

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

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

September 2026

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FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin a new church year, it's a wonderful time to pause and consider where we are in our faith journey—and where we hope to grow in the year ahead. While these thoughts may sound familiar, they are worth revisiting. After all, growing closer to Jesus is a journey that never truly ends.

At Redeemer, we want to walk alongside you as you take those next steps. Our hope is that this year will be one of deeper faith, greater connection, and a closer relationship with Jesus.

A lot goes on here to help in your faith walk! You could...

- **Attend one of our Worship Services:** We have services on Sundays at 8:00am in our Chapel, 9:00/10:30am in our Sanctuary, and Monday 7:00pm in our Chapel. If you can't make church, you can watch it LIVE or later in the week on our website. (www.lcr.church)
- **Join our Music Ministry** We are always looking for people who like to sing or play an instrument! We have Children's Choir, Heart of Worship (high school age), Handbell Choir, Brass Ensemble, Praise Singers (contemporary), Chancel Choir, and so many other opportunities to share your musical talents. (see pg 15-16)
- **Attend a Bible Study:** You don't have to have any experience or prior knowledge of the Bible. Each of us are on our own journey. We have studies for every age: adult, men's, women's, high school, middle school and children. (see pg 4)
- **Teach or Help with Sunday School:** We have Sunday School each week at both the 9:00am and 10:30am service beginning September 13th. Talk to Nicole Olds if teaching kids is your passion! (page 12)
- **Attend Activities and Fellowship Events:** Start with the Homecoming Picnic on **September 13** after the 10:30am service!



LUTHERAN CHURCH of the REDEEMER

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009

Phone: 248-644-4010

E-mail: redeemer@redeemberirmingham.org

Website: www.redeemberirmingham.org

Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Rev. Randall J. Schlak - Senior Pastor	ext. 119
Rev. James Greenwalt - Assistant Pastor, Pastor of Adult Social Ministry	ext. 117
Gary Priskorn - Dir. of Shut-in 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 - Assistant to the Pastor	ext. 116
Carrie Morris - Office Manager	ext. 114
Ronda Lee - Design and Office Communications	ext. 118
Laura Jones - Accountant	ext. 110
Conner Kelley - 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

JULY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Average	2026	2025
In person Worship	340	323
Online Worship	38	42
Bible Class	123	78
Sunday School	24	20
Monthly Attendance Totals	2026	2025
Communion	593	445
Visitors	48	53
Month: July	2026	2025
Income and Expenses		
Income received	\$99,281	\$106,785
Budget requirements	\$115,043	\$117,751
General fund expenses	\$144,309	\$141,096
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$2,012,105	\$1,956,893
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$1,924,240	\$1,976,352

- **Join our Prayer Ministry:** Provide intercessory prayer, praise and thanksgiving on behalf of the needs of our church, community, and world. Join the prayer group that meets every other Friday or get connected with the daily Prayer chain. Contact the church office to get on the email list.
- **Participate in a Mission:** Shop, cook and/or serve for the Family of God Soup Kitchen (contact Laura V), or serve with Camp Restore Detroit (contact Tanya Karn at tanya@camprestore.org)
- **Volunteer:** Our church depends on our dedicated congregation for it's help to further our work and greater mission! There is a spot for you to serve! Do you like to.....
 - work outside in the garden
 - cook or bake
 - help with office duties
 - look after or teach children
 - pray for others
 - plan events
 - visit or help the elderly
 - work with audio/video equipment
 - archive our church history
 - work in the library
 - or help at events?

If you're not sure where to begin, just give the Church Office a call—they'll be happy to point you in the right direction! And if you ever have questions about the many ministries and opportunities to get involved at Redeemer, please feel free to reach out to me anytime. There is so much to look forward to in the year ahead, and I hope we can all grow, serve, and cherish God TOGETHER!

God's Blessings to you!



PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for the gift of a new month and
Your sovereignty over every season. As
summer changes to autumn, help us
embrace the transitions in our lives with
grace and trust. Soften our hearts where
we are hard, and fill us with Your perfect
peace. Guide our steps, protect our
families, and bless our work as we begin
new routines. Let this month bring fresh
strength, new opportunities, and
testimonies of Your goodness.
In the name of Christ Jesus, Amen.



The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment: You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I) We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect this belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

- LCMS.org Stewardship Monthly



PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

7/11/2026

Delaney Minerva Dettlinger

daughter of Drew and Stephanie Dettlinger

Weddings

7/18/2026

**William George Lethemon IV
and Elizabeth Marie Pedersen**

Funerals

7/10/2026

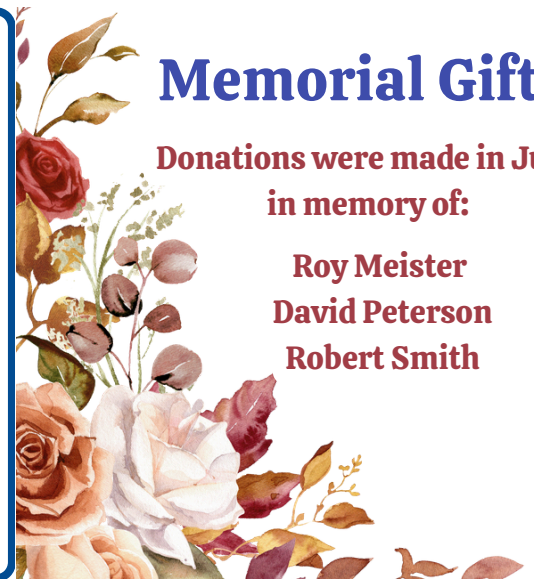
Roy Meister

7/25/2026
Robert Petrillo

Memorial Gifts

**Donations were made in July
in memory of:**

**Roy Meister
David Peterson
Robert Smith**



Fall into a Bible Study!



Men's Bible Study *Led by Gary Priskorn*

Wednesdays, 6:45–7:30am - Great Room | Zoom available
Men of all ages are invited to join our study of a book of the Bible. Enjoy meaningful discussion, great fellowship, coffee & treats. Current study is on the book of James.

Moms in the Word *Led by Crissy Bienkowski*

Mondays 9:15–10:45am - Library

A space for moms to grow in faith together. Each week we will open our Bibles, explore the lives of people God used in powerful ways, and encourage one another in faith. We hope you'll join us. We are starting a look at the life of Moses and what we can learn from his journey.

Questions or want more information?
Contact Crissy Bienkowski 989-450-3946
crissybienkowski@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Bible Study *Led by Kyle Chuhran*

Sundays, 10am - Scheidt Room

Looking to dive deeper into God's Word in a relaxed, welcoming environment? Join us as we explore various books of the Bible.

This isn't a lecture—it's a conversation. We focus on open discussion, examining the context of the scripture, and discerning how to live out God's truths in our daily lives as Christians.

Each session is designed to stand alone with no pre-reading/studying required, so you can step in any time and find value in what you learn. Whether you've been studying the Bible for decades or are just getting started, your voice and questions are welcome here. We will begin studying the book of John on Sunday, September 13th. We hope to see you there!

Women's Bible Study *Led by Kitty Sweitzer*

Tuesdays, 6:30pm - Great Room

What a great pop-up evening we had off-site in August. We hope you will all join us beginning Sept 15 for our study *Fools in the Bible!* which should be very informative. Bring a friend, bring your best book - The Bible and we will enjoy studying God's Word. For all of you who think you don't know enough about the Bible to come to a study, just remember, we don't know enough either. Every Word, every story comes to life and teaches something we can use in our everyday lives. Share that lack of knowledge with us. We get it! See you there.

Tuesday Bible Study *Led by Pastor Jimmy*

Tuesdays, 9:30–10:30am - Great Room.

It is open to anyone, previous Bible knowledge not required. Topics cover a range of scripture subjects and can be just one class or a series of classes. This fall, we are starting a 6–8 week series entitled "Understanding the World before Jesus" where we will learn about Judaism before Christ.

Community Bible Study

Led by Andrea Schlak

Thursdays, 9:30–10:45am
- Great Room.

Community Bible study has brought people together from many Christian churches for many years. We begin September 17th for a 9 week study of the Missionary journeys of Paul, using the second half of the book of Acts as a guide. The sessions begin with a lecture, followed by a small group discussion for those who wish to stay. All you need to bring is a bible and a notebook, no previous bible knowledge is required.

Young Adult Bible Study

Led by Ryan Teahan

First Wed of each month - 6:30pm
Library

Looking for a community of peers to grow with? Our Young Adult Bible Study is the perfect place to plug in. We meet once a month, starting at 6:30 PM with light food and time to just hang out and catch up before we dive into scripture together. There is absolutely no advance preparation or prior knowledge needed to participate. If you're nervous about coming for the first time, you are more than welcome to bring a friend along. Come as you are for good food, great community, and meaningful conversation!

Patriarchs

Led by Brandon Movitz

Wednesdays, 8:00pm
Great Room

See next page for
more info!



Branch out and join a group!



Patriarchs *Led by Brandon Movitz*

Wednesdays, 8:00pm - Great Room

The Patriarchs is a group for dads with young kids who want to grow in faith, friendship, family, leadership, and everyday life with God. We have two alternating Wednesday night gatherings: Study Group and Life Group. Study Group (Sept 9,23) is centered on Scripture, discussion, and learning together. Life Group (Sept 2, 16,30) is more focused on real-life conversation, encouragement, marriage, parenting, work, and what it looks like to live faithfully as men, husbands, fathers, and friends. Both gatherings are discussion-based, welcoming, and easy to jump into. There is usually no prep required, and one does not need to know the Bible well or have everything figured out to feel comfortable joining. The heart of Patriarchs is simple: dads growing together, encouraging one another, and following God in real life.

Prayer Group

*Led by Sue Helderop,
and Cheryl Carr*

1st and 3rd Fridays, 12:00pm,
Library or via Zoom.

We invite you to join us for a
time of prayer and fellowship.

Whether you are new to
prayer or have prayed for
many years, gathering allows
us to support one another,
grow spiritually, and
experience God's presence in
a deeper way.

Positive Parenting *Led by Victoria Illitch*

Wednesdays, 9:15am - Great Room

Please join us for Positive Parenting, Redeemer's weekly exploration of parenting ideas and strategies, designed for moms in the parenting years. We meet throughout the school year with the goal of furthering our spiritual growth, expanding our understanding of parenting philosophies, and finding strength in the community of other women. Childcare for children ages 0-4 is provided in the nursery. Our first session is September 16th. Every class session stands alone, so feel free to join us as you can, no need to sign up in advance! Contact Victoria Illitch with questions or for more information (victoria.illitch@gmail.com).

Women's Book Group *Led by Stacey Rolf*

Sept 22, 7:30pm - Town Square

What fun we have picking a good book, sharing our thoughts and critiques with each other.....does that sound appealing? Then come to the Town Square on Tuesday, September 22, to dive into the classic *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper. Why a classic? The past becomes the future and history is always relevant. The novel is set primarily in the area of Lake George, New York, detailing the transport of Colonel Munro's two daughters, Alice and Cora, to a safe destination at Fort William Henry. Among the caravan guarding the women are the frontiersman Natty Bumppo, Major Duncan Heyward, singing teacher David Gamut, and the Indians Chingachgook and Uncas, the latter two being the novel's title characters. These characters are sometimes seen as a microcosm of the budding American society, particularly with regard to their racial composition. The novel has been one of the most popular English-language novels since its publication; it is frequently assigned reading in American literature courses. It has been adapted numerous times and in many languages for the stage, films, and cartoons.

Chicks with Sticks

Led by Jan Endress

First and Third Thursdays, 1:00pm
- Library

More than a clever title for a group of women who knit, it is an invitation to caring about others by making hand knit hats, scarves and mittens for those who find themselves on the street in winter. More than a few of the women are accomplished knitters but some of us are not. Still, we share the same hope that the work of our hands will show love to someone in need. And let's face it: if you can only knit a row at a time, eventually it will end up being a scarf...and that is a good thing. Share the joy!



A-maize-ing ways to serve!



Family Ushering

Your family can serve as Sunday ushers—handing out bulletins and helping with the offering. An experienced usher will be there to guide you. Sign up here or visit "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website. Contact Laura Vowell for details

Be a Reader

Help share God's Word in worship by reading the Old Testament and Epistle lessons! Readers of all ages (5–95) are welcome at any service. Sign up here or visit "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website. Questions? Contact the Office.

Host a Coffee Hour

Volunteers are needed to host Sunday morning coffee hour year-round! Simple instructions provided—no elaborate setup required. Sign up here or visit 'WAYS TO SERVE' on the church website or contact Kim Davis 248.613.4200

Sponsor Altar Flowers

Tiffany Florist provides our weekly worship flowers, sponsored by congregation members.

Sanctuary Altar (2 vases): \$75

Chapel Altar (2 vases): \$55

Sanctuary or Chapel Lectern (1 planter): \$35

Sanctuary flowers can be taken home after the 10:30 AM service; Chapel flowers after Monday night worship. Sign up on the Town Square bulletin board or click here or visit "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website.

Acolyte & Cross Bearer

Open to anyone who would like to serve and is required for Confirmation students. To sign up, click here or visit "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website. For questions or more information, contact our coordinator, Crissy Bienkowski 989-450-3946 crissybienkowski@gmail.com

Be a Greeter

If you can offer a friendly "good morning," a handshake, and a welcoming smile—and have just 15 minutes on a Sunday morning—you can make a big impact as a greeter! Redeemer is looking for volunteers to welcome guests at the Town Square and Narthex doors before the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Bring a friend or your family and serve together. Sign up here or visit "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or contact Laura Vowell for details.

Sponsor a Mystery Prelude

Have a song request? Sign up for organist Rick Helderop to play it during the Prelude at any Sunday service (8:00, 9:00, or 10:30 am). Visit the church homepage or scan the QR code to access the request form. The \$10 fee supports our Mission Fund—thank you for participating!



A Cornucopia of Information



How to keep my kids occupied during worship?

Welcome to Redeemer,
little ones!

Worship alongside Mommy and Daddy with your very own Itty-Bitty Buddy Bag—filled with soft toys, books, and quiet fun for the service. Please return bags to Nicole Olds' office. Prefer to play? Our nursery is ready with lots of toys!!

How can I watch the Worship Service?

To watch live:

- 1) Go to the church website: www.lcr.church (or click here)
 - 2) Click the first square with the big blue V.
 - 3) Click on the video that has the LIVE indicator.
- The indicator will appear when the service has started.



To watch past services:

- 1) Go to the church website: www.lcr.church (or click here)
 - 2) 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. Closed Captioning is available on all videos.

Get Help Hearing the Service

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



Receive Communion in Your Pew

If you're unable to come to the Chancel for Communion, please let an usher know before the service and we will gladly bring Communion to you in your pew.

Give to Redeemer

Go to Redeembirmingham.org and click the "GIVE" box or scan this QR Code to be taken to the giving page!



Church Extension Fund

Since 1901, CEF has been a trusted ministry partner of churches and schools across the Michigan District, offering individuals and congregations a meaningful way to invest their money. When you invest with CEF, your funds help provide construction and renovation loans to ministries like Redeemer. In fact, the CEF loan Redeemer received helped make Sacred Space 2 possible. The interest from those loans supports the interest paid on your investment—creating benefits for both investors and ministries. An investment with CEF helps build churches, schools, and ministries that impact lives for eternity. For more information, contact Curtis Burstein, Redeemer's CEF Representative, at 248-320-5100.



IT'S PICNIC TIME!!

As summer comes to a close, join us for our Homecoming Picnic! Reconnect with friends, welcome new faces, and celebrate the start of a new season of ministry, learning, and fellowship. Bring your appetite and join us as we kick off fall together! Invite a friend!

SEPTEMBER 13 - 11:30AM

GREAT FOOD!



MISSION BBQ - CHICKEN SHACK - ICE CREAM CART



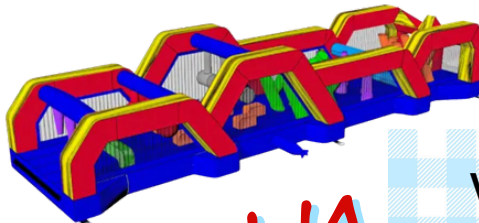
AIRBRUSH TATTOOS!



BALLOON ANIMALS!



BOUNCE CASTLE!



NINJA RUN!

KONA ICE!



September

- 9/2 - Men's Bible Study
Patriarchs Life Group
Young Adults Bible Study
- 9/3 - Chicks with Sticks
- 9/4 - Prayer Group
- 9/7 - Labor Day
Office and Building Closed
- 9/8 - Tues Morning Bible Study
- 9/9 - Men's Bible Study
Patriarchs Study Group
- 9/13 - Adult Bible Study Starts
Homecoming Sunday
- 9/14 - Moms Day Out Starts
- 9/15 - Tues Morning Bible Study
Women's Tues Night Bible Study
- 9/16 - Men's Bible Study
Patriarchs Life Group
Confirmation Year 1 and 2
Orientation
- 9/17 - Chicks with Sticks
Community Bible Study
- 9/18 - Prayer Group
- 9/20 - Pet Blessing Sunday
The MIX youth event
Confirmation Year 3
Orientation
- 9/21 - Moms in the Word
- 9/22 - Tues Morning Bible Study
Women's Book Group
Women's Tues Night
Bible Study
- 9/23 - Confirmation Class Starts
Men's Bible Study
Patriarchs Study Group
Titus 2Gether
- 9/24 - Community Bible Study
- 9/27 - Adult Bible Study
Installation of Pastor Mark
- 9/28 - Moms in the Word Bible Study
- 9/29 - Tues Morning Bible Study
Women's Tues Night Bible Study
- 9/30 - Men's Bible Study
Patriarchs Life Group
Confirmation Class

Volunteers for Homecoming Picnic!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

PET BLESSING SUNDAY! - SEPTEMBER 20



Dogs, cats, and gerbils... OH MY!
You are invited to bring your pet(s) to church on **Sunday, September 20**, during **9am & 10:30am services!** We are having worship outdoors on the front lawn (so bring a lawn chair too!) During the service we'll have a special pet blessing! Coffee Hour will also be outside and will include special goodies for the animals. Contact Pastor Randy or Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with any questions.



Celebration of Gratitude for Pastor Mark!

We are planning a reception following the installation of Pastor Mark Bushuiakovish on **Sunday, September 27** at 2:00. This will be an opportunity to celebrate our newest addition to the history of Redeemer and his precious family. If you would be a baker, appetizer maker, etc. please sign up on the Town Square bulletin board. We will have a work morning on Saturday, September 26 from 10:00-12:00 and a team to set-up, serve and clean up on Sunday after the post celebration. Thanks, you're wonderful!



On the Road with Pastor Jimmy

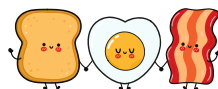
Wed, Sept 23rd - 10am-2pm
Join us for a tour and Lunch at the Church with the Golden Dome in Southfield. Lunch and tour \$35.00.

Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday October 3rd at 9:00 am
in the Great Room.
Come hear a presentation from Paddy Lynch.

*Detroit Isn't Dead:
How a 3rd Generation Funeral
Director Became a Historical
Preservationist.*

Sign up in the Town Square



October

10/2 - 10/4 - JAMS Fall Retreat

10/3 - Fellowship Breakfast

10/10 - Square Dance

10/18 - Shine the Light Night

WE ARE
•LOOKING•
FOR NEW
members

Become a Member! If you are interested in becoming a member of Redeemer... now you can! Join us for our New Member Classes! Starting on Sunday 10/11, classes will run for 4 weeks on Sundays from 9am – 10am. We will end with a yummy New Member Brunch on Sunday 11/8! Come join us! Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with questions or for more information. ** There is childcare available at that time in the nursery for ages 0-3, but if you need care for older children, just let Laura know and she'll arrange it!

SUPPORT OUR SPECIAL SEASON OF GIVING

We're 1/4 through and nearly halfway way there!

We're happy to report that since our Sacred Space "Special Season of Giving" began in March 2026, we've reduced our outstanding debt by nearly 50% through member contributions, special gifts and special funds. A huge thank you to everyone who has generously donated to this program; we are truly grateful. This is a fantastic start to realizing a debt-free future for Redeemer.

To achieve our goal of paying off the remaining \$685,000 by May 2027, we hope we can count on you to help keep the energy going. For those who are called and feel able to support this program, we give you our deepest thanks.



Ways to Give

- Give online via the church website under Church Giving and select the Sacred Space Fund for your donation.
- Checks: Please submit in a separate envelope from weekly giving and identify the envelope and/or check as Sacred Space.
- Scan the QR Code and select the Sacred Space Fund.



MISSIONS

Family of God

Serve one another, humbly in love. – Gal 5:13

Can you shop? Cook? Deliver meals? or simply donate money? We need you!

Family of God is a non-profit Lutheran ministry committed to bringing the transformative power of the gospel to the lives of those living in Southwest Detroit by offering programs that support them in physical, spiritual, and emotional capacities. Redeemer partners with Family of God providing meals twice a month.

There are many ways that you can help!

Shop? Volunteers are needed to shop for ingredients and bring them to the church.

Cook? Prep a fresh or frozen meal in the church kitchen, your recipes or pre-planned.

Deliver and Serve? 3 hours to feed a hungry soul and have a life changing experience.

Donate? \$300 covers one meal but every dollar helps. Sponsorships are \$100.

Check out the missions page of the Redeemer website for more information and to get involved.



RYG AND FAMILY OF GOD

Sept 14th

RYG cooks and serves at Family of God Soup Kitchen the 2nd Monday of every month - join us in helping others! ***Meet in the kitchen at 5:00pm and bring money for dinner!**

We'll carpool to FOG then get dinner together!



SAVE THE DATES

Advent by Candlelight
Table Registration: Sunday,
October 18 at 7:30 a.m.

Advent by Candlelight
Program: Tuesday,
December 8 at 6:00 p.m.

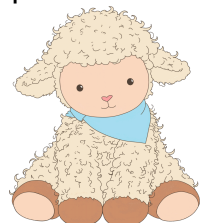


Attention Parents!

If you had a child baptized at Redeemer during 2025, you should have received an email from Nicole Olds

We have a tradition of presenting baptismal boxes to our recently baptized.

Our event will take place on
Homecoming Sunday,
September 13th during the 10:30
service. Questions please
contact Nicole Olds.



Happy September!

Welcome to a new school year and church calendar year. September is a great time for broadening your horizons and starting something new. Our library has so many choices for learning and fun.

In our picture book section children and parents will enjoy the picture book, *Polly and the Screentime Overload*. Written by, Betsy Childs Howard, this book shares the wonderful and relatable lesson of too much technology. During a visit to her grandparent's farm Polly spends all her time on her new tablet instead of enjoying the farm animals and playing with her cousins. Polly's grandfather helps teach her that, though screen time can be good, it can also keep kids away from better things.

If you are looking for a book to more deeply connect you to God as the seasons change, the devotional book, *GraceLaced: Discovering Timeless Truths Through Seasons of the Heart*, might be the perfect choice for you. This book is written and illustrated by bestselling artist and author Ruth Chou Simons. Through 32 seasonal devotions, readers become deeply rooted in God's faithful promises so they can flourish in God's grace, no matter the season they are in.

As children jump into a new year of learning it can inspire adults to do the same. The bible study, *Believing God: Experiencing a Fresh Explosion of Faith*, is a great choice for expanding faith, trust and knowledge of Old Testament biblical figures. Written and led by Beth Moore, *Believing God* helps participants understand the difference between believing in God and believing Him and deepening their trust in God's promises. This 10 session kit contains DVDs, leader guides and participant study guides - perfect for small groups.

As always, please email library@redeemberirmingham.org with any questions or hold requests. Our on-line catalog is available at <https://luthernchurch.library.site/>

A Love Letter From the Kitchen Witch

Hello Darlings,
On a very hot day in August ,four intrepid, dedicated people came to the kitchen to clean and sort, pitch and toss, scrub and shine our wonderful Redeemer kitchen. Even the carts were turned over and washed shiny bright. Wow! Before I pour accolades upon them I want you to know that I am very happy with the way the kitchen looks after use. So is the Oakland County Health Department! You have been making a real effort to put things back in the right places, clean up thoroughly, and regard our kitchen as the treasure it is. THANK YOU!



I have one ask.....where have all our kitchen towels gone? And you do know not to wipe up the floors with the towels – right? There is a rag box over by the 3 sink combination...look right under the counter to see a big box marked “Rags” (of all things!) And, no! Don't pitch the rags. Take them home, wash them and bring them back, put in the box and feel good! Donate some of your gently used dish towels to the cause. Just set them on the counter and I will make them disappear.....into the drawer. So, here is a picture of the four heroes who saved me on that 98 degree day: David Hamada, Dan and Suzanne Guendelsberger and Kaki Mammel. I took the picture.....cackle, cackle. Next time, you come, too!.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Who loves God and kids?

I have the perfect way for you to give back to Redeemer. Sunday School is looking for more teachers!! We have expanded to offer Sunday School at both the 9am and 10:30am services. We have written new curriculum so now is the perfect time to join us! We have a training session planned for September 9th at 6pm, so you are prepared. I provide everything you need to create a fun morning of fellowship and growing in God's Word.

NOTE: You would not be teaching every week unless you want to. I am looking for teachers for all age groups. You are able to work with your favorite age group from Preschool, Kindergarten, 1st/2nd grade or 3rd-5th grade!

If you are interested in teaching Sunday School, please contact Nicole Olds.



Join our email list!

Sunday School!!! We will kick off fall on September 13th!! If you have a child who is now 3 or are new to Redeemer, please reach out to Nicole Olds so you can be added to our email list. The more kids the better!!

nolds@redeemberirmingham.org

YOUTH

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



"redeemer_y00th"
ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

Grab a friend!
Come see what
Redeemer Youth
Group is all about!

RYG SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

13th: Pool Party at Noah Eckert's House, 7-9pm

14th: Family of God, 5-8pm

20th: Special Event: THE MIX, 4-7pm at Our Shepherd Lutheran School (1658 E Lincoln, Bham)

27th: RYG Ushers at the 10:30am service

27th: Putt Putt & Culvers, 7-9pm (meet in the Youth Room)

Core Group every Wednesday in the Youth Room 6-8pm

Friends are always welcome!



**RYG Fall Retreat at
Camp Skyline
November 6-8**

YOUTH

The MIX:
Meet Up, Invite Others. **EX**perience Fun.

Youth EVENT

6TH-12TH GRADES

 **SUNDAY
SEP 20**

 **4:00-7:00
PM**

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& HIGH SCHOOL
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YOUTH
GROUP

October 2 - 4
at Camp Skyline

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FOR KIDS IN GRADES 6-8

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Everyone is welcome!

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REGISTRATION DUE 9/27!
COST IS \$90!

 Questions? Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberbirmingham.org)

Confirmation 2026/2027!

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

Important Confirmation Dates:

Year 1 Orientation: Wednesday 9/16 at 6:00pm

Year 2 Orientation: Wednesday 9/16 at 7:30pm

Year 3 Orientation: Sunday 9/20 directly following the 10:30am service

Confirmation Classes Start: Wednesday 9/23 from 6pm – 8pm

AUGUST HAPPENINGS



Congratulations to Dan, Ryan, Brian and Ron - victors of this year's church golf tournament! And thanks to all who came out and played. Such a fun day!



What a great week in Lancaster!
On Aug 11 - 14, a group of Redeemer members and friends traveled to Lancaster, PA to see the Sight and Sound show - *Joshua*. They also visited some historic sights and spent time building friendship and creating memories.



Has God Given You Musical Talent? - Give it back to Him!

Not everyone is blessed with musical talent. If you have musical ability but aren't yet participating in a music ministry group at Redeemer, you are missing out on the opportunity for God to use your musical talent for His glory. And we are missing out on you! Redeemer's Music Ministry offers a place for everyone—experienced or novice, choral or instrumental. All our wonderful music ministry groups are back in full swing starting the first week of September. The meeting times and places are listed below. If you're interested in singing or playing for the glory of God, please join us!

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

CHANCEL CHOIR: Adult Choir

The Chancel Choir sings at our Sunday morning worship services and seasonal festival services to enhance the worship experience. The Chancel Choir provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing everything from classic anthems to modern settings in a traditional, contemporary, spiritual or gospel style. The Choir practices each Wednesday evening from 6:30pm to 8pm in the music room. Contact Steve SeGraves at stevenssegraves@gmail.com. 734 748-0849

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 services and at summer 10:30am services. It provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing or playing wonderful arrangements of contemporary Christian music. The Praise team meets Sunday mornings from September to May at 8am in the sanctuary, and in the summer at 9am in the Choir Room. Contact Steve SeGraves at stevenssegraves@gmail.com. 734 748-0849

YOUTH CHOIR

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

HEART OF WORSHIP: Senior High

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

REDEEMER BRASS

Our Brass Ensemble plays on the second Sunday of each month at the 9:00am and 10:30am services, and on special Sundays throughout the year. Participation is open to any brass player who can play easy to moderately challenging pieces. Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary on Sundays at 11:30 after the 10:30 worship. Pastor Jimmy Greenwalt - 248-644-4010 ext. 117

REDEEMER RINGERS

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 6:30pm in the hand bell room! James Compton - 248-396-7635

MUSIC AND MUNCHIES

On Wednesday, September 16th the Chancel Choir will hold our 3rd annual "Music and Munchies" night. This will be a just-for-fun, no commitment event for visitors to the choir, that will include refreshments, some singing, and who knows...maybe some fun musical door prizes. So come out and have a snack with the choir and sit in on a sing-through of some wonderful songs. See you in the choir room at 6:30pm on September 16th!



The Langsford Men's Chorus Invites You to Sing!

This all-male choral group rehearses in the Redeemer Chapel on Sunday afternoons from 3-5pm. This is an outstanding international award-winning group that was founded by Steve SeGraves in 1999. We sing fun and challenging men's music. Participation is contingent on passing a simple voice range test to determine what part you will sing in the group. The first rehearsal is on Sunday, September 13th at 3pm. So, come on in and sing with us!

Questions? Contact Steve SeGraves at stevensegraves@gmail.com. 734 748-0849

WELCOME

Please welcome our newest Chancel Choir section leader, Calebria Webb. A Detroit native, Calebria received her Bachelor's Degree from Winston-Salem State in North Carolina, and her Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from Wayne State University in Detroit. She is also a graduate of Detroit Renaissance High School. Calebria fuses her love for all things Detroit, passion for music and accessibility, and drive for community engagement into a big, bold vision for arts as the catalyst to inspire communal change. Previously, Calebria appeared in stage roles with Toledo Opera and Opera Modo while simultaneously maintaining a boutique private voice studio in Northwest Detroit. When counting some of her earliest singing inspirations and memories, she credits her grandfather for her love of diverse music and finds inspiration in the contemporary vocal prowess of Beyoncé, Mariah Carey, and Karen Clark-Sheard. Welcome, Calebria. And may God bless your time at Redeemer!





What is the Faithful Friends Ministry and how can I get involved?

The Faithful Friends Ministry at Redeemer began in 2017 with a small group of members who recognized the need for support, assistance and fellowship among our senior members who were homebound or resided in assisted living and rehabilitation facilities.

Our elder members have been the foundation of the church over the years, sharing their time, talents and treasures in many of the ministries of Redeemer. We want to honor these special "Golden Age" members and let them know they are not forgotten. Thus, the Faithful Friends Ministry was born, has grown, and remains today a vital program serving our older members.

The ministry works through magnificent volunteers from the congregation who have a "Heart for Seniors" and are eager to offer support and friendship. These volunteer "Friends" are paired with an older member of the congregation creating a personal relationship, with regular communication through visits, phone calls, emails and texts. In addition, we provide our Volunteer Caregivers or "Friends" resources to support their efforts.

Our ministry team members meet every month via zoom, or in person to update each other on new seniors who could benefit from our efforts. We also share information about possible new volunteers, and eldercare programs and resources we can offer to our congregation. We are continually focused on building and advancing our ministry in other areas, supporting those on the Sunday prayer list with cards and phone calls. Our team sends cards for every holiday to all of our seniors, and thank you cards to our beloved volunteers.

The Faithful Friends Ministry offers periodic Educational Enrichment Speaker Series for our seniors, their caregivers and family members. These informative programs offer a variety of topics relating to eldercare and are open to the entire congregation and guests. Previous topics/speakers focused on:

- "Recognizing Signals and Signs Requiring Professional Assistance and Available Resources" – Diane Johns, Gerontologist.
- "What to Look for in a Senior Facility" – Margot Ladd, Samaritas Marketing Coordinator.
- "Eldercare and Hospice Care" -- Leah Light, Social Work Director and Bereavement Coordinator.
- "Estate Planning—Managing Family Decisions" – David Mammel, Attorney.
- "Elder Law and Medicaid" – Erin Mortensen, Attorney.
- "Seniors Helping Seniors" Home Care Programs – Dawn Nealy, "SHS" Owner.

The Faithful Friends Ministry's goal is to honor our vital senior members, assuring them they are bathed in prayer, cherished and loved as a child of our Heavenly Father, and greatly appreciated for their past contributions to the Redeemer Family.

If you have a senior family member or someone who could benefit from our ministry; or if you would like to become a Faithful Friend volunteer, please contact any member of our team: Gary Priskorn, Diane Johns, Pam Tyndall, Cheryl Carr, Job Duff, or Marilyn Staargaard.

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

COUNSELING CORNER

The change of seasons from Summer to Fall is always so beautiful with the colors exploding on the various trees and with much cooler temperatures Praise the Lord! How blessed we are to live in the Midwest to observe the spectacular color show God gives us.

I have heard countless times people disappointed in themselves for not getting more accomplished this Summer. You might be feeling the same way too? But may I ask you, who set the bar of performance for you? Most will say "I set the bar height for myself too high." Then follows, disappointment, self-loathing (Mr. Grinch!) and feeling guilty that we did not meet our own expectations.

It's the same in relationships. We may give our all in a friendship for example and then feel really let down when the same commitment level is not met by the other person. But again, when we set the bar so high for ourselves we also set the bar of expectation high for others and when they don't perform to our level of unrealistic expectations we get deflated, angry and sometimes tap out of the relationship because "they just don't care like I do."

I have observed when people intentionally lower the bar of expectations to a reasonable level on themselves and in so doing on others, their life becomes calmer and they are happier with themselves and others.

May I also suggest that you pray and ask the Lord what His expectations are for you concerning a season or relationship in your life? He may direct you to Scripture, a particular passage or speak to you through music or a sermon or a friend. He has many ways of communicating His will to us.

Start each day asking Jesus to help you be aware of His presence throughout the day. Jesus said in the book *Jesus Calling*, "As you walk close to me, saturating your mind with Scripture, I will show you how to spend your time and energy. My Word is a lamp to your feet; My Presence is a Light for your path."

Friends may this be a season of listening to Jesus, enjoying the stage of color He created for us to enjoy and being more kind to yourself. Give yourself a break. This is a very tough world/time we are living in right now. Like Jesus said in John "In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world." He knows the future, so trust Him. He will see you through every tough time. You are not alone.

God's Blessings and Peace to you,
Dr. Sandy Pourcho

Thank you for everyone who participated in the giving tree for Care Net. If you have any other items to donate, please put them in Kitty's office.



Stay connected with Redeemer throughout the week! Follow Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on Facebook and Instagram for church updates, encouraging messages, photos, videos, and ways to worship, serve, and connect.



September

BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Job 40:1-42:17 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 Psalm 45:1-17 Proverbs 22:14	2 Ecclesiastes 1:1-3:22 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Psalm 46:1-11 Proverbs 22:15	3 Ecclesiastes 4:1-6:12 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:7 Psalm 47:1-9 Proverbs 22:16	4 Ecclesiastes 7:1-9:18 2 Corinthians 7:8-16 Psalm 48:1-14 Proverbs 22:17-19	5 Ecclesiastes 10:1-12:14 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 Psalm 49:1-20 Proverbs 22:20-21
6 Song of Solomon 1:1-4:16 2 Corinthians 8:16-24 Psalm 50:1-23 Proverbs 22:22-23	7 Song of Solomon 5:1-8:14 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 Psalm 51:1-19 Proverbs 22:24-25	8 Isaiah 1:1-2:22 2 Corinthians 10:1-18 Psalm 52:1-9 Proverbs 22:26-27	9 Isaiah 3:1-5:30 2 Corinthians 11:1-15 Psalm 53:1-6 Proverbs 22:28-29	10 Isaiah 6:1-7:25 2 Corinthians 11:16-33 Psalm 54:1-7 Proverbs 23:1-3
11 Isaiah 8:1-9:21 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 Psalm 55:1-23 Proverbs 23:4-5	12 Isaiah 10:1-11:16 2 Corinthians 12:11-21 Psalm 56:1-13 Proverbs 23:6-8	13 Isaiah 12:1-14:32 2 Corinthians 13:1-13 Psalm 57:1-11 Proverbs 23:9-11	14 Isaiah 15:1-18:7 Galatians 1:1-24 Psalm 58:1-11 Proverbs 23:12	15 Isaiah 19:1-21:17 Galatians 2:1-16 Psalm 59:1-17 Proverbs 23:13-14
16 Isaiah 22:1-24:23 Galatians 2:17-3:9 Psalm 60:1-12 Proverbs 23:15-16	17 Isaiah 25:1-28:13 Galatians 3:10-22 Psalm 61:1-8 Proverbs 23:17-18	18 Isaiah 28:14-30:11 Galatians 3:23-4:31 Psalm 62:1-12 Proverbs 23:19-21	19 Isaiah 30:12-33:9 Galatians 5:1-12 Psalm 63:1-11 Proverbs 23:22	20 Isaiah 33:10-36:22 Galatians 5:13-26 Psalm 64:1-10 Proverbs 23:23
21 Isaiah 37:1-38:22 Galatians 6:1-18 Psalm 64:1-10 Proverbs 23:24	22 Isaiah 39:1-41:16 Ephesians 1:1-23 Psalm 66:1-20 Proverbs 23:25-28	23 Isaiah 41:17-43 Ephesians 2:1-22 Psalm 67:1-7 Proverbs 23:29-35	24 Isaiah 43:14-45:10 Ephesians 3:1-21 Psalm 68:1-18 Proverbs 24:1-2	25 Isaiah 45:11-48 Ephesians 4:1-16 Psalm 68:19-35 Proverbs 24:3-4
26 Isaiah 48:12-50:11 Ephesians 4:17-32 Psalm 69:1-18 Proverbs 24:5-6	27 Isaiah 51:1-53:12 Ephesians 5:1-33 Psalm 69:19-36 Proverbs 24:7	28 Isaiah 54:1-57:14 Ephesians 6:1-24 Psalm 70:1-5 Proverbs 24:8	29 Isaiah 57:15-59:21 Philippians 1:1-26 Psalm 71:1-24 Proverbs 24:9-10	30 Isaiah 60:1-62:5 Philippians 1:27-2:18 Psalm 72:1-20 Proverbs 24:11-12





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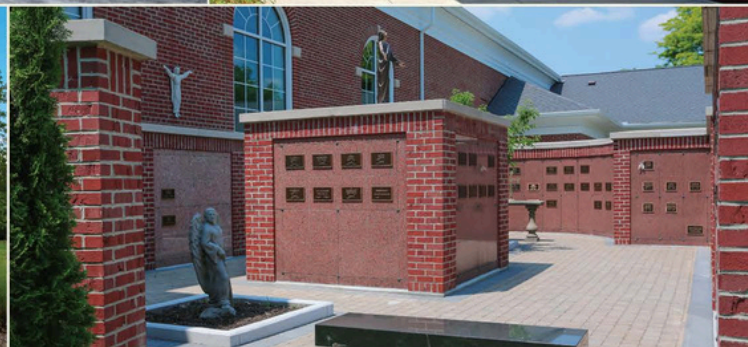
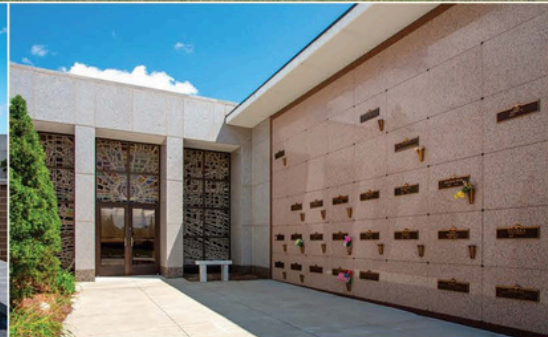
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September Birthdays

September 1

Joseph LaLone
Rochelle Butland

September 2

Beth Howard
Susie Lagoe
Andrea Schlak
Scott Snyder
Scott Szafranic

September 3

Jack Bassett
Sylvia Mortenson
Eric Rass

September 4

Bethany Baker
Brendan Cornwell
Gary Glotzhober
Janice Kanka
Duane Kreil
Andrew Millichamp

September 5

Shawn Connelly
Beth Kavanagh
Julie Ritter
Mark VanderWerp

September 6

Christopher Burgess
Elizabeth Cavanaugh
Douglas Dutton
Jacob Meissner
Taylor Poppert

September 7

Elise Anzalone
Regina Greer
Susanne Guendelsberger
Jeffery Imhoff
Hollie Kamm
David Kletzli Jr.
Ben Madlangbayan
Amy Mauger

September 8

Daniel Bridges
David Taylor

September 9

Clark Belanger
Alexandra Calvaneso
Anneliese Dankovich
Matthew Dilley
Nicholas Herdeggen
David Hofley
Jordynn Holland
Angela Mammel
Andrew Pedersen

September 10

Marla Janness

September 11

Beth Greenwalt
Sean Hoge
Melissa Hopko
Nayvie Lambert
Brian May
Jacey Needham

September 12

Crissy Bienkowski
Hannah Bienkowski
Sara Gersonde
Lisa O'Kelly
Lydia Reimann

September 13

Jane Glotzhober
Josh Harrison
Jake Schmidt

September 14

Ellen Ayers
Kelly DeClark
Remy Lewbel
Kim Martin
Jenny Turner

September 15

Matthew Detar
Kimberly Gadde
Douglas Leahy
Nicole Leonard
Ethan Rhind
Sheridan Taormina

September 16

Ethan Baker
Julie Curcio
Kirk Dunlap
Ellery Kamm

September 17

Deanna Backos
Kristin Mushovic
Christine Schmidt
Keith Schmidt
Shannon Stolzenfeld

September 18

Sandra Ahlquist
Thomas Becker
Julia Grieser
Emily Imhoff
Julia Lang
Jeff Schultz
Jim Wingo

September 19

Cherisse Baetz
Dan Feko
Katherina Kast
Jonathan Mammel

September 20

Brigitta Burguess
Lisa Doeden
Debi Hollis
Austin Nash
Lucille Walsh
Janice Wilkie

September 21

Reece Backos
Graham Girdler
Stella Kaiser
Sarah Smith

September 22

Matthew Baranowski
Cooper Delfin
Athena Schiller
James Staargaard
Bo Walsh
Mitchell Wolfe

September 23

London Baker
Reese Elliott
Jim Johns
Christine Lapinski
Kathryn Movitz
Allison O'Donnell
Noelle Schneider
Matthew Suszan
Ryan Teahan
Phil Thomas

September 24

Michael Banerian
Michael Ebert
Jenny Heidt
Ed Holter
Emma Staargaard
Christina Stewart
William Vautaw
Karen Zuliani

September 25

Ronald Beyer
Aaron Cook
Carlee Craig
Emily Hawkins
Hannah Hawkins
Reece Helm
Luke Hoover
Liam Kerr
Michael Laramie
Brendan Lesinski
Neil Martin

September 26

Pat Hussey
Dee Dee Lang
Thomas Long

September 27

Quentin Burchill II
Lynn Duerr
Barbara Hessen
Michael Kamm
Joshua King
Jonah Klow
Scott Suomela

September 28

Tyler Bassett
Ashton Esling
Andrea Swoyer

September 29

Talitha Farah
Jimmy Grove
Carol Johnston
Susan Laramie
Dawn Leiser
Sheri Pawlik
Morgan Russ
Jeff Walsh
Paul Wiegand

September 30

Ingrid Evert
Dana Greer
Daniel Hogan Jr.
Sarah Kamm
Sebastian Vanderhoef