

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

# THE LAMP

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

NOVEMBER  
2024

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## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the Pilgrim settlers, the first year in Massachusetts was a time of great need. The first winter killed 44 of the original 102 colonists. It was during their second winter in December of 1621 that a great celebration was observed. That

second summer, a great harvest brought hope, and Governor William Bradford decreed that December 13th of 1621 be set aside as a day of feasting and prayer to show gratitude to God.

They celebrated their newfound religious freedom and thanked God for His provisions. They also thanked God for an interpreter who could communicate with the Native Americans in Squanto. More than 80 Native Americans celebrated with them, and they supplied wild turkey and venison. Three days were spent in feasting and worship.

It is good to thank our God for all our daily blessings! The Israelites sang a song of thanksgiving after being delivered from Pharaoh's army. Many more examples of God's people displaying their thankfulness can be found in the Old Testament.

The New Testament is also full of many reminders that we are to show our thankfulness to God...

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)*

*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people." (1 Timothy 2:1)*

Out of all the gifts we have been given - by far! - the greatest gift is His Son. In Christ, our greatest need is satisfied - forgiveness and eternal life. Paul says, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15)

*Continued on page 8.*



Pastor Randy

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009

Phone: 248-644-4010

E-mail: redeemer@redeemberbirmingham.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     |
| Rev. Ron Farah - Pastor Emeritus   | 248.642.3137 |
| Gary Priskorn - Dir. of Men's and Senior Ministry                          | ext. 123     |
| Kitty Sweitzer - Dir. of Women's Ministry                                  | ext. 111     |
| Nicole Olds - Dir. of Children's Ministry                                  | ext. 124     |
| Steve SeGraves - Dir. of Music   | ext. 129     |
| Laura Vowell - Dir. of Family Life, Middle School, Confirmation & Outreach | ext. 121     |
| Gia Scheidt - Dir. of High School  | ext. 120     |
| Eric Wisniewski - Assistant Dir. High School                               | ext. 120     |
| Kim Davis - Dir. of Fellowship   | 248.613.4200 |
| Pat Raezler - Dir. of Westmaple Nursery                                    | ext. 126     |
| Rose Kiehle - Office Manager   | ext. 116     |
| Pam Tyndall - Professional Staff/Office Liaison                            | ext. 118     |
| 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

### SEPTEMBER STEWARDSHIP REPORT

| Weekly Attendance Totals  | 2024      | 2023      |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Worship                   | 358       | 353       |
| Bible Class               | 135       | 133       |
| Sunday School             | 24        | 23        |
| Monthly Attendance Totals | 2024      | 2023      |
| Communion                 | 582       | 541       |
| Visitors                  | 50        | 26        |
| Income and Expenses       | 2024      | 2023      |
| Income Received           | \$251,916 | \$224,429 |
| Budget Requirements       | \$237,051 | \$236,131 |
| General Fund Expenses     | \$174,826 | \$164,374 |
| YTD Fiscal-Year Income    | \$251,916 | \$224,429 |
| YTD Fiscal Year Expenses  | \$174,826 | \$164,374 |

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

### "The Consequences of Shallow Thankfulness"

Can you imagine a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie? I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving — they just don't go together!

This month, as we continue to walk through the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788), we turn our attention to verse three. Here, William Watkins Reid, Sr., the man who penned this text, draws attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

*Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise...*

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, savagely destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by the pro forma thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs.

We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

*For words that speak at variance with deeds...*

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord.

Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny — it obscures the Gospel!

*Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways  
unmindful of a broken brother's need...*

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel.

When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel.

This stanza reminds us of the challenge we face. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel.

Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!

*\*Credit LCMS Stewardship Newsletter*



## CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

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

### ***Why Should I Invest at Church Extension Fund?***

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

*\*Updated Interest Rate sheets are available around the building.*

## IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION



# In Memory

## GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

**Donations made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Daniel Reck, Sr.**

*Non-Members*

**Donations made to Faithful Friends in memory of Karen Gause.**

*Tom and Rosemary Demrick*

*Bonnie Ernewein*

*Rusty Raymond and Cindy Mercsey*

**Donation made to the Entrance Garden in honor of Carl K. Darnell.**

*Laura Darnell*

**Donation made in honor of Timothy and Kim Kennedy for adding Frank and Marilyn Rosenzweig to the Prayer and Praise List.**

*Frank and Marilyn Rosenzweig*

*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**.*

## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.

Help me to pray

And to concentrate my thoughts on you:

I cannot do this alone.

In me there is darkness,

But with you there is light;

I am lonely, but you do not leave me;

I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help;

I am restless, but with you there is peace.

In me there is bitterness, but with you there is  
patience;

I do not understand your ways,

But you know the way for me...

Restore me to liberty,

And enable me to live now

That I may answer before you and before me.

Lord, whatever this day may bring,

Your name be praised. Amen.

*Rev. Bonhoeffer*



## PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



### How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

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



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

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

## ALTAR FLOWERS\*

Sign-up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel! Rates are as follows:

- Sanctuary: \$55
- Chapel: \$50
- Lectern: \$45

You can find the sign-up charts on the Town Square bulletin board or online under the "WAYS TO SERVE" box on the church website. You can complete the dedication form and make payment directly online or follow the link in your email you receive to confirm your sign-up. Alternatively, you can email your dedication to the **Church Office**, drop off your check at the Church Office, or leave payment in the Sunday morning offering plate **clearly marked "Altar Flowers."**

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

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



***Our Sanctuary has a Hearing Loop to assist those with hearing loss. Users should set their hearing aids to T-coil.***

*Please see an usher if you have questions or for additional information.*

## COMMUNION

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

## ITTY BITTY BUDDY BAGS!

Welcome to Redeemer, LITTLE ONES! Learn about Jesus while you sit in church with mommy and Daddy with your very own Itty-Bitty Buddy Bag for tiny tots! Packed with snuggly toys, books, and fun stuff, you can join in, watch, and play during the service! **Don't forget to return the bags to Nicole Olds' office after the fun.** And if you're in the mood for some playtime, we've got a nursery waiting for you with tons of toys!

**NOVEMBER 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.*



## 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!



## HOST A COFFEE HOUR\*

We are looking for volunteers to host coffee hour on Sunday mornings all year round! It doesn't have to be elaborate, and we will provide simple instructions to help you set it up. This is a fantastic opportunity to help you set it up. This is a fantastic opportunity to serve your congregation! You can sign up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or reach out to **Kim Davis** (248.613.4200).

## 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. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact **Crissy Bienkowski** ([crissybienkowski@gmail.com](mailto:crissybienkowski@gmail.com)).



## THANKSGIVING FLAG BEARING!

We are looking for volunteer flag bearers to continue Redeemer's long-standing tradition during our Thanksgiving Eve (Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00pm) and Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 28th at 9:00am) services. The flags are quite heavy so adults, veterans, and older youth are preferred. This would be a great job for a father-son team or a brother-brother team! Contact **Crissy Bienkowski** ([crissybienkowski@gmail.com](mailto:crissybienkowski@gmail.com)) with questions or for more information.



# HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

November 13

December 11

January 8

### BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

December 4

January 22



Should you receive 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](mailto: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.***



## LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

The Lutheran Witness (LW) is the official periodical of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and is published 11 times a year. Lutheran Witness provides Missouri Synod laypeople with stories and information that complement congregational life, help foster personal growth in faith, and help interpret the contemporary world from a Lutheran Christian perspective. Each issue includes the Michigan In Touch supplement ([michiganintouch.com](http://michiganintouch.com)).

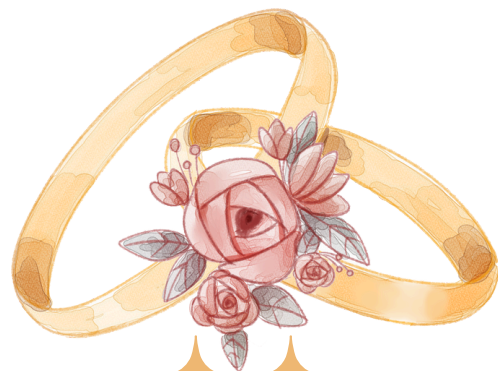
If you are interested in an annual subscription for the upcoming year, costing \$24.99, please contact **Pam Tyndall** in the Church Office.

## PASTORAL ACTS

### WEDDINGS

9/22/2024

John Owen Kasimir Lagalski  
and Caitlin Jean Buechner



NOVEMBER Lamp

***\*Subscription sign-up and checks are due to the Church Office by Friday, November 15th.***

# HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

## ALL SAINTS' DAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3



In keeping with an old All Saint's Day tradition, during our worship services on November 3rd and 4th, we will remember the following people who were born to the Church Triumphant in the past year.

**Thomas C. Allen**  
**Robert Collar**  
**Megan E. Dilley**  
**Veronica L. Donaldson**  
**Thomas G. Ernst**  
**Karen Gause**  
**Joe H. Hamada**  
**Grace L. Holland**  
**Atsuko N. Inatome**  
**Deborah A. Knappe**  
**Marjorie J. Kome**  
**Lois I. Lindgren**  
**Joseph R. Lobb**

**Hans Maser**  
**John D. Millichamp**  
**Jon M. Oen**  
**Daniel C. Reck**  
**Rose Mary V. Ricelli**  
**Stephen Schurr**  
**Dietre Sieversten**  
**Jacqueline W. Steigerwald**  
**Stacey A. Tikkanen**  
**Patricia A. Varterian**  
**Thomas Violante**  
**Alexander W. Walter**  
**Geraldine J. Williams**

*\*PLEASE NOTE: During the service, there will be a time for anyone who wishes to come to the altar to light a candle to memorialize a loved one.*

## THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**Thanksgiving Eve**  
Wednesday, November 27th - 7:00pm

**Thanksgiving Day**  
Thursday, November 28th - 9:00am

*\*Friday, November 29th - Church Office Closed*

## 2024 CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### REGULAR MONDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICES

December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 7:00pm (Chapel)

### REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00am (Chapel) and 9:00am/10:30am (Sanctuary)

**December 1:** Regular Worship  
*Special 100th Anniversary Kick-Off Coffee Hour Gathering*

**December 8:** Regular Worship including  
*Lessons & Carols - 9:00am and 10:30am*  
*Ingathering of Toys and Children Singing - 10:30am*

**December 15:** Regular Worship including  
*The Wonder of Christmas Cantata*

**December 22:** Regular Worship

**December 24:** Traditional Christmas Eve  
*Candlelight and Carols - 10:00am, 4:00pm, 8:00pm*  
*Breakfast with Santa - after 10:00am service*

**December 29:** Regular Worship



NOVEMBER Lamp

## UPDATE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee is recommending we extend a call to **Pastor Iromar Schreiber** for the role of Associate Pastor! **We will vote on this matter at the Congregational Meeting being held after the 10:30am service on November 17th!** Pastor Schreiber is currently serving at Hope Lutheran Church in Republic, Missouri. **Worship services for Pastor Schreiber can be found on Facebook.** To view, open a browser to [Hopelc.com](https://www.hopelc.com) - scroll down, click the "Follow Us" link, click the "More" dropdown menu and select "Videos," and scroll down to view services by week.



## PATHWAYS GRIEF AND LOSS RECOVERY GROUP

**Meetings will take place the first Wednesday of every month at 1:00pm in the Town Square.**

Come join us on **Wednesday, November 6th** to learn skills and acquire loving comfort and support while adjusting to your life change and the new journey God has set before you. Bring a friend, all are welcome! *For those who would like to get help with their grief and loss in a non-group setting, Dr. Pourcho is available to meet with you as a private counseling client.*

*Any questions or to schedule an appointment, feel free to call **Dr. Sandy Pourcho** (248-568-6040), Redeemer's Resident Counselor.*

## HIP-HIP-HORRAY FOR THE HARVEST HOP!



Blessings and thanks to Emily and Kevin Volckaerts, Ken and Cherisse Baetz, Jake and Darlene Abraham, David and Pam Tyndall, Steve and Rosemary Ricelli Scheidt, and Mike and Christine Lapinski for hosting our Harvest House Hop and to all of you who came to enjoy the food and fellowship - thank you for your support! We had a wonderful time, the weather was perfect, and the people were the same. Let's do it again soon!

## HELPING HANDS NEEDED!

The Giving Tree supplies are all in, and a few people are needed to help package everything up to prepare for delivery to the Orphan Grain Train in Flint. Thank you for all the wonderful towels, clippers, combs, soap, and other items given in love! **We will meet on Tuesday, November 5th at 12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

Around the world, there are so many people who don't have the basic necessities, and your gifts have made a difference. Always remember how important your gifts are they make a big difference to someone with little. Bless you! Please contact **Kitty Sweitzer** if you are able to help!





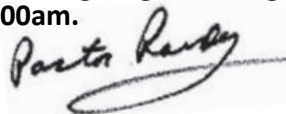
# HOLY HOUSEKEEPING ~ FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Continued from page 1.*

Thanksgiving is more than turkey, it is actual in giving thanks to the God who has blessed us with his gifts - spiritual and material.

We hope that you will join us in Thanksgiving Worship! A service will be held on Thanksgiving Eve - Wednesday, November 27th - in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm. We will also gather Thanksgiving morning - Thursday, November 28th - in the Sanctuary at 9:00am.

Happy Thanksgiving - God's Blessings to you!



## LIBRARY LIGHTS

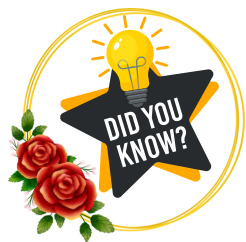


### NEW ARRIVALS AT THE REDEEMER LIBRARY!

We All Want to Belong. Children with special needs and disabilities often struggle to fit in. It is important for children to know that they are welcomed and loved, especially at church. In *When I Go to Church I Belong: Finding My Place in God's Family as a Child with Special Needs* by Elrena Evans, children of all abilities are assured and shown through a variety of scenarios that they are welcomed as part of God's family. Colorfully illustrated, the text highlights six different children with varying needs, helping understand situations and feelings, and reminding us all that that we can do better to help people with disabilities feel welcome and comfortable in our church home. Recommended for ages 4-8.

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14*

Parents remain parents no matter how old their children become. When children leave the nest, a new season begins for parents. *Praying the Scriptures for Your Adult Children: Trusting God with the Ones You Love* by Jodie Berndt provides practical and encouraging advice for parents of adult children in many situations. Jodie provides specific Scripture-based advice and prayers for twenty different situations, including transition from child to adulthood, good friends and relationships, future spouses, jobs, mental and emotional health, physical health, financial difficulties, and victory over temptations. Continue to protect and love your children in the best way, by turning to God in prayer!



### LUTHERAN HOURS MINISTRIES HAS AN ANNUAL FLOAT IN THE ROSE PARADE!

"Behold! Jesus the Savior is Born" will be the theme of the Lutheran Hour Ministries float in the 2025 Tournament of the Roses Parade on January 1st! The float will feature two heralding angels calling viewers to the birth of Jesus and to the church where Jesus may be found. The stained-glass windows will feature best days of Jesus' life. Visit [petalpushers.org](http://petalpushers.org) to learn more!

## COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

Last February, a marriage workshop led by Pastor Farah was held here at Redeemer. Several topics were covered, but time did not allow for in-depth discussion. For that reason, a second workshop will be held on **Saturday, November 9th from 9:00am-12:00pm in the Great Room** with a concentrated focus on communication. Dr. Sandy Pourcho and Pastor Farah will present.

Communication is not one of those things we should do based on what comes naturally - it can build up or it can destroy - but good communication can be learned! We believe you will go away from this workshop with a new skills that will help you communicate better, leading to less stress in marriage and other relationships!

8 The cost is \$40.00/couple or \$25.00/single. Checks can be made out to Ron Farah.



#### November 2

Altar Guild Breakfast

#### November 3

All Saint's Day  
New Member Class

#### November 6

Pathways

#### November 7

Chicks with Sticks

#### November 9

Communication Workshop

#### November 10

Veteran's Day Service  
New Member Orientation  
Young Adult Lunch  
"Peddles & Pipes" Lunch and  
Organ Tour

#### November 13

Angel Tree Tags Workshop  
Leadership Team Meeting

#### November 15

JAMS Game Night

#### November 17

New Member Brunch  
Congregational Meeting  
iZosh Event

#### November 20

Wednesday Lunch & Worship

#### November 21

Chicks with Sticks

#### November 26

Chapel Tree Trimming

#### November 27

Thanksgiving Eve Service

#### November 28

Thanksgiving Day Service

#### November 30

Christmas Decorating

Please visit the church website for a full  
list of events:

[www.redeemberirmingham.org](http://www.redeemberirmingham.org)



NOVEMBER Lamp

# FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## December 1

100th Anniversary Kick-Off

## December 3

Advent by Candlelight

## December 4

Pathways  
Board of Elders Meeting

## December 5

Chicks with Sticks

## December 8

Lessons and Carols  
Holy Land Visitors  
Langsford Men's Chorus  
Christmas Concert

## December 10

Christmas Whispers

## December 11

Leadership Team Meeting

## December 15

Young Adult Lunch  
Birmingham Concert Band

## December 19

Chicks with Sticks

## December 22

Christmas Cantata

## December 24

Christmas Eve Worship  
Breakfast with Santa

## December 25

Merry Christmas!

*Please visit the church website  
for a full list of events:  
[www.redeemberbirmingham.org](http://www.redeemberbirmingham.org)*



## PEDDLES TO PIPES HOW REDEEMER'S ORGAN SINGS!



Join us on Sunday, November 10th after 10:30am worship for a fellowship luncheon, followed by a guided tour of Redeemer's Organ by Rick Helderop! We will learn some of the secrets of Redeemer's fantastic organ as our equally fantastic Rick Helderop takes us from stop knobs to pedal board to pipes and shares with us some of the ins-and-outs of what makes our organ sing. Rick will wrap-up the tour with a short recital and maybe even take a request or two! **Please visit the Town Square bulletin board to sign-up!**



## JINGLE BELLS, LIGHTS, WREATHS AND CANDLES – AND PEOPLE, TOO!

*HELP DECORATE THE CHAPEL AND SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS!*

*CHAPEL: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH AT 1:00PM*

*SANCTUARY: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH AT 9:00AM*



There are many ways to help! Unboxing supplies, hanging greens, putting up trees, candles, wreaths, swags, and hanging ornaments while enjoying fellowship, food, and conversation. There is some level of participation for everyone!

*Please sign-up at the Town Square bulletin board so I know how many to feed and be grateful for!*

## RED WINGS FAITH NIGHT 2025

**2025 KICK-OFF FOR REDEEMER'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY!**

**JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL EVENT AT LITTLE CAESAR'S ARENA ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD - HOSTED BY MEN'S MINISTRY!**

An inspirational pre-game concert by renowned Christian singer Matt Hammitt, Christian testimony by former Detroit Lions Cody Wilson, and more, followed by the Red Wings battling the Montreal Canadiens!

Doors for the concert open at 4:30pm with the hockey game following at 7:00pm. We have a block of upper bowl seats near mid-ice so we can enjoy the program and game together.

**Tickets \$65.00/per - reservation deadline November 18th!** Checks payable to Redeemer with memo "Red Wings Tix." Limited tickets after this date are available on first come basis through Shaunna Maxwell ([shaunna.maxwell@olyent.com](mailto:shaunna.maxwell@olyent.com) - Redwings Group Sales) who will work to seat you with us.



**A GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR HOCKEY FANS!**



# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH



## NEW TIME - SAME IMPACT!

Join us for our fall iZosh Event, on **Sunday, November 17th at 12:00pm in the Town Square!** This is a special event where we will view **"Living On One Dollar,"** a film and tool to help empower the extreme poor to take the first steps out of poverty. The film follows the story of four young friends who set out to live on just one dollar a day for eight weeks in rural Guatemala. They battle hunger, parasites, and the realization that there are no easy answers. Yet, the generosity and strength of locals gives them resilient hope that there are effective ways to make a difference. *You will come away with a deep empathy for the people of Peña Blanca and feel empowered that you CAN change the world!*



After the viewing, we will work together to economically empower women living in extreme poverty through the funding of micro-loans and grants. Please join us to make a difference in the lives of women who need it most!

**Please visit the church website to sign-up, donate, or learn more, or scan our QR code. We hope to see you there!**



## SERVE AT FAMILY OF GOD

Redeemer partners with **Family of God (FOG), a Lutheran Church in southwest Detroit**, that provides meals to those in need 6-days a week! YOU can help provide these meals in MANY different ways:

**Make bagged lunches + Prepare frozen meals**  
**Deliver/serve a meal + Shop for items**  
**Donate funds used to purchase supplies for meals**



Sign-up to help on the church website under the "Ways to Serve" box or on the Town Square bulletin board. Please contact **Laura Vowell** if you have questions or would like more information.

**NOTE: If you are signing up on the website, there is a separate sign-up to sponsor a meal than there is to plan, shop, cook or serve the meal.**



## CAN-DO FOOD DRIVE

We are collecting non-perishable food items (no glass jars or expired items) for our Thanksgiving Food Drive! **Please place donations on the table in the Town Square by Sunday November 10th.** We are competing with Westmaple Nursery School – let's see who can collect the most food (by weight)! **Questions to Pastor Randy.**

## ANGEL TREE



We will gather to make Angel Tree tags on **Wednesday, November 13th at 12:30pm in the Library**, and the Angel Tree will go up in the Town Square on **Sunday, November 17th - just in time for Christmas at Grace Center of Hope!**

Our long-term loving relationship with the residents of Grace has been joy-filled as we meet the needs of the men, women, and children who fight homelessness, addiction, and abuse. Take a tag, shop the gift, wrap your gift, and tape the tag on it. We will sort and pack all these generous presents on **Monday, December 9th at 12:30pm** and send them on to Grace for Christmas. Thanks for being an elf and giving someone hope, peace, love, and joy!

## HURRICANE RELIEF

Thank you to everyone who has donated to help those impacted by the recent hurricanes! Redeemer's congregation has raised \$7,003 so far, with a match of \$5,000 by the church - totaling \$12,003! All donations will go to Samaritan's Purse, who mobilizes staff and equipment and enlist thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid to victims of natural disasters. We are still accepting donations - please make checks payable to **Lutheran Church of the Redeemer** and put **"Hurricane Relief"** in the memo line, or pay online with the QR code.



**SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE**



## CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR ELDERLY AND SHUT-INS

Calling all confirmation families and any interested Redeemer members! Christmas Card Project Packets are available in the West Entrance vestibule to sign-up and take home this Christmas season! Instructions and all materials are provided for you and your family members to sign cards, write a comforting message or Bible verse, and decorate the outside front of the envelope with a festive or spiritual picture. Drawings can be simple - a cross, a tree, or candy cane - or as detailed as you wish.

**PLEASE - NO STAMPS AND DO NOT MAIL!**

**Return completed cards and extra materials in the same bag and put in the DROP BOX by December 8th!**

All cards will be hand-delivered to care facilities in the Metro area. Your loving heart and giving spirit at this time of year will touch the hearts of so many elderly folks - a small reminder that they are not forgotten!

Please call **Leslie Whitfield** (248.330.8685) with any questions. With heartfelt gratitude, I thank you all!



# FALL BIBLE STUDIES

## SUNDAYS

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - Rev. Ronald Farah

The Study of Romans

All year after 9:00am service (Scheidt Room)

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** - Laura Vowell

September 29-November 3, 9:00-10:00am (Great Room)

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** - Nicole Olds

During 10:30am service (lower-level classrooms)

**REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP (HIGH SCHOOL)** -

Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski

School year, 7:00-9:00pm (Youth Room)

## TUESDAYS

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - Pastor Jimmy

Heroes of the Bible - **\*ZOOM Available**

9:30am (Great Room)

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Kitty Sweitzer

'The Chosen,' Season 4 - 6:30pm (Great Room)

\*4th Tuesday of month starts at 6:00pm

## WEDNESDAYS

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Gary Priskorn

The Study of Acts - **\*ZOOM Available**

Year round, 6:45-7:30am (Great Room)

**POSITIVE PARENTING** -

Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thompson

9:15-10:45am (Great Room)

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** - Laura Vowell

6:00-8:00pm (various rooms)

**CORE GROUP (RYG - HIGH SCHOOL)** -

Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski

6:00-8:00pm (Youth Room)

## THURSDAYS

**YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY** - Michael Banerian

First Thursday of Every Month - 6:30-8:00pm

**COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY** - Andrea Schlak

The Study of Exodus

Thursdays, 9:00-11:00am (Great Room)

**\*Begins in January**

## SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

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

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



## EVENT SCHEDULE

Redeemer  
Young  
Adults

BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS

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

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

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

# 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



*From humble beginnings rose a mighty church of God...*

As a result of Conference discussions, the mission field in Birmingham was considered a likely one for the establishment of a Lutheran church. In consequence, the Mission Board of the English District extended a call to candidate Luther A. Schuessler to canvass Birmingham, and if the field warranted, to establish and organize a congregation. The following paragraphs taken from Pastor Schuessler's account of his work adequately describe the events of the first year of our mission:

"On September 6, 1924, the missionary arrived in his prospective field. After laboring with mixed responses of encouragement and disappointment for a period of 2-½ months, the results were tabulated. More than 75 confirmed Lutherans of various church connections were located in this section. It was apparent also, that a great number of people were unchurched, while more than 60% of the children were without the guidance of religious instruction and the influence of Christian education. As a result of this promising survey, the local Conference advised the Missionary to proceed to establish a mission. The Johnston-Shaw Hall, located on the southwest corner of Woodward and Maple, was secured as a place in which to hold services. On November 23, 1924, the opening service was conducted. The growth of the congregation made it evident that a new place of worship would soon have to be provided. The portable chapel, located on the present site, was dedicated to the service of the Triune God on May 10, 1925."

The little Chapel at Lincoln and Ann Streets had a potbellied stove and creaky wooden floors. There was a seating capacity of 175, but the congregation had 25-30 communicant members. It was to be the scene of worship services and Sunday School classes, ice cream socials, bazaars, and family suppers, Confirmation instruction, baptisms, weddings, and funerals for the next 16-years. That little Chapel was eventually sold after the purchase of the West Maple Road property and was moved to Flat Rock, MI.

Pastor Schuessler accepted a new call in 1926, and Reverend R. E. Scaer became the new pastor. Rentals were exceedingly expensive at this time, and so a parsonage on the corner of Lincoln and Stanley was erected in 1926.

Pastor Theodore Wuggazer accepted the call as Pastor in 1931. Pastor Duane remembered many trips to the chapel to stoke the fire in the potbellied stove before Sunday services. They had a victory garden behind the church during World War II, and the parishioners competed for the largest pumpkins.

In 1941, the present 6-½ acre site on Maple west of Chesterfield was purchased for \$5,500. June 1942 saw the dedication of its colonial house of worship. A substantial growth was experienced almost immediately. By 1950, the Sunday School had grown beyond the bounds of available space, and a second Sunday morning worship service was also inaugurated. Plans were formulated for a youth building. Construction began in 1951, and the building was dedicated in June of 1952. At that time, the congregation numbered 450 communicant members, and over 300 were enrolled in Sunday School. By 1955, our congregation numbered more than 1,000 members and had over 500 enrolled in Sunday School. Plans were drawn up and construction began in May of 1956. Seating capacity was doubled, new office space was provided, a caretaker's apartment was constructed, the basement was completed to include 7 additional classrooms, and the fellowship hall was enlarged and completely modernized.

Twenty-nine years later, in 1971, Redeemer broke ground for its next expansion. Entering through a new West Entrance off the parking lot, the major wing formed a rectangle with the old Youth Wing. The interior windows of both looked out on the formal gardens of a prayer courtyard. Housed in this wing are the Theodore Wuggazer Memorial Library, so-named because, along with the nearby Parlor, it fulfilled one of the fondest dreams of the sainted pastor. A fellowship hall/gymnasium with an adjoining ultramodern kitchen, three new classrooms and a director's office which provide Westmaple Nursery School with some of the most ideal preschool nursery facilities to be found in Michigan; and an air-conditioned Prayer Chapel with a seating capacity of 100 were added. A choir wing, the first home our choirs had ever had, was part of this construction project. The sanctuary was completely redecorated and much of the old Youth Wing was refurbished.

In 2008, Redeemer realized that, once again, we needed to expand. We embarked on yet another capital campaign called Sacred Space. The defining phrase came to be known as, "That all may find a place at His table." This addition included the new Town Square, which would become a Sunday morning gathering space. Enhancements to Westmaple Preschool were completed with the addition of new classrooms. A new gym, including a stage, completed the renovation. The stage allowed for our Music Ministry to better provide a space for the Wing and a Prayer theater group to perform numerous plays, for contemporary services called Redemption to be held, and to better fit the ever-growing needs of our church family. These upgrades have been truly transformational to Redeemer's church life. By 2009, Sacred Space I was completed.

By 2019, Redeemer saw that many had found a place at her table. This brought about part two of the Sacred Space campaign. Redeemer has constantly examined our facility, our resources, and ourselves as a congregation to ensure that we are doing all we can to reach out to people and impact their lives by sharing the Lord's love and gift of our salvation. Therefore, the need came for our Sanctuary to be enlarged, our music facilities to be enhanced, and additional space for our children and youth programs. The new sanctuary was dedicated on September 18, 2022.

God's blessings have truly shined on Redeemer over the last 100 years. From a small room above a storefront in Birmingham, to the remarkable church and sanctuary that we have today, the growth of God's kingdom is evident. May we forever move forward in his Word, taking in his grace and shining His light into the community. We are so very blessed!

***\*Please be sure to visit the Town Square Historical Wall to see pictures of Redeemer's metamorphosis over the years!\****

# 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

## WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO REDEEMER?



*As members of the history committee, we often speak about how special Redeemer is to all of us and how blessed we are to have found our way here so many years ago. We wanted to share our stories with you, and hope that you will share your story with us, too!*

My family history with Redeemer is long and very special. If you look at the groundbreaking photo from 1941, when the dream of this church on Maple Road was becoming a reality, you'll see a man in a suit with his hands in his pockets. That's my grandpa, my mom's dad! Who knew then that 83 years later the Hollis Family would still be active members of this church community. My Mom and Dad were married here in 1957, and my sisters and I were all baptized here. My sister Diane was married here, and her three children were subsequently baptized here. I went through School of Religion on Tuesday nights and was confirmed under Pastor Duane Wuggazer. While I have always been a regular attendee, my personal involvement grew when I had the opportunity to go to New Orleans with the church to do disaster relief after Hurricane Katrina. I had no idea what experiences were waiting for me on those trips! They brought me some of my dearest friends, while also shaping me as an adult by introducing me to the resilient people of NOLA. God's remarkable gift to me on those trips was in learning how everyone's struggles can be softened by the faith we share, and the impact God's unspoken voice can make. Since that time, I have been heavily involved in the mission work of Redeemer while also creating an incredible community of friends that share my love of Christ. My mom is the longest serving member of Redeemer, and we'll have to see as time passes if my sister Donna and I can beat her record!



*Debi Hollis*



### 100TH ANNIVERSARY "IN MEMORIAM COFFEE HOURS"

Join us on **Sunday, November 24th** for a special worship service at **Churchill's Bistro Cigar Bar**, located in the Johnson-Shaw Building. The Johnson-Shaw building is where Redeemer's very first worship gathering was held 100 years ago (*less one day*) on Sunday, November 23, 1924! We will hold a short service at Churchill's that morning beginning at 9:15am - doors open at 9:00am. This service is in addition to our normal worship services at Redeemer.

**ONLY 100 SPOTS AVAILABLE AND COSTS \$50 PER PERSON!**

Please email or call the **Church Office** to sign-up! Special thanks to Kirk Banerian who helped set up this event!

### ★ 100TH ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF EVENT ★ ★ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 ★

The Lord has blessed Redeemer in a multitude of ways for a century, and we will be celebrating throughout the entire anniversary year! Please follow along in the announcements for ways to participate and serve over the coming months. After our first event at Churchill's, our celebration will formally begin at church on Sunday, December 1st! We have so many wonderful things planned - we hope you'll join us!

**Celebratory Worship Service + Historical Photo Display  
Enhanced Coffee Hour + Commemorative Souvenirs**

#### TEASER AND TRIVIA

There are two interesting spaces that occupied areas at Redeemer. For many years, we had a caretaker's apartment. Redeemer had a number of caretakers that lived there - they provided security for the facility and took care of the cleaning and upkeep of the church. This space was redesigned when the Town Hall came to be. There is also a shower in a basement area near the gym and kitchen.

*\*Last month, we asked if you knew who the longterm member was that graduated from Westmaple in 1966. It's Denise Gray Barron!*

Redeemer's Anniversary Historical Committee has been hard at work for over a year preparing for our centennial celebration! Throughout the upcoming year, you will see a rotating display of historical photos and documents commemorating our history; however, some of our history is extremely personal as you remember Redeemer members from your own family who are now in the glory of heaven. So that you can honor them in your own personal way, we have blocked many Sundays throughout the anniversary year for you to host a coffee hour in their memory. This is be an opportunity to bring pictures and memorabilia to tell your story! If you have never hosted coffee hour before, Kim Davis will guide you through the process and help along the way. You may even want to consider hosting with another family! **The sign-up sheet and instructions will be available beginning December 1st during coffee hour. Questions? Contact Andrea Schlak (schlakandrea@gmail.com).**

#### WE ARE WRITING A BOOK!

Guess what Redeemer? You are writing a book! Oh, yes you are! Beginning in November, you will find forms around the church - Miss Kitty may hand you one in person! - and ask you to fill it out. Write 250 words or less about how you came to Redeemer. Include a favorite scripture at the bottom of the page, and our little committee (reserving the right to edit) will put your journey on paper to create a beautiful book for our 100th Anniversary celebration here at church. Your book "Through These Doors" will be a history of our people who found a spiritual home in this place. What motivated you? Anyone walk with you? Journey difficult, easy, or both? What did you gain? Lose? Tell us your story!

Search your past, your heart, and memory, and let us know how you became part of Redeemer's history! Contact Miss Kitty with questions.





# MINISTRIES AT WORK

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### THANK YOU SUE SOLTESS!

The history committee has been hard at work for quite some time gearing up for this year's celebration. You've been seeing monthly "teasers" in the bulletin and The Lamp, and what you may not know is the **massive amounts** of materials we have been combing through! We've looked through hundreds, if not thousands, of photos, documents, city records, and church records trying to curate the best way to tell the story of Redeemer, from its humble beginnings to present day. While it is impossible to include every event, photograph, and person, we hope we have put together a special glimpse of each ministry over the years and the special moments shared. We hope you enjoy the historical tour of Redeemer we are about to take you on. **Please visit the Town Square Historical Wall for our displays each month!**



A special "THANK YOU!" to Sue Soltes for her work in the Archive Room! Without her organizing and preserving of our historical documents, this would have been an impossible job!

## MEN'S MINISTRY



### WEDNESDAY LUNCH & WORSHIP

All are welcome and invited to join us for our next "Wednesday Lunch & Worship" held on **Wednesday, November 20th** as we gather in the Great Room at **12:00pm** for a delicious meatloaf meal graciously prepared by Michele Margosian! Following the meal we'll go the Chapel for a **worship service at 1:00pm** that includes Holy Communion. **Please call the Church Office by November 18th** if you'll be joining 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!

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



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

## SENIOR'S MINISTRY



### THE POWER OF LOVE

On Sunday, October 13th, the "Faithful Friends" Ministry held an Enrichment Event featuring Dawn Nealy from "Seniors Helping Seniors," an In-Home Care Service. Nealy's company is tailored specifically for people who want to remain in their home environment but still need assistance with day-to-day activities. Memory Loss Support, Dementia/Alzheimer's needs, Family Relief Care, and Overnight/24-Hour care is also available.

The most significant benefit with "Seniors Helping Seniors" is the quality of support, respect, and dignity given by the Caregivers, who are seniors themselves and understand the special needs of older adults. They are carefully matched with each special senior, and a unique friendship develops. These Caregivers are deeply committed, and as advocates for seniors, they provide familiarity in age and lifestyle, which are critical issues for older people requiring assistance. Research shows seniors relate better to other seniors in medical and healthcare service, and they also tend to improve faster physically and mentally. The company's trademark is: "Bringing Love into the Lives of Seniors with Dignity and Respect."

Nealy's company provides assistance in the Oakland County area including Clarkston, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Clawson, Troy, West Bloomfield, and other Metro Detroit areas. If you would like to learn more to speak to Dawn directly, please visit the "Seniors Helping Seniors" website ([www.SeniorCareEastOakland.com](http://www.SeniorCareEastOakland.com)) or call 248.969.4000.

If you missed our event, you can watch it from the church website - click on the Vimeo button for Archived Services or Videos, then click on Faithful Friends videos. Contact the Church Office if you need assistance.

Please contact **Gary Priskorn** or **Pam Tyndall** for more information on "Faithful Friends."

## THANK YOU CAREGIVERS!

November is National Family Caregiver's Month! We would like to recognize all of you caring for a loved one - remember to take time for yourself and ask for help when needed, as this very important role can be physically, emotionally, and financially overwhelming. May all you wonderful caregivers feel God's love and presence surround you as you perform this vital role!

*"I lift up my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth."  
Psalms 121 1-2*



# MINISTRIES AT WORK

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY



### Chicks with Sticks

It's fall and time to start knitting and crocheting again! Chicks with Sticks will meet this month on **Thursday, November 7th and 21st at 1:00pm in the Library** to knit, crochet, and share the fellowship of women working toward a good thing. We are making hats and scarves for the homeless and needy people of Detroit. Please call the Church Office for more information.

With love and thanks to our fearless leader, Beth Hamada, who began this ministry at Redeemer with a heart made for giving. We are blessed by your leadership and the love you bring to all you do!

### Women's Bible Study

We will continue our study of "The Chosen - Season Four" on **Tuesday, November 5th and 12th at 6:30pm in the Great Room**. All are welcome! We will enjoy two short studies on November 19th and 26th, and will finish the year on Tuesday, December 17th. Stay tuned to the weekly bulletin for details! Call or email **Kitty Sweitzer** for more information!



### Christmas Whispers

Christmas Whispers will take place on **Tuesday, December 10th at 6:00pm at the home of Erin Mortenson**. Bring a story, poem, or a personal glimpse to share with each other, and an appetizer or finger dessert to pass. Details to follow in the weekly bulletin. **Please sign-up on the Town Square bulletin board.**

### Advent by Candlelight

"Keeping Christmas"

**Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:00pm**

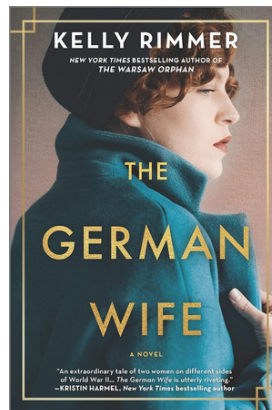


Get ready and prepare your hearts as we move through the Advent season together! Please contact **Miss Kitty** to either host a table or to sit at an available table. **Space is limited!**

**"Love isn't love until it's given away."**  
**Watch for mission projects dedicated to our 100th Anniversary!!**

NOVEMBER Lamp

### Women's Book Group



This month, Women's Book Group review will review **"The German Wife"** by **Kelly Rimmer**.

Berlin, 1930 - When a wave of change sweeps a radical political party to power, Sofie von Meyer Rhodes's academic husband benefits from the ambitions of its newly elected chancellor. Although Sofie and Jürgen

do not share the social views growing popular in Hitler's Germany, Jürgen's position with its burgeoning rocket program changes their diminishing fortunes for the better. But as Sofie watches helplessly, her beloved Berlin begins to transform, forcing her to consider what they must sacrifice morally for their young family's security, and what the price for their neutrality will be.

Join us on **Tuesday, November 26th at 7:30pm in the Town Square** as we share our reflections with each other. Come, please!

### Woman of the Year



Looking for a few good women - and we know plenty of them! - who are deserving of Redeemer's Woman of the Year award!

Take time to write down the wonderful qualities and gifts of your nominee - service to the church, the community, steadfast in faith, committed to the work of the church, using the gifts God has given her - and **submit to Miss Kitty no later than Friday, November 22nd**. The staff will review all nominations and the woman will be revealed at Advent by Candlelight on December 3rd.

### Bonhoeffer Movie Tickets Available!

**ONLY 4 TICKETS LEFT** for **"Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Assassin"** and hoping you will join us for this revealing evening at the Emagine Theater (Palladium) on **Friday, November 22nd at 7:00pm**. Payment is due at time of sign-up, and tickets are \$18.00/person. Please join friends and family of Redeemer and learn how not to repeat history. **Questions? Contact Miss Kitty.**

## MINISTRIES AT WORK



### REDEEMER'S CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN CONTEST

*KIDS - What do you think of when you think of "Christmas?" Jesus in the manger, donkeys and sheep, stars and angels?*

Every year Redeemer sends out a Christmas card that showcases a design created by one of our very own children (preschool-age to 5th grade). Your picture should tell the story of Christmas. **Before you draw, please read Luke 2:1-20 and base your drawing on what you read there.** You can use the computer, markers, crayons, colored pencils, or design pens. Just make sure your work is clean, neat and your absolute best effort. Please draw your masterpiece on an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper. **Designs are due by Monday, November 4th** and will be judged on their creativity, presentation, and theme. Everyone who submits a design will receive a little prize. **When your drawing is finished, you can bring your design in Mrs. Olds' office or you can scan and email it.** Thanks for sharing your talent with the Redeemer family!



### BRING AND SING!

**BRING** a toy for children in need and **SING** Christmas songs - taking place on **Sunday, December 8th during the 10:30am service.** Kids of all ages will process into worship with an unwrapped toy to give to kiddos in need. Then, we're performing a couple of Christmas songs - there's a role for every age group! **COSTUMES ARE PROVIDED!** Please sign-up on the church website. Contact Laura Vowell or Nicole Olds with questions.



### FAMILY ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING



It has been a long-standing tradition at Redeemer for families to participate in our Advent worship services by lighting the Advent wreath candles together. **Each Sunday in Advent (December 1st, 8th, 15, and 22nd), we need a family to light the Advent wreath candles during 9:00am, 10:30am, and Christmas Eve services.** Families of any shape and size can do this - young families, couples, parents with their adult children, and beyond! If your family is interested, please sign-up via the church website. Contact **Laura Vowell** with questions or for more information.

### \*SAVE THE DATE\* 100TH ANNIVERSARY VOW RENEWAL!



Married couples of all ages are invited to join us for a vow renewal on **Saturday, February 8th!** Ceremony will be in Redeemer's Sanctuary with dinner and dancing to follow at the Auburn Hills Marriot! Details coming soon! Contact **Laura Vowell** with questions.

### POSITIVE PARENTING

Come and join Positive Parenting on Wednesday morning! 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 with one another. **We meet weekly on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45am in the Great Room.** Nursery care is provided and is available on a drop-in basis for any younger children. Each session stands alone - there is no need to purchase books, or read ahead of attending.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **NOVEMBER 6:** Prepare a meal for Family of God
- **NOVEMBER 13 & 20:** Discuss the balance between family and sports - how to juggle it all!
- **NOVEMBER 27: NO MEETING**

Please reach out to **Kristin Thompson** or **Victoria Ilitch** with any questions - we can't wait to see you!

**NOVEMBER Lamp**



## MINISTRIES AT WORK

### REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP



### A FUN TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AT THIS YEAR'S YOUTH RETREAT!

We had a **BLAST** on the weekend retreat in October! The high schoolers read the book of James, and the middle schoolers learned about Paul and some of his most famous Bible verses. We also played flashlight tag, Capture the Flag, and fun indoor games! The high schoolers took a field trip to Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill, and the middle schoolers visited the on-site farm with goats, rabbits, and chickens! Hope you can join us next time!

### JAMS GAME NIGHT

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

NOVEMBER Lamp



### FALL SCHEDULE

**November 3rd: College Care Packages, 7:00-9:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

**November 6th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

**November 10th: FOGs-Giving, 7:00-9:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

**November 11th: FOG, 5:00-8:00pm**

*Meet in the Kitchen*

**November 13th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

**November 17th: Bible Study, 7:00-9:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

**November 20th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room*

*\*RYG will not meet Sunday, November 24th or Wednesday, November 27th. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!*



### FAMILY OF GOD

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

**November 11th**

**December 9th**

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



**"redeemer\_y00th"**  
**ALWAYS**  
CHECK INSTAGRAM  
FOR ANY  
SCHEDULE CHANGES

# MINISTRIES AT WORK



## MUSIC MINISTRY



All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are back 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](mailto: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](mailto:stevensegraves@gmail.com)**

### **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**

### **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)**

### **HAS GOD GIVEN YOU MUSICAL TALENT?**

#### **GIVE IT BACK TO HIM!**

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

- **Reduce Stress and Sadness:** Singing in a choir also has big benefits for physical and mental well-being. Research has suggested that group singing increases oxygen levels in the blood and triggers the release of the hormone oxytocin, which is associated with happy feelings and stress relief. Oxytocin also enhances feelings of trust and bonding.
- **Build Lasting Christian Friendships:** Research on group singing shows that people who sing in a choir have a strong sense of togetherness and being part of a meaningful group. Researchers discovered that members of a choir saw their heart rates actually synchronize when they sang together. So, music is good for your heart and your spirit.

Most importantly, you will help lead the congregation in worship of our blessed Redeemer! So come on! Sing, ring or play your heart out to the Lord!

### **DECEMBER CONCERTS IN OUR SANCTUARY**

Redeemer will host a number of groups and musical performances in the Sanctuary this holiday season!

#### **Lessons and Carols (during Sunday worship)**

Sunday, December 8th - 9:00am and 10:30am

#### **Langsford Men's Chorus Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 8th - 4:00pm

#### **The Tuesday Musicale of Detroit Christmas Concert & Luncheon**

Tuesday, December 10th - 12:00pm

#### **Birmingham Concert Band**

Sunday, December 15th - 3:00pm

#### **Silver Lake Christmas Concert**

Saturday, December 21st - 7:30pm

#### **Christmas Cantata (during Sunday worship)**

Sunday, December 22nd - 9:00am and 10:30am



NOVEMBER Lamp

## COUNSELING CORNER

In thinking about the glorious change of seasons, and the beautiful Fall we've had, I think about how - in many situations - change is good, and oftentimes *necessary* for personal growth. We stretch ourselves sometimes to adjust to change, and after we choose to "go through the fire," how many of us say we are glad we allowed ourselves to go through the trial because of the personal growth and invaluable lessons the trial afforded us?

It has been my observation that those who endeavor to press through trials instead of taking the easy way out ("the how-to") are those who have more depth of soul, courage, and wisdom. They have truly become "Stars from the Scars."

Oftentimes, we want the easy way out or the "how to" shortcut. The problem is that personal growth does not occur much without stretching ourselves to go through challenges and trials. "The how-to" is a seductive shortcut, and truthfully, we usually already know the "how to," yet we're still standing in the same place - longing for more joy, connection, and meaning. (*Brene Brown, 2020*)

It is a continual struggle with our flesh to push through difficult situations. God foreknew this would happen, so He encourages us in His Word to persevere, and He promises He WILL be with us by providing His guidance and comfort.

***"When YOU pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2***

**"Consider it pure joy (the lesson you will learn and be better for it) my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith (through the trial) develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." James 1:2**

It is a Biblical principle that we do not grow in our spiritual and intellectual life in a positive way (*James 1:2*) or have more of an opportunity to literally see what we are made of with our faith walk without the opportunities presented through difficulty and challenges. I have learned to stand on Scripture and to hold onto His Word for "dear life" until the situation is resolved. Proverbs 3:5-7 is my go-to Scripture. And, I must tell you, it works out when I do this - every single time.

So, as you are doing this life which is so very stressful right now, and I get it, find a Scripture that you can stand on and repeat and repeat out loud! Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:7). It can build your faith and calm your heart knowing that someone else has the situation in His hands, and He will give you the best answer that brings you closer to Him where He will be glorified.

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

Dr. Sandy Pourcho



### COUNSELING CENTER

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

**Sandy Pourcho, PHD**  
248.568.6040

**Rev. Ron Farah, Pastoral Counseling**  
248.642.3137





# NOVEMBER

## BIBLE READING PLAN

**1**

Ezekiel 1:1-3:15  
Hebrews 3:1-19  
Psalm 104:1-23  
Proverbs 26:24-26

**2**

Ezekiel 3:16-6:14  
Hebrews 4:1-16  
Psalm 104:24-35  
Proverbs 26:27

**3**

Ezekiel 7:1-9:11  
Hebrews 5:1-14  
Psalm 105:1-15  
Proverbs 26:28

**4**

Ezekiel 10:1-11:25  
Hebrews 6:1-20  
Psalm 105:16-36  
Proverbs 27:1-2

**5**

Ezekiel 12:1-14:11  
Hebrews 7:1-17  
Psalm 105:37-45  
Proverbs 27:3

**6**

Ezekiel 14:12-16:41  
Hebrews 7:18-28  
Psalm 106:1-12  
Proverbs 27:4-6

**7**

Ezekiel 16:42-17:24  
Hebrews 8:1-13  
Psalm 106:13-31  
Proverbs 27:7-9

**8**

Ezekiel 18:1-19:14  
Hebrews 9:1-10  
Psalm 106:32-48  
Proverbs 27:10

**9**

Ezekiel 20:1-49  
Hebrews 9:11-28  
Psalm 107:1-43  
Proverbs 27:11

**10**

Ezekiel 21:1-22:31  
Hebrews 10:1-17  
Psalm 108:1-13  
Proverbs 27:12

**11**

Ezekiel 23:1-49  
Hebrews 10:18-39  
Psalm 109:1-31  
Proverbs 27:13

**12**

Ezekiel 24:1-26:21  
Hebrews 11:1-16  
Psalm 110:1-7  
Proverbs 27:14

**13**

Ezekiel 27:1-28:26  
Hebrews 11:17-31  
Psalm 111:1-10  
Proverbs 27:15-16

**14**

Ezekiel 29:1-30:26  
Hebrews 11:32-12:13  
Psalm 112:1-10  
Proverbs 27:17

**15**

Ezekiel 31:1-32:32  
Hebrews 12:14-29  
Psalm 113:1-114:8  
Proverbs 27:18-20

**16**

Ezekiel 33:1-34:31  
Hebrews 13:1-25  
Psalm 115:1-18  
Proverbs 27:21-22

**17**

Ezekiel 35:1-36:38  
James 1:1-18  
Psalm 116:1-19  
Proverbs 27:23-27

**18**

Ezekiel 37:1-38:23  
James 1:19-2:17  
Psalm 117:1-2  
Proverbs 28:1

**19**

Ezekiel 39:1-40:27  
James 2:18-3:18  
Psalm 118:1-18  
Proverbs 28:2

**20**

Ezekiel 40:28-41:26  
James 4:1-17  
Psalm 118:19-29  
Proverbs 28:3-5

**21**

Ezekiel 42:1-43:27  
James 5:1-20  
Psalm 119:1-16  
Proverbs 28:6-7

**22**

Ezekiel 44:1-45:12  
1 Peter 1:1-12  
Psalm 119:17-32  
Proverbs 28:8-10

**23**

Ezekiel 45:13-46:24  
1 Peter 1:13-2:10  
Psalm 119:33-48  
Proverbs 28:11

**24**

Ezekiel 47:1-48:35  
1 Peter 2:11-3:7  
Psalm 119:49-64  
Proverbs 28:12-13

**25**

Daniel 1:1-2:23  
1 Peter 3:8-4:6  
Psalm 119:65-80  
Proverbs 28:14

**26**

Daniel 2:24-3:30  
1 Peter 4:7-5:14  
Psalm 119:81-96  
Proverbs 28:15-16

**27**

Daniel 4:1-37  
2 Peter 1:1-21  
Psalm 119:97-112  
Proverbs 28:17-18

**28**

Daniel 5:1-31  
2 Peter 2:1-22  
Psalm 119:113-128  
Proverbs 28:19-20

**29**

Daniel 6:1-28  
2 Peter 3:1-18  
Psalm 119:129-152  
Proverbs 28:21-22

**30**

Daniel 7:1-28  
1 John 1:1-10  
Psalm 119:153-176  
Proverbs 28:23-24

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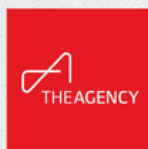
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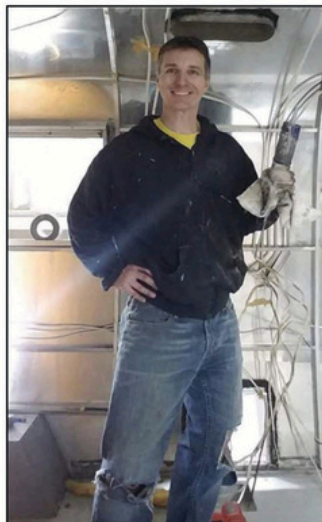
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# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## November 1

William Ebert  
Harry Hartfield Jr.

## November 2

Brady Glime

## November 3

Brenda Baldner  
Elise Cornett  
Bill Leahy

## November 4

Corinne Chesna  
Ray Hacker  
Sarah May  
Elizabeth Simonetta  
Isabella Wesner

## November 5

Amelia Calvaneso  
Rebecca Setzer  
Erin Springer  
Deborah Vercnocke  
Leslie Whitfield

## November 6

Hunter Janness  
Audrey Lund  
David McCammon  
Dan Teahan

## November 7

Kayla Cornett  
Emerie Heidt  
Mary Kafarski  
Carter Ortale  
Ryan VanHulle

## November 8

Canaan Baker  
Greg Bloom  
Ron Ging  
Katherine Mabley  
Diane Meyer  
Tommy O'Donnell  
Connor Poppert

## November 9

Paige Doolin  
Jennifer Hawkins  
Jonathan Margosian  
Bonnie Moore  
Elizabeth Snyder

## November 10

Jay Gersonde  
Quinn O'Neill  
Katherine Trescone  
John Wagnitz

## November 11

Nancy Baldner  
James Palmer

## November 12

John Baker  
Kimberly DeClark  
Thomas Rayle

## November 13

Marcia Doolin  
Jude Movitz

## November 14

Griffin Best  
Jeffrey Best  
Kristin Clark  
Rebecca Campbell  
Reis Davis  
Laura Feko  
Celina Gardner  
M'Liz Malven  
Melinda Mikoliczeak  
Patty Schmidt  
Cassidy Schuetz

## November 15

Kristen Cifolelli  
Julia Cornwell  
Jennifer Pflieger

## November 16

Paul Cotter  
Julie Dean  
Sue Sack

## November 17

Sophia Kamm  
Cynthia Settecerci

## November 18

Matthew Brockberg  
Beth Eberly  
Joshua Olds  
Lucciana Ricelli  
Alex Kroenung  
Michael Wiegand

## November 19

Sue Barlow  
Victoria Ilitch  
Melissa Ortiz

Brian Poppert  
Sydney VanHulle

## November 20

Amanda Burmeister  
JD Kamm  
Benjamin Kletzli  
Meredith Krieger  
Adam Mather  
Kimberly O'Donnell  
Jessie Warwick

## November 21

Caroline Geller  
Carolyn Hoffdal  
Ben Lalone  
Holden Nadeau  
Jake Smith

## November 22

Olivia Ilitch  
Crew Kiriluk  
Douglas Miesel  
Andrea O'Donnell

## November 23

Tori Beckeman  
Declan Doyle  
Alyssa Friedrich  
Michael Meissner  
Gavin Taylor

## November 24

Riley Buechner  
Beth Lanthier  
Andrew Nonahal  
Samuel Stapleton  
Brandon VanHulle

## November 25

Kathryn Anthony  
Abigail Laramie  
Cheryl Schiller  
Adam Seme  
Raymond Tobin

## November 26

Robert Bloink  
Gasper Lucas  
Nan Nehls

## November 27

Brian Dundas  
Tracey Fish  
James Helmke  
Carol Leahy  
Jacob Meteer  
Kyle Russ  
Jack Tafel

## November 28

Nash Eckert  
Debbie Ingram  
Smith Kiriluk

## November 29

Liam Anzalone  
Darlene Bliss  
Brenda Hofley  
Sadie Kiriluk  
David Peterson  
Sophia Scarbro

## November 30

Nicole Burguess  
Anika Kelkar  
Michelle Ostrander  
Nicholas Wood

