent was Bill Meinert. Soon Bill, or "Mr. M" was hired full-time as our Director of Christian Education. Some may also remember the Reilly's and Grovert's as superintendents and teachers.

Our Christmas celebration would not be complete without the Children's Christmas Pageant. In 1965, the pageant was an amazing production, complete with a creche scene with living characters that represented Christmas around the world. Alice Brown directed children in authentic costumes of 17 foreign lands that sang carols in different languages.



Pastor Duane Wuggazer recognized a need for our children to receive more religious training, and in 1962, the mid-week School of Religion was established. Every Tuesday night from 5:00–7:30pm, kids in grades 3-8 gathered at church. It was a balance of religion and confirmation instruction, combined with music, arts and crafts, and a yummy dinner. In the early 1970s, Mrs. Grovert taught sex education to the seventh graders who studied a book called "Take the High Road!"

In the early 1970s, "Backyard Bible School" was a real treat for the kindergarten kids to get to know Jesus. Held in Tim and Sandy Springer's backyard, Mr. Meinert brought Karen Pridmore and Cathy Stevens to teach Bible stories, play games, do crafts, and music. It was a sort of mini-VBS, and Sandy provided delicious refreshments!

In the late 1970s, high school and college students were brought on as Sunday School teachers. Marilyn Staargaard remembers being asked by Mr. M to be a teacher. With no formal training, she "winged it," and from that point on, she was truly bitten with the teaching "bug!" Mildred Reilly, a very active crusader for children at Redeemer, took on the job of Teacher Trainer, among many other Children's Ministry activities. Our School of Religion and Sunday School boasted at least 35 teachers who participated in educating our children. School of Religion ended in 1995 but left the blessings of life-long friendships among both students and teachers.

When a child is baptized, they are enrolled in "Cradle Roll." Initiated in 1980, Pat Wolfenberg worked tirelessly in this ministry, providing each family with Christian materials to aid parents in raising their infant and toddlers. Our nursery still provides excellent care while parents are in worship services. Kris Leonard now heads up Cradle Roll and is doing a beautiful job!

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Kitty Sweitzer, another steadfast anchor at Redeemer, became Director of Children's Ministry from 1985 to 2015. Kitty was the mastermind of countless missions and meaningful ministry opportunities. "Beanie Baby Buddy Bags" were sent to New Mexico giving children of battered mothers supplies to comfort and encourage them. Hygiene kits were sent to Africa, along with "Little Dresses and Breeches" for children needing clothing. She created "Birthday Bags" for children in foster care. For our soldiers in Iraq in 2003, "Hugs in a Box" were sent to provide spiritual encouragement, cards, and candy. Miss Kitty has also been a preschool teacher at Westmaple Nursery School since 1979!

"Moms Day Out" opened its doors in 1996 and was a lifesaver for busy moms with little ones. Children were dropped off and cared for by our faithful staff of teachers. From 9:00am to noon, Bible stories, crafts, snacks, and playground time were enjoyed by the children.

In 2002, Dave Sheldon was hired to direct Family Life Ministry. He started a program called "Faith Stepping Stones," recognizing the developmental steps in a child's religious life from the Sacrament of Baptism, Sunday School, and the Rite of Confirmation. Lovingly crafted by Redeemer member Jim Endress, "Faith Chests" are given to each baptized child, and contains a children's Bible and spiritual nurturing prayer books. Our third graders are also presented with their own Adventure Bible each year, allowing for easy Bible reading and is full of study aids to encourage independent study of the Bible.



During the summer months, there are plenty of opportunities for our children to grow in Christ. In 2008, "WowWee Wednesdays" featured a variety of age-related fun for kids in preschool through fifth grade. "Clay Play," "Christmas in July," and "Cooking with Donna" were the programs that year. "Scamper Camp" runs three days a week for sessions of 3-weeks at a time. Another "raised at Redeemer staff member" Nicole Olds, Director of Children's Ministry since 2015, plans amazing adventures such as dinosaur digs and zoo explorations for our little ones.

During Lent, "Lenten Kidz" is a special program that helps children understand Jesus' path to the Cross. Crafts and Bible lessons are taught during Wednesday Lenten services while parents worship in the Sanctuary.

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14

Redeemer has a long-standing history of providing many ways for parents to bring their children into the faith. It has been an incredible thing to watch our children's programs grow over the years, giving a loud voice to the importance of those beautiful words from Mark.



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!

ASK ME ABOUT...

During our anniversary year, you will see our church staff and volunteers wearing buttons that invite you to ask them about our vast array of ministries here at Redeemer.



Please ask them questions - they are very excited to share!

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

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



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

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

OUR BUS IS FILLING UP FAST - REGISTER TODAY!

MINISTRIES AT WORK

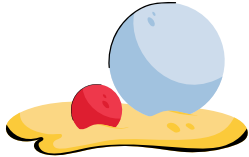
MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



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

WHO WANTS TO BOCCE?!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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

Guys of all ages are cordially invited to join us for some great fellowship starting at **6:00pm on Wednesday, May 14th!** Thank you to the Hollis Ladies for - again! - hosting at the Hollis' Home (1212 Winchcombe Drive, Bloomfield Hills). A meal of chicken shawarma and side dishes will be served from 6:00-6:45pm with bocce ball to follow. There will also be a Bean Bag Toss (Cornhole) "course" set-up for individual competition while waiting for your next round of Bocce!

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



WEDNESDAY LUNCH & WORSHIP

Join us for our final Wednesday Lunch and Worship before we break for the summer! We will gather on **Wednesday, May 21st, in the Great Room at 12:00pm** with a delicious meal of lemon chicken piccata, lemon orzo salad, green beans, and a delicious dessert, all prepared by Michele Margosian. Following the meal, we'll hold a **worship service at 1:00pm in the Chapel** that will include Holy Communion. Please call the Church Office by May 19th if you plan to join us for lunch. If you are in need of transportation, let the Church Office know and we'll do our best to assist. Contact **Gary Priskorn** with any questions. Looking forward to having you with us!

SENIOR'S MINISTRY



FAITHFUL FRIENDS ENRICHMENT SERIES

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

Please stay tuned to future Lamp newsletters and weekly church announcements for future events!

To view all past group sessions and guest speaker presentations, please visit the 'Faithful Friends Meetings' link, which can be found under Senior Ministries.

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

Blessings for a happy Spring!

The Faithful Friends Committee
Gary Priskorn, Marilyn Staargard,
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

OUTREACH MINISTRY

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 at tanya@camprestore.org or 313-636-4422 ex.1.



MAY Lamp

MINISTRIES AT WORK

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Chicks with Sticks

Chicks with Sticks meets every first and third Thursday afternoon of the month. Join us for conversation, company and creative ideas, new projects and the finishing of old ones... We are knitters making hats, scarves, and small blankets for the homeless through Family of God in Detroit. We love to knit and have lots of yarn here in our bins at Redeemer. All you have to do is come and join us in helping others, or come to learn how to knit. Projects can go with you in the car, while you wait for and on others, or sitting alone in a sunny window! **Make those needles click for someone in need! We'll meet you in the Library at 1:00pm on May 1st and May 15th!**

Women's Bible Study

We just wrapped another wonderful series - thank you to **Kaki Mammel** for her wonderful lesson on the Abrahamic Covenant! She left us wanting more, so we are now studying "The Early Church Becoming a Light in the Darkness." What happened when Jesus died? Real faith, real life. For Christians today, faith in God can sometimes seem to be a cerebral choice. For the early church, it was the difference between life and death. In this next chapter of That the World May Know, discover the passion and commitment early believers displayed as they claimed Jesus in the face of fierce consequences and powerful adversaries. **Our study began on April 29th, but we hope you'll join us over the next several weeks! Meet in the Great Room on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm - study will conclude on June 3rd (no meeting on May 27th).**

Women's Book Group



Women's Book Group meets on Tuesday, May 27th at 7:30pm to review **"Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution"** by Li-Ji Jiang. This is NOT a book about the "big picture" of what happened in Communist China during the Cultural Revolution. Rather, it is a memoir of the lives of a young girl and her

family and her friends' families. For the Chinese people, society's rules about what is good and bad were about what is good and bad were reversed, first when the Communists conquered China in 1949, and then the reversal was emphasized seventeen years later, when the Cultural Revolution began. The result was that families who, before Communism, had worked hard and intelligently and had prospered suddenly became national enemies. Even those who had chosen not to flee China, out of a strong sense of Chinese patriotism, like the author's parents and grandparents, were declared by the state to be "enemies of the people". Even worse, no way was allowed for such a family to "make up" for its past, and even the children who were born into Communism, like the author and her siblings and friends, were declared to be guilty of the "crimes" of their ancestors. Agonizing choices, sacrifice, fear and reprisal underscore this story of passage. We will be waiting for you in the Town Square!

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



MINISTRIES AT WORK



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!



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

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

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

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

Blessings from the 2025 Team:

Andrea Calvaneso, Heather Calvaneso, and Megan Rettray



REGISTER YOUR KIDS TODAY!

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



VBS CRAFT NIGHT!

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!

The VBS 2025 Team could use your help prepping some of our amazing decorations! We can use people of all abilities - not just seasoned pros.

Join us Wednesday, May 21st at 6:30pm in the Great Room.

Questions? Contact Nicole Olds.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL!



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL START JUNE 22ND!

We meet every Sunday during the summer during the 10:30am service. The teachers who teach during the school year take a break during the summer, so I am in need of people to step up and teach. It can be one week or more, whatever works for your schedule. We have a lesson (which is provided for you) before heading to the playground for fellowship and popsicles.

Contact Nicole Olds to sign-up or with questions.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS!!

HAPPY CONFIRMATION TO OUR 8TH GRADERS, AND WELL-DONE TO OUR 6TH AND 7TH GRADERS FOR COMPLETING THE YEAR STRONG!



Be sure to check out Pages 10-11 of the Lamp to learn all about our Confirmation Class!



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!



POSITIVE PARENTING

Join us on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45am in the Great Room! We are a group of moms that discuss topics relating to family-life, parenting, and motherhood. We explore a wide-range of books and ideas throughout the year and enjoy conversation, prayer, and community. Nursery care is provided and available on a drop-in basis for younger children. Each session stands alone - we look forward to having you!

JOIN US IN MAY AS WE WRAP UP THE YEAR AND PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND HOMES FOR SUMMER!

- **May 7th:** Meeting Topic To Be Announced
- **May 14th:** End of Year Party!

Meetings will break for the summer and reconvene after Labor Day.

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

MINISTRIES AT WORK

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



MAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 4th: Youth Group, 7:00-9:00pm

8TH GRADERS AND CONFIRMANDS WELCOME

Meet in the Youth Room

Wednesday, May 7th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, May 11th: *NO MEETING - MOTHER'S DAY!*

Monday, May 12th: FOG, 5:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Kitchen

Wednesday, May 14th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, May 18th: Senior Send-Off!

LAST SUNDAY NIGHT RYG OF SCHOOL YEAR!

Wednesday, May 21st: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, May 25th: *NO MEETING - MEMORIAL DAY!*

Wednesday, May 28th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

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 this spring in helping others!

May 12th

June 9th

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



"redeemer_y00th"

**ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES**

JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

MORE JAMS FUN COMING IN THE FALL!

JAMS WILL BE BREAKING FOR THE SUMMER WITH LOTS OF EXCITING THINGS COMING YOUR WAY NEXT FALL! ENJOY THE SUMMER, AND STAY TUNED TO THE LAMP AND WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS LATER THIS SUMMER FOR UPDATES AND NEW ACTIVITIES! HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

MINISTRIES AT WORK

MUSIC MINISTRY



All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are in full swing!
Redeemer's Music Ministry offers a place for everyone - experienced or novice, choral or instrumental.
If you're interested in singing or playing for the glory of God, please join us!

CHANCEL CHOIR: ADULT ONLY

The Chancel Choir sings at our Sunday morning worship services and seasonal festival services to enhance the worship experience. The Chancel Choir provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing everything from classic anthems to modern settings in a traditional, contemporary, spiritual or gospel style. The Choir practices each Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00pm in the music room.

Steve SeGraves - stevensegraves@gmail.com

REDEEMER PRAISE

The church's praise team, Redeemer Praise, sings and plays on the third Sunday of the month at the 9:00am and 10:30am worship services and during summer 10:30am services. It provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing or playing wonderful arrangements of contemporary Christian music. The Praise team meets Sunday mornings from September to May at 8:00am in the sanctuary, and in the summer at 9:00am in the Choir Room.

Steve SeGraves - stevensegraves@gmail.com

REDEEMER BRASS

Our Brass Ensemble plays on the second Sunday of each month at the 9:00am and 10:30am services, and on special Sundays throughout the year. Participation is open to any brass player who can play easy to moderately challenging pieces. Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary on Sundays at 11:30am after the 10:30am worship service.

Pastor Jimmy Greenwalt

REDEEMER RINGERS: ADULT BELL CHOIR

This group brings the unique and beautiful sound of bells to our worship services, sometimes joining with the Chancel Choir, Redeemer Brass, or other featured instrumentalists. The Redeemer Ringers usually play on the fourth Sunday of each month and they rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the hand bell room.

James Compton (248.396.7635)

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir is made up of children ages 6-14 years of age. These musical children sing on special events during the church year, mainly at Christmas time and generally at the 10:30am worship service. Rehearsal information to be announced.

Nancy Lesinski (248.709.3040) or Nicole Olds

MOTHER'S DAY MEN'S CHORUS

Join our annual Mother's Day Men's Choir! We will honor our wives and all of the mothers when we sing together on Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11th. We prepare one song together for both the 9:00am and 10:30am services.

Rehearsals take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-6:45pm with one final rehearsal on Sunday, May 4th following the 10:30am service. Rehearsal tracks will also be made available.

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



SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

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.**

100TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT SERIES

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

TIM ZIMMERMAN AND THE KING'S BRASS CONCERT SATURDAY, MAY 10TH - 7:00PM



Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass present hymn classics with a contemporary flair. The King's Brass features three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, percussion and keyboards.

These instruments blend together to create a time of innovative worship that will be enjoyed by all generations.

MEN'S CHORAL CONCERT FEATURING THE LANGSFORD MEN'S CHORUS SATURDAY, MAY 17TH - 7:00PM

Langsford Men's Chorus
Presents

"Old Friends"

Alumni of the WSU Men's Glee Club European Tour Groups

A tribute to the legacy of Dr. Harry Marble Langsford and his decades of mentoring of young men and women in the Wayne State University choirs

Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 7:00pm
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
1800 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI

Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 4:00pm
Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church
36375 Joy Road, Westland, MI

Phone: (248) 592 - 7455
Tickets: \$18 at the door, \$15 in advance at www.langsfordmenschorus.org

MINISTRIES AT WORK

JOIN THE REDEEMER FAMILY!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COUNSELING CORNER

So much of Counseling is learning to change one's internal paradigm by submitting to God so that He can work out His plan for our life. We all struggle with submission to Him. These prayers can help you start the process. They are changing life.

The Hardest Prayers to Pray

God, take me away from anything that is pulling me away from You – even if I don't want to let it go.

God, take away my desire for anything that is keeping me from my purpose.

God, change my desires so I want what you want for me.

God, teach me to trust you, even when I don't understand.

God, help me to forgive the people who hurt me, even the ones who haven't said sorry.

God, show me the things I'm still holding onto that are keeping me stuck.

God, don't let me settle just to ease the pain – help me to wait for what's truly from You.

Friends, may the Lord keep you tenderly during this precious time of submitting to His will.

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



MAY

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

Judges 13:1-14:20
John 1:29-51
Psalm 102:1-28
Proverbs 14:15-16

2

Judges 15:1-16:31
John 2:1-25
Psalm 103:1-22
Proverbs 14:17-19

3

Judges 17:1-18:31
John 3:1-21
Psalm 104:1-23
Proverbs 14:20-21

4

Judges 19:1-20:48
John 3:22-4:3
Psalm 104:24-35
Proverbs 14:22-23

5

Judges 21:1-Ruth 1:22
John 4:4-42
Psalm 105:1-15
Proverbs 14:25

6

Ruth 2:1-4:22
John 4:43-54
Psalm 105:16-36
Proverbs 14:26-27

7

1 Samuel 1:1-2:21
John 5:1-23
Psalm 105:37-45
Proverbs 14:28-29

8

1 Samuel 2:22-4:22
John 5:24-47
Psalm 106:1-12
Proverbs 14:30-31

9

1 Samuel 5:1-7:17
John 6:1-21
Psalm 106:13-31
Proverbs 14:32-33

10

1 Samuel 8:1-9:27
John 6:22-42
Psalm 106:32-48
Proverbs 14:34-35

11

1 Samuel 10:1-11:15
John 6:43-71
Psalm 107:1-43
Proverbs 15:1-3

12

1 Samuel 12:1-13:23
John 7:1-30
Psalm 108:1-13
Proverbs 15:4

13

1 Samuel 14:1-52
John 7:31-53
Psalm 109:1-31
Proverbs 15:5-7

14

1 Samuel 15:1-16:23
John 8:1-20
Psalm 110:1-7
Proverbs 15:8-10

15

1 Samuel 17:1-18:4
John 8:21-30
Psalm 111:1-10
Proverbs 15:11

16

1 Samuel 18:5-19:24
John 8:31-59
Psalm 112:1-10
Proverbs 15:12-14

17

1 Samuel 20:1-21:15
John 9:1-41
Psalm 113:1-114:8
Proverbs 15:15-17

18

1 Samuel 22:1-23:29
John 10:1-21
Psalm 115:1-18
Proverbs 15:18-19

19

1 Samuel 24:1-25:44
John 10:22-42
Psalm 116:1-19
Proverbs 15:20-21

20

1 Samuel 26:1-28:25
John 11:1-54
Psalm 117:1-2
Proverbs 15:22-23

21

1 Samuel 29:1-31:13
John 11:55-12:19
Psalm 118:1-18
Proverbs 15:24-26

22

2 Samuel 1:1-2:11
John 12:20-50
Psalm 118:19-29
Proverbs 15:27-28

23

2 Samuel 2:12-3:39
John 13:1-30
Psalm 119:1-16
Proverbs 15:29-30

24

2 Samuel 4:1-6:23
John 13:31-14:14
Psalm 119:17-32
Proverbs 15:31-32

25

2 Samuel 7:1-8:18
John 14:15-31
Psalm 119:33-48
Proverbs 15:33

26

2 Samuel 9:1-11:27
John 15:1-27
Psalm 119:49-64
Proverbs 16:1-3

27

2 Samuel 12:1-31
John 16:1-33
Psalm 119:65-80
Proverbs 16:4-5

28

2 Samuel 13:1-39
John 17:1-26
Psalm 119:81-96
Proverbs 16:6-7

29

2 Samuel 14:1-15:22
John 18:1-24
Psalm 119:97-112
Proverbs 16:8-9

30

2 Samuel 15:23-16:23
John 18:25-19:22
Psalm 119:113-128
Proverbs 16:10-11

31

2 Samuel 17:1-29
John 19:23-42
Psalm 119:129-152
Proverbs 16:12-13

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WE APPRECIATE YOU!**

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1

Joseph Farah

May 2

Jake Abraham, Sr
Will Farah
Ron Marks
Sally Storrie

May 3

Eero Laansoo
Caroline Lagoe
Paris Lewbel
Matt Lund
Brian Margosian
Stacy Poppert
Sloane Stolzenfeld
Nancy Tar
Alex Tyler
Antonia Violante
Michael Young

May 4

Anne Chojnowski
Don Kloplic
Jackson Ortiz
Morgan Wolfe
Madison Wood

May 5

Brooke Burchill
Kyle Chuhran
Todd Jones
Carol Swope
Judy Weir

May 6

Caleb Hurst
Dane Lepola
Katie McCann
Kurtis McCann
Marjorie McCann
Christine Mosey

May 7

Daniel Schultz

May 8

Tripp Conover
Jeff Kidder
Charles Klaus
John Mills

May 9

Nicole Ebert
Sara Gildner
Diane Johns
Sandy Pourcho

May 10

Savanah DeVos
William Gardner
Marc Kochenderfer
Alex Lonze
Beau Movitz

May 11

Heather Calvaneso
Cliff Clark
Bryan Grattan
Wayne Lepola
Cara O'Neill
Milo Piturro
Joseph Szafranic

May 12

Julie Connelly
Kathryn Couger
Grace Girdler
Zoe Hardoin
Calvin Miesel
Cameran Pitlanish
Nick Snell

May 13

Jonathan Dean
Henry Dobring
Jim Endress
Theodore Miesel
Katie Noettl
Jay Turner

May 14

Megan Dunlap
Jacob Ilitch
Gwyneth Lietz
Dylan Reck
Liz Taylor
Mary Jane Wolfe

May 15

Lillian Champion
Nathan Gaenssle
Kimberly Harper
Zachary Noettl
Richelle Pedersen

May 16

Matthew Josifovski
Kate Millichamp
Hudson Seme
Patrice Taormina

May 17

Beau Brockberg
Alex Pawlik
Griffin Speller
Peter Swanson

May 18

Jennifer Ahlquist
Denise Barron
Kim Davis
Elizabeth Fischer
Nolan Holland

May 19

Samantha Claucherty
Ian Evert
Alexander Fadel
Michael Ilitch III
Nikole Juliano
Brice Stewart

May 20

Randi Davis
Sarah Fredericks
Elizabeth Pedersen
Ron Pflieger

May 21

Karen Carson-Bennett
Dane Cornwell
Sarah Cvetanovski
Oscar Cycholl
Colette Kavanagh

May 22

Colin Dobbs
Amy Fuqua
Nicholas Hopko
Thomas Lewis
Adrienne McCracken
Matthew Snell

May 23

Griffin Brockberg
Debbie Fithian
Daniel Hogan
Winifred Leischner

May 24

Peggy Cook
Ben Greenwalt
Olivia Kloplic
Eli O'Rourke

May 25

Jane Bacon
Janet Bell
Lori Glesmann
David Mather
Andrew McCulloch
Margot Springer

May 26

Chad Amos
Bill Couger
Julie Glazier
Jessica Lucas
Rosemarie Maser
Christopher O'Kelly
James Rose, Jr
Jeff Taylor
Alice Thompson

May 27

Brooke Baldner
Charles Dean
Heidi Kletzli
Cameron Mabley
Sofia Maeder
Valerie McCammon
Nash Wilson

May 28

Janet Gibb
Quinn Kiriluk
Abigail Murphy
Stacey Rolf
Scott Tyler
Matthew Wilkie

May 29

Kaden Donnelly
Jan Pflieger
Mark Schulz
Margaux Sellnau

May 30

Walden Cheney
Caitlin Kabacinski
Jill Rosenberg

May 31

Kelly Bloom
Barbara Buttton
Cameron Fish
Dimitri Kfoury
Bert Schiller
Kevin Volckaert

