

2025*

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FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

This may be a familiar article, but the importance of it seems worthy to repeat yearly. With the start of a new church year, let's make a new church year resolution. What do you want to do with your Christian walk this year? Let's all get more involved and get a closer relationship with Jesus! How can we help you with this at Redeemer?



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 on our website. (page 4)
- Join our Music Ministry or attend a concert: 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. (page 12) Concerts (page 22)
- Attend a Bible Study or start a Small Group 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 lots of studies for every age: adult, men's, women's, high school, middle school and children. You can also join a small group or create your own small group with some friends. (page 7)
- <u>Teach or Help with Sunday School:</u> We have Sunday School each week at the 10:30am service beginning September 7th. Talk to Nicole Olds if teaching kids is your passion! (page 10)

* continued on page 6

HomeComing Picnic

See details on page 14

LUTHERAN CHURCH of the REDEEMER

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009 Phone: 248-644-4010

E-mail: redeemer@redeemerbirmingham.org Website: www.redeemerbirmingham.org Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Rev. Randall J. Schlak - Senior Pastor	ext. 119
Rev. James Greenwalt - Assistant Pastor	ext. 117
Gary Priskorn - Dir. of Men's and Senior Ministr	ry 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	l, ext. 121
Confirmation & Outreach	
Gia Scheidt - Dir. of High School	ext. 120
Eric Wisniewski - Assistant Dir. High School	ext. 120
Kim Davis - Dir. of Fellowship	248.613.4200
Pat Raezler - Dir. of Westmaple Nursery	ext. 126
Rose Kiehle - Office Manager	ext. 116
Carrie Morris - Office Coordinator	ext. 114
Laura Jones - Accountant	ext. 110
Fred Suczynski - Building Maintenance	ext. 113
Dr. Sandy Pourcho - Counseling Center	248.568.6040

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Mondays - 7:00pm (Chapel)

*Livestreamed Service

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

1st & 3rd Sundays - 9:00am and 10:30am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sun./Mon. - Sun. 8:00am; Mon. 7:00pm

JULY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Average	2025	2024
Worship	327	366
Bible Class Sunday School	78 20	99 18
Suriday Scriool	20	10
Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	648	653
Visitors	67	38
Month: July Income and Expenses	2025	2024
Income received	\$106,785	\$113,211
Budget requirements	\$117,751	\$96,181
General fund expenses	\$141,096	
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$1,956,893	
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$1,976,352	\$1,848,751

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

WORK AND KEEP

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15). Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, "let there be...and there was" directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the "Adamah" (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the "office" of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He — and we — were created in the image of God to be stewards of God's creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing.

Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word "keep" is not just a synonym for work. This second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

continued on page 3

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new church year we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future. We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us—but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. So help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love.

Amen

STEWARDSHIP - continued from page 2

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor.

It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ's Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the "garden" with the same two-fold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

LCMS Stewardship Ministry — lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article — September 2025





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

You can give once, or setup a reoccurring gift. See Shelby instructions on our website under the Giving tab.

IN REMEMBRANCE



GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

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

Oftentimes, families would like to donate an item in memory of a loved one (i.e. paschal candles, benches, altar items, or trees - any items the church may need). For more information on this, please contact **Pastor Randy**.

— JOIN OUR Team ii

in the church office

Redeemer is looking for a new Office Coordinator! We are looking for a creative, techsavvy individual to join the Church Office team a part-time basis (approximately 25hours/week). This individual must be personable, compassionate, and have a heart to serve, while also being driven, well-organized, have the ability to multi-task, and think critically. Past office experience is helpful but not mandatory; past design and/or social media experience is a computer experience is Onboarding and training offered while also learning through hands-on experience. If you or someone you know might be a good fit for this position, please contact Pastor Randy or Rose Kiehle in the Church Office.

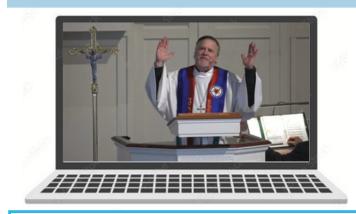
HAVE THE CHURCH DIRECTORY AND CALENDAR ON-HAND

You can download the ShelbyNext Membership app on your smart device and have access to the directory and church calendar on the go. (redeemerbirmingham is the domain name you enter)

Please contact the church office at 248-644-4010 or office@redeemerbirmingha m.org if you need your account information in order to sign-in or if you need help setting this up. We are happy to help.



PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

- Go to the church website.
 www.redeemerbirmingham.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.redeemerbirmingham.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.

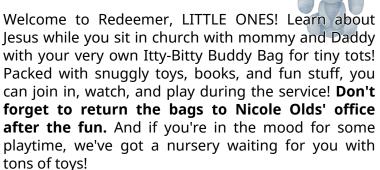
Please don't hesitate to contact the Church Office if you encounter any difficulties viewing videos.

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.

COMMUNION

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

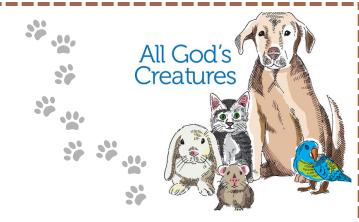
ITTY BITTY BUDDY BAGS!





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.



PET BLESSING SUNDAY!

Dogs, cats, and gerbils... OH MY! You are invited to bring your pet(s) to church on **Sunday September 21** during 9am & 10:30am services! We are having worship outdoors on the front lawn (so bring a lawn chair too!) and 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 (<u>laura@redeemerbirmingham.org</u>) with any questions.

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP





VOLUNTEER AT REDEEMER



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

FAMILY USHERING*

Your family can help out the congregation by ushering on a Sunday morning! You will distribute bulletins and assist with passing the offering plates during the service. There will also be an usher from the church available during the service to support you along the way. You can sign-up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or contact **Laura Vowell** for more information.

ACOLYTING & CROSS BEARING*

The Redeemer Acolyte & Cross Bearing Program is open to anyone who wishes to serve and is also a requirement for students in the Confirmation program. Crissy Bienkowski is our coordinator! You can sign up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website. Please contact **Crissy Bienkowski** with questions or for more information (crissybienkowski@gmail.com).

BE A GREETER*

If you can offer a friendly "good morning," a handshake, and a welcoming smile, and have an extra 15-minutes on a Sunday morning, you can play an essential role in outreach – GREETING! Redeemer is in need of volunteers to welcome attendees at the Town Square and Narthex 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 **Andrea Schlak** for more information.

BE A READER*

Would you be interested in reading the Old Testament and Epistle Scripture passages during worship? Readers of all ages, from 5 to 95, are welcome to participate in ALL worship services! You can sign up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or reach out to the **Church Office** for more information.

ALTAR FLOWERS*

Beautify our Sanctuary and Chapel with Altar and Lectern Flowers for a special occasion, or just because you love flowers. Altar flowers include two vases of flowers and Lectern flowers include one planter of flowers that will be yours to take home. Prices are the following:

• Sanctuary Altar: \$75

• Chapel Altar: \$55

• Sanctuary or Chapel Lectern: \$35

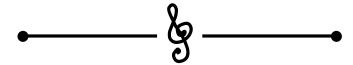
You can find the sign-up charts on the Town Square bulletin board or online under the "WAYS TO SERVE" box on the church website.

You can complete the dedication form and make payment directly online or follow the link in the confirmation email you receive. Alternatively, you can email your dedication to the **Church Office**, drop off your check at the Church Office, or leave payment in the Sunday morning offering plate **clearly marked** "Altar Flowers."

NOTE: Please remember to leave the flower liners and/or ceramic pot for the following week when collecting your flowers! There are disposable floral bags in the Sacristy you can use to place your flowers in. Sanctuary flowers can be picked up after Sunday's 10:30am service, and Chapel flowers after Monday's 7:00pm service. For assistance, please reach out to the Church Office for support.

HOST A COFFEE HOUR*

We are looking for volunteers to host special "In Memoriam" coffee hours on Sunday mornings throughout our Anniversary year! We will provide simple instructions to help you set it up, and this is a fantastic opportunity to serve your congregation! Please contact **Andrea Schlak** with questions or to sign-up!



MYSTERY PRELUDE

Have a song request? Sign-up to have our organist, Rick Helderop, perform your requested song during the Prelude at all Sunday services (8:00 am, 9:00 am, and 10:30 am)! To sign up, visit the church website homepage or scan the QR code below to go directly to the Request Form. The fee is \$10, and all proceeds contribute to our Mission Fund! Thank you for participating!

Scan to Request a Mystery Prelude:

PASTOR - continued from page 1

- Attend Activities and Fellowship Events: Church Picnic, September 7th, a Men's Event, a Social Event, Prime Timer's Event, a Women's Event, or a Children's Event. Don't forget our 100th Anniversary Event on Friday, November 7th. and so much more to enjoy.
- Join our Prayer Ministry: Provide intercessory prayer, praise and thanksgiving on behalf of the needs of our church, community, and world. Contact the **Church Office** if you are interested in receiving the prayer chain and giving the gift of prayer.
- <u>Participate in a Mission</u>: Go on a mission trip, shop, cook and/or serve for the Family of God Soup Kitchen, or empower women at the iZōsh event in November (date to be announced)! (page 9)
- <u>Volunteer:</u> 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
 - o 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 are unsure where to start, call the **Church Office**, and they will help you get started! If you have any questions about our various ministries or ways to participate at church, please feel free to reach out to me at any time. An exciting year is ahead of us all - let's all cherish God TOGETHER!

God's Blessings to you



SEPTEMBER EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 4

Chicks with Sticks Young Adult Bible Study

September 7

Homecoming Picnic Faith Chest Blessing RYG Kickoff party

September 8

FOG - Youth Group

September 10

Music and Munchies Leadership Team meeting

September 12

Five Lakes Silver Band Concert

September 16

Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study begins

September 17

4 G's - Gourmet, Grub, Games & Gab Year 1 Confirmation Orientation

September 18

Chicks with Sticks

September 19

Prime Timers event - Why's It Called That? (Detroit History Tours will speak)

September 21

Pet Blessing Sunday Year 2 and 3 Confirmation Orientation

September 23

Women's Book Group

September 24

Board of Elders Meeting

September 27

Family Event - "Light of the World Movie"

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

NEW MEMBER CLASSES!

If you are interested in becoming a member of Redeemer... now you can! Join us for our New Member Classes! Starting on **Sunday, October 12**, classes will run for 4 weeks on Sundays from 9am – 10am. We will end with a yummy New Member Brunch on **Sunday, November 9**! Come join us! Contact Laura Vowell (**laura@redeemerbirmingham.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!

BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS <.....

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - Kyle Chuhran 10am (after 9am worship) - Scheidt Room Book of Hebrews - Begins on Sunday, September 14.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Laura Vowell Sundays, 9-10am - Great Room Begins on Sunday, October 12

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Nicole Olds During 10:30am Service - Lower-Level Classrooms

REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP (RYG - High School) - Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski 7pm - Youth Room

TUESDAYS <……

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Pastor Jimmy *ZOOM Available 9:30am - Great Room

The Apocrypha/the Inter Testament Books - Begins on September 9. (We will be using "The Apocrypha The Lutheran Edition with Notes Study Guide.")

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Kitty Sweitzer

6:30pm - Great Room -*4th Tuesday starts at 6:00pm The Chosen - Season 5 - Begins on September 16

WEDNESDAYS <------

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Gary Priskorn *ZOOM Available Year-round, 6:45-7:30am - Great Room The Study of Genesis

POSITIVE PARENTING - Victoria Ilitch Weds, 9:15-10:45am - Great Room

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Laura Vowell 6-8pm - various rooms

RYG (HIGH SCHOOL) - Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski 6:00-8:00pm (Youth Room)

THURSDAYS <-----

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY - Andrea Schlak Thursdays, 9:30-11am - Great Room

The Sermon on the Mount! - Begins on September 11.

YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY - Michael Banerian First Thursday of Every Month - 6:30-8:00pm

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

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!

POSITIVE PARENTING

Please join us for Positive Parenting, Redeemer's weekly exploration of parenting ideas and strategies. Throughout the school year we meet with the goal of furthering our spiritual growth, expanding our understanding of parenting philosophies and finding strength in the community of other women.

'Positive Parenting' meets Wednesday mornings from 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM in the Great Room. Childcare for children ages 0-4 is provided in the nursery. Our first session is **September 10.**

Every class session stands alone, so feel free to join us as you can, no need to sign up in advance! Contact (victoria.ilitch@gmail.com) Ilitch guestions or for more information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The long awaited Season 5 of "The Chosen" will begin on **September 16 at 6:30pm**. This is the chapter of the Last Supper and Jesus' and I would love to share the evenings and episodes with you. If you would like a student guide to this study, please sign up on the Town Square bulletin board. The cost is \$10.00. We really love our Tuesday nights together and have room for anyone who comes. Please do.



COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

Community Bible Study Begins Thursday, September 11th from 9:30-10:45am in the Great Room

Please join us as we study 3 of the most impactful chapters of the bible, The Sermon on the Mount, found in Matthew 5-7.

We will explore the life of radical love and obedience we were meant to lead as followers of Jesus Christ. Even if you have studied this before, you will be amazed how this commentary speaks to the heart. The 9 week study will be a video based series, led by Jen Wilkin and facilitated at Redeemer by Andrea Schlak. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea at schlakandrea@gmail.com



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Guys of all ages are encouraged to join us on Wednesday mornings from 6:45 - 7:30 a.m. in the Great Room or via Zoom as we study the book of Genesis. In addition to our study and great fellowship among the guys, we enjoy some delicious goodies, juice and coffee. For Zoom Log-in details or for further information, contact Gary Priskorn (248-644-4010 ext.123).



Message from the Kitchen Witch

Please note the beautiful, white, pristine floor in the kitchen. Professionals came with their machinery and turned that floor into a work of art. Now, gentle reader, it is our responsibility to keep it that way. If you have a spill there is a box of rags under the 3 sinks. Clean up the mess and the floor goes back to its original glory! On another note: the convection oven and our conventional ovens are going to be professionally cleaned as well. No one likes to clean an oven...it is a hard, dirty and thankless task. And no one likes baking in a dirty one. One of our members has donated the cost of this cleaning and has offered to be the oven's caretaker, cleaning and keeping the ovens at their prime. What does this mean for us? That we take care of our spills and mess so that this wonderful person doesn't have to!!!! You might have to come back to the kitchen to finish the job but you will be appreciated for the effort. Redeemer's kitchen is a blessing to so many of us and the kitchen witch needs your help to keep it so.

Clean up after yourself, put your dishes away, wipe and buff the counters after use, and go the extra mile. After all, it is not our kitchen, is it?

HOSTED BY PRIME TIMERS



"WHY'S IT CALLED THAT?"

Friday, September 19th – 6:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered why Woodward is called Woodward or how Belle Isle got its name? Do you ever wander in the city asking yourself "why is that named that?" Then this Prime Timer sponsored event on Friday, September 19th is for you! The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Room with a delicious meal prepared by Michele Margosian that will be followed by a very interesting and informative presentation by Jeff Pollock, Executive Director of the **Detroit History Tours.** We'll explore the parks, public buildings, streets and foods whose names are famous but whose stories have been lost to history. Learn the infamous, strange and charming reasons for Detroit names with "Why's It Called That?" Bring a friend and join us! Sign up on the Town Square bulletin board by September 15th. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn.

ATTENTION PLEASE

THROUGH THESE DOORS

Our little book is entering its final phase of proofing and adding a little surprise for its authors! It will be a sweet reminder of our wonderful anniversary year together. We are hoping to have this book available in early October, so watch for your notice and your copy of the book, and thanks to all of you who have written stories from the heart that will provide a memory walk for years to come.

If you have submitted a story for this book, please go to the Town Square bulletin board, find your name on the "Through These Doors" alphabetized list and put your initials next to your name. This will confirm your contribution to this little gem of a book, If you are not on the list, your story is not in the computer. Please double check today. (If you submitted and do not see your name, contact Kitty at misskitty@redeemerbirmingham.org.)



A recent poll suggests loneliness and isolation affect over 20% of the U.S. population, with higher rates among seniors and young adults. The goal of the "Faithful Friends" Ministry at Redeemer is to help alleviate the loneliness prevalent in our Senior population. But we need your help. A card, phone call, text or email goes a long way to ease the pain of isolation among our homebound members and/or those in Assisted Living residences. A few minutes with a friendly visit can create moments of lasting joy. Seniors love children, which a perfect way to provide "teaching moments", inspiring compassion and a servant's heart in your children.

We are simply asking you to search for a place in your heart for this spiritually essential Ministry. There is no age requirement, individuals and families are welcome. And if you have an aging family member or know of someone in the "golden years", who could benefit from a faithful friend, please let us know. For more information, contact any member of the "Faithful Friends" Ministry team": Gary Priskorn, Diane Johns, Pam Tyndall, Tracey Fish, Cheryl Carr and Marilyn Staargaard.

MISSIONS

NEEDED Feed the Homeless!

Our next date to prepare and serve food for Family of God is **Sunday**, **September 14.** We are in need of volunteers cook the meal, We'll have ingredients and recipe ready for you. Redeemer funds the meal (from donations) and we can give you a shopping list. You can use the church kitchen to cook the food! Sign up via the church website or contact Laura Vowell (*laura@redeemerbirmingham.org*).



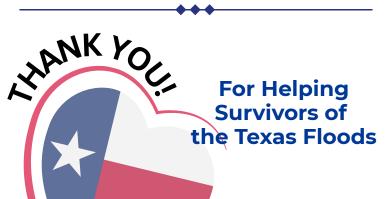
JOIN CAMP RESTORE DETROIT ON THE THIRD (3RD) SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR A SERVICE DAY!

People of all ages are welcome - individuals, families, and groups - come by alone or gather your loved ones!

Some things to know before you come...

- Volunteers will serve from 9:30am-3:00pm.
- Bring a sack lunch and a refillable water bottle.
- Dress for the work and the weather some projects may be outside.

For more information or questions, contact Tanya Karn (tanya@camprestore.org or 313-636-4422 ext. 1.)



Samaritan's Purse is responding to deadly flash flooding in central Texas where volunteer teams are assisting devastated homeowners with clean-up and mud-outs. Samaritan's Purse, mobilizes equipment and enlists thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid to victims of natural disasters in the United States.

Redeemer will be sending \$8,565 with \$4,565 donated by the congregation's generous hearts and a \$4,000 Redeemer matched gift to Samaritan's Purse.

Please continue to pray for all those grieving and whose lives have been turned upside down by these events.

Family of God

Redeemer partners with Family of God, a Lutheran Church in southwest Detroit that provides meals to those in need 6 days a week! Redeemer provides meals 2 times a month to Family of God. **YOU can help provide these meals in MANY different ways!**

GIVE:

By signing up to sponsor Family of God, (\$100), you would be helping feed those in need. The \$100 would be used to purchase groceries/supplies to make the meal for that month. EVERY dollar makes a difference in someone's life.

SHOP:

Volunteers are needed to shop for ingredients for the meals a day or two before we're scheduled to bring a meal to Family of God. You can use Redeemer's GFS account or save your receipts to be reimbursed by the church. We store ingredients in the church kitchen until they are used.

HELP PREPARE A MEAL:

You can use the church kitchen to prepare a meal that is already planned by someone else. All ingredients have been purchased, we need you and your crew to put it together and cook it. OR, if you prefer, you and your crew can prepare a meal that you planned and shopped for.

DELIVER AND SERVE:

To deliver and serve the meal at Family of God is a life changing experience. You would meet in the church kitchen to pack your vehicle(s) with an already prepared meal and drive it to Family of God in southwest Detroit (directions are provided). You will stay and serve the food to the community, many take to-go containers. The Family of God staff is there to direct and help you in any way needed. The drive to Family of God takes about 40 minutes, and the serving/light clean up typically wraps up in an hour. If you prefer, you can be paired up with someone who has done it before.

PREPARE FROZEN MEALS:

Plan and prepare a frozen meal to feed at least 75 people. We will give these meals to Family of God to use when no one is signed up to bring a meal for them. This can be funded by Redeemer, if needed.

MAKE BAGGED LUNCHES:

Purchase and assemble 50 bagged lunches. Family of God will distribute the lunches to the homeless in Clark Park (southwest Detroit). This can be funded by Redeemer, if needed.

Choose one or more of the ways above to help! This is also a GREAT way to get kids involved with serving others!:)

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemerbirmingham.org).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will kick off the fall on September 7th!! If you have a child who is now 3 or you 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@redeemerbirmingham.org



Sunday School is looking for more teachers!! If you are interested in teaching Sunday School, please contact Nicole Olds. You do not need to be a Bible scholar...just have a love for God and a love for kids! 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 Kindergarten, 1st/2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade teachers so you can even pick your favorite age group! Our typical rotation is 5 weeks of teaching and then 10 weeks off. You would teach 2-3 rotations throughout the school year.

FAITH CHEST BLESSING

If you had a child baptized at Redeeme during 2024, you should have received an email from Nicole Olds. We have a tradition of presenting baptismal boxes to our newly baptized. Our event will take place on Homecoming Sunday, September 7th at the 10:30 service. Questions, please contact Nicole Olds.



Mom's Day Out has openings in the 2-year-old program (kids who will be 2 by December 1st) for this fall. We start our morning at 9:15 with pick up at 11:50 and you are able to set your schedule for the school year. It is a great introduction to school for our young ones while giving mom and dad a little time. Please contact Nicole Olds (nolds@redeemerbirmingham.org) with questions or to enroll.

Mom's Day Out is looking for staff! If you enjoy spending time with littles ones we have the job for you! The hours are 9am to noon and we need someone on Wednesdays and Fridays. We work with kids 20- 36 months old. Please reach out to Nicole Olds if you are interested.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Take a trip to the sandy beach of a desert isle and drift back in time....yes We are reading Robinson Crusoe, a classic novel by Daniel Defoe

Robinson Crusoe is a literary masterpiece that continues to captivate readers even after all these years. Daniel Defoe's timeless tale takes us on an unforgettable journey of survival, self-discovery, and resilience. From the very first pages, I was hooked by Crusoe's remarkable transformation shipwrecked castaway to a resourceful island inhabitant. It should come as no surprise that Defoe's tale has wound up as an opera, video game, children's board game, cartoon and a host of other entertainment sources. Join us to discuss Robinson on Tuesday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Square.



Get those knitting needles ready! - Chicks with Sticks will have our first meeting of the year this week! We hope you all had a wonderful summer, and we're excited to continue to knit and crochet wonderful pieces for the homeless people of Oakland and Wayne Counties. We will see you on Thursday, September 4th at 1:00pm in the Library to kick-off another wonderful year together!

SAVE THE DATE

Advent by Candlelight sign-up
October 19, 2025 at 7am
in the Library

YOUTH



JAMS

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

JAMS
LOCK-IN
ON FRIDAY 11/14!



RYG Events

September 7: Homecoming Picnic Pool Party, 7-9pm (@ The Eckerts' Pool)

September 8: Family of God, meet in kitchen at 5pm

September 14: Road Rally, 7-9pm, meet at church

September 21: Putt Putt, 7-9pm, meet at church

September 28: Ushering at 10:30 service **September 28:** Yates Cider Mill, 7-9pm

Grab a friend and come see what Redeemer Youth Group is all about - we can't wait to meet you!

FAMILY OF GOD

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

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



September 8 October 13 November 10 December 8



"redeemer_y00th"

ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

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 in grades 6-8 are invited to the JAMS Game Night on Friday, October 10th from 5:30pm - 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 (laura@redeemerbirmingham.org) with questions or concerns.

CONFIRMATION 2025-2026

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@redeemerbirmingham.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 9/17 at 6pm Year 2 Orientation: Sunday 9/21 at 1:30pm

Year 3 Orientation: Sunday 9/21 directly following

the 10:30am service

Confirmation Classes Start Wednesday 9/24 from 6pm – 8pm



MUSIC MINISTRY

All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are back in full swing starting the first week of September. The meeting times and places are listed below.

Redeemer's Music Ministry offers a place for everyone—experienced or novice, choral or instrumental. If you're interested in singing or playing for the glory of God, please join us!

CHANCEL CHOIR: Adult Choir

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

YOUTH CHOIR

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

HEART OF WORSHIP: Senior High

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

REDEEMER BRASS

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

REDEEMER RINGERS: Adult Bell Choir

This group brings the unique and beautiful sound of bells to our worship services, sometimes joining with the Chancel Choir, Redeemer Brass or other featured instrumentalists. The Redeemer Ringers usually play on the fourth Sunday of each month and they rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the hand bell room! James Compton - 248-396-7635

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!

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. Colossians 3:16



MUSIC AND MUNCHIES

On **Wednesday, September 10th** the Chancel Choir will hold our 2nd 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 it on a sing-through of some wonderful songs.

See you in the choir room at 6:30pm on September 10th!

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY



MOVIE NIGHT!

Saturday, September 27th - doors open at 2pm, film showing at **2:15pm!** Cost is \$15 per person which includes the private showing and a goody bag!

Redeemer is renting out a theater at the Birmingham 8 to see "Light of the World"! This beautiful, 2D-animated story of Jesus is told through the eyes of his beloved young friend, the Apostle John. From the beginning of Jesus' ministry through his crucifixion and resurrection, "Light of the World" powerfully illustrates how Jesus of Nazareth changed the world forever and still changes lives today! Sign up via the church website on the Upcoming Events page!

Ouestions? Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemerbirmingham.org)





LIBRARY LIGHTS

Summer is drifting to a close and Autumn is swiftly arriving. With the change in season our church calendar begins to get busier with new bible study classes, a new season of Sunday School lessons and Confirmation, New Member classes and more! Whether you're joining a group, starting your own bible study or just want to immerse yourself in something new, our library has many options.

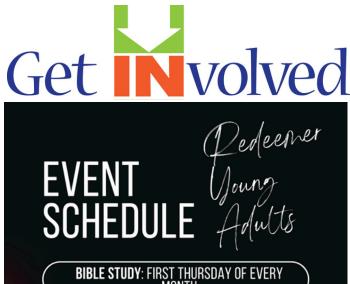
If you are looking for an adult devotional, Priscilla Shirer's Awaken: 90 Days with the God Who Speaks is a beautiful choice. Priscilla Shirer is well known for her religious books, bible studies and children's books. This is her first devotional. Each entry starts with a bible verse and short lesson, then gives the reader a prompt for reflection.

Lee Strobel, an award winning journalist, is known for his "The Case for..." book series. The Case for Grace is a compelling and personal account about grace. A journalist through and through, Lee travels thousands of miles to get personal accounts from others about how God's Amazing Grace has transformed them. Although this is a non-fiction book, there is a large "Discussion Guide" section that can be used for a bible study or a book club.

If your child is looking for a series of adventure and friendship with a good moral base, look no further than the Sugar Creek Gang series. Written by Paul Hutchens and based on his childhood, this series of 36 books highlights the adventures of seven boys from Indiana who live near Sugar Creek. In each book the gang stumbles into mysteries, encounters new people and places, and learns the value of good friends and faith in God. Each story contains a biblical lesson: sowing & reaping, forgiving seventy times seven, the power of prayer and more.

Come and Check Out something new at our library!

Happy Reading!



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



REDEEMER'S ANNUAL

Homecoming Picnic

September 7, 2025 after the 10:30 worship

JOIN US TO ENJOY:

Chicken Shack chicken, Mission BBQ pulled pork and brisket, hotdogs, salads, baked beans desserts and drinks, Kona ice truck



Professional [face painters



BALLOON TWISTERS



Olympic obstacle cour

shaved ice on wheels





carnival playland bounce house



Now is the time of year many parents are filling freshmen pockets or thinking about their student's future plans. How about getting a CEF Extension Plus Debit Card? Opening an Extension Plus Account is a great way to provide dollars for college students with easy access to the funds. For college students, it's a perfect give college solution. Parents can students a fixed budget (there is no credit associated with the card), and the whole family participates in the ministry of Church Extension Fund. Your account will be earning competitive rates of interest while building places for the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be shared. For more contact information, (Congregation Representative and telephone number) or call toll-free 800-242-3944



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.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



WEDNESDAY LUNCH AND WORSHIP IS TRANSFORMING INTO THE 4 G'S

"Gourmet, Grub, Games, and Gab" - or "The 4 G's!" Lunch and Worship, as we've known it in the past, is transforming into "Gourmet, Grub, Games and Gab!" We're going to continue to have our gathering with a delicious lunch, but instead of the worship service we've had in the past, we will be playing games! We'll gather the third Wednesday of each month in the Great Room, starting September 17th at 12 noon with a delicious lunch prepared by Michele Margosian! For our first meeting, we'll enjoy Cheesy Potato Soup, Hudson's Maurice Salad, Bread and Butter and Dessert - followed by BINGO! We're excited for this new program and the fellowship opportunity it will provide! Please call the church office if you will be joining us for lunch!



September 20 - 3pm to 9pm

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church 2225 E. 14 Mile Road, Birmingham, MI 48009 oslcoktoberfest.com

Volunteers are needed on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to help make the Oktoberfest a memorable experience for everyone. Whether you're interested in setting up, serving food or beer, managing parking, or cleaning up, there's a role for you! This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, support your community, and enjoy the festive atmosphere. If you're interested in volunteering, please sign up on our website. We look forward to celebrating with you!

> Visit the volunteer page at oslcoktoberfest.com for more information.





HARVEST HOUSE HOP

(FALL PROGRESSIVE DINNER)

Looking for happy hosts and hostesses for our Harvest House Hop on Friday, October 17. We need a host for happy hour, 5 dinner hosts and one host for dessert.

Happy Hour Host

mocktails, cocktails, pop with quests bringing appetizers

Dinner Hosts

provide a main course with guests bringing salad and rolls

Dessert Host

Hummers and desserts brought by guests and event leaders

This is a great way to get to know people, have fun, have dinner and share the evening. Call Kitty for more details and be the first to host at your home.

misskitty@redeemerbirmingham.org



THE REDEEMER BRASS OKTOBERFEST

is back in action. There will be several performances in September and October.

- September 6 from 6-9pm:
 - The Dog and Pony Tap Room at 14661 W. Eleven Mile, Oak Park.
- September 27 from 1-4pm:
- Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Beverly Hills. More announcements to come. See Pastor limmy with any questions.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday of the Month

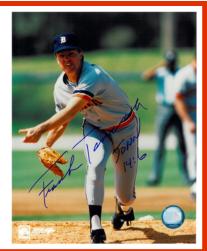
(September 10; October 8; November 12; December 10)

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

September 24

Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, October 11th 8:00 a.m. in the Great Room

Men, women, youth of all ages are invited to join us for a hearty breakfast served at 8:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 8:45 a.m. We are pleased to announce that our special guest presenter will be former Detroit Tiger pitcher, Frank Tanana who will not only share about his professional baseball career but also his faith walk and the role of Christ in his life! It promises to be an interesting, motivating and inspirational morning! Bring a friend and join us – all are welcome! Please sign up on the Town Square bulletin board. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn.



COUNSELING CORNER

What would your day, just today, look and feel like if you could only live in the present moment? What if the regrets you had from the past could no longer find you because you closed the door to them, for good (Luke 9:62)? What if you could not think about tomorrow either because God would not let you. He wants to be front and center in your life. He wants to be with you today right now, period.

So, just for a moment - right now - close your eyes and imagine yourself with Jesus taking a walk, being in His arms, riding bareback on a horse behind him holding onto Him knowing the Creator of the Universe has it ALL under control that concerns you.

The anxiety people are riddled with these days is palpable. Anxiety usually is from fear of the future. Just know that worry, crying, yelling, pacing, ruminating over things that are bothering you, will NOT move the needle one bit. Tired of the drama? Come with me.

The only One who has the power to change your situation for the good is God. Yes, He expects you to do your part when He gives you instruction and wisdom in what to do, but He will then move in that situation once you follow His instruction. "Trust God and leave all the consequences up to Him" (Charles Stanley).

We all wonder if God really talks to us. Yes, He promises He will through Scripture "Knock and the door will be opened." "Seek and you will find." "Call to me and I WILL answer you and show you great many things you did not know." He does and sometimes it's down in our gut and impression that just won't leave (Holy Spirit guidance). It may be through music or a song that you hear or through nature or Scripture. He says in Jeremiah 29:12, "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you."

And so, I would like to encourage you to stay in this moment right now. (Someday we will be in heaven and none of this stuff will even matter. None of it! That thought has always been so comforting to me personally!) Read for encouragement Matthew 6:25 and cast your cares on Him for He cares for you 1 Peter 5:7. Give it all to Him and be with Him as I gave you examples above. Keep pressing in for His guidance and direction and He will give it to you. Be patient. He wants a relationship with you and this is a great way to nurture it.

I have found personally in my counseling practice, that the clients who get better, who notice change occurring, who feel better deep down inside are the ones who actually do the work! It's hard to stay consistent. I know. But remember what Einstein once said "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." You have to do something different, so I encourage you to do the work.

And finally, friends, be disciplined. Stay determined. Stay in the present moment and leave the past in the past. Let it and the power you've given it to control you, go. Talk to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Peace be with you, Dr. Sandy Pourcho

Jeremiah 29:11–12 — For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

Dr. Sandy Pourcho is available to address your counseling needs! Call to set-up an appointment soon!

Sandy Pourcho, PHD 248.568.6040



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION: REDEEMER'S FELLOWSHIP

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

Lamp Article: Fellowship

"They devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42

Hymns, Liturgy, Creeds, Scripture and Sermons are the elements highlighting and supporting each church service, giving it authenticity and meaning to those seated in the pews. When the service ends, an integral part of the worship experience begins, and that is Fellowship. Redeemerites love to gather for coffee and breakfast goodies, familiar faces, laughter and remembrances, event planning and fundraising. Friendships are formed, lasting for many years, building into relationships and bonds based on the love of Christ. Redeemer has a rich

history of gatherings, events, dinners, retreats and even long distance trips.



Pastor Duane remembered fondly the congregational dinners and potluck suppers which were a huge event for parents and kids alike. Each family brought their own favorite dish to taste and share with other members, and socializing would easily begin. In the 100th Anniversary Redeemer Cookbook coming this Fall, you will find some vintage recipes from the potlucks, as well as a recipe for a German Sauerkraut supper which fed 203 adults and 39 children. Definitely Lutheran fare!

In 1957, the "Newlywed Group" was formed by Fred and Jeanne Hollis. They met monthly in the activity room in the basement of church. They enjoyed fellowship with potluck dinners, entertainment, card playing, bingo and square dancing. Jeanne Hollis fondly remembers "Pastor Ted and his wife Myrtle attended all the dinners and while he was walking around chatting, he always found a way to be first in line for dinner. It made us all laugh!" A full 10 years of activities in the "Newlywed Group" moved on with the times to become the "Couples Club" with many charter members and newcomers. They enjoyed a whole host of couple-related social events and ministry activities.

In 1943, a Redeemer Bowling League was formed. So popular, it continued into 1971, with themed teams such as the "Striking Sinners", the "Sermon Sleepers", and the "Alley Apostles". More than 40 people joined for fellowship and bowling every Sunday night. Strike and spare!

In 1973, when the Gym was added, Coffee Hour was established. Families sponsored coffee, a variety of treats, and even themed decorations for special holidays. Cindy Grove wrote in the Lamp in 1996, that, "We enjoy conversation with old and new friends while juggling a steaming hot cup of coffee and a plate of delicious baked goods." Today, we enjoy our coffee and delicious snacks in the Town Square. Many thanks to Cathy Hansen, Kim Davis, and many others who keep us nourished and allow fellowship on Sunday mornings!

In the 1970's, the Grand Group was formed and led by Pastor Cattau. This group held monthly meetings, dinners, and off site outings. Each month, the group would have a luncheon in the Great Room, featuring delicious homemade food by Redeemer members, Bill and Carol Leahy, with a special program to follow. The programs varied – from informative presentations like In-Home Safety for older adults, to entertainment programs, such as the "Dusty Fiddles." One such memorable outing was the trip to Frankenmuth in 1971. The Grand Group visited St. Lorenz and enjoyed the traditional chicken dinners with "all the fixin's". In 1993, they visited the popular parks and museums of Branson, Missouri, and other attractions in St. Louis.

When Pastor Cattau took a Call elsewhere, Marge Noettl led the Grand Group, and under her direction, they took over The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW), a program from Detroit Edison. They helped write and mail over 15,000 "thank you" notes to those who contributed. Cindy Grove took over the Grand Group leadership when Marge retired in the late 90's. Cindy would feature a "Super Senior" each month in the Lamp giving the congregation an eye-opening look at these amazing seniors.

In 1979, the Young Adult Ministry was formed, led by Lee Western. The group would gather for Bible Study and fellowship. Today, Michael Banarian hosts the Young Adults at his home for Bible Study and Fellowship.

In 1982, a new fellowship opportunity called "Singled Again" was created. Singles participated in a three-day workshop on "Divorce Recovery", and an evening at Playhouse Theater, and a presentation entitled, "Coping with Loneliness and Feeling Good about Yourself as a Single". This group offered fellowship as well as support for each other.

In 1986, the "Middies", a social group for middle aged couples and singles, was formed. The committee consisted of the Springers, the Endresses, the Mills and the Zimmers. They created the ever popular "Progressive Dinners", where often over 130 members attended. Volunteer "host" homes of 6 to 14 guests began with appetizers, dinner was held at a different home, with the last host home providing dessert ending this fun-filled evening. Progressive Dinners were held long into the 90's. Redeemer members sponsored Road Rallies in 1987, racing around the Birmingham area looking for clues. The group sashayed to Bojangles music, and doe-si-doed at Country Western Dances, promenading in and around the Redeemer gym. The Middies were very creative in their activities and presented a "Famous Lovers Party", featuring the Springers as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Pam and Mike Dundas as the "Owl and the Pussycat", and John and Kerry Mills as "Elvis and Priscilla Presley"! The Middies also took charge of the tree trimming at Christmas, and of course, an afterglow party which was a big hit! Fellowship was, and is, an entertaining yet fulfilling way to bring people of the same faith together.

Redeemer's first ever Sock Hop took place in 1989. Participants were encouraged to dust off their adult socks and enjoy the soothing sounds of Del Shannon while swishing their poodle skirts and spilling punch on their Nehru jackets!

In 1992, "The Voyagers", a group for those aged 55+ began. Their first event was a Candlelight Dinner in March 1992. In 1996, a wonderful travel opportunity was offered. Redeemer members could visit the Iberian Peninsula. Joan Bowes, a travel agent, planned a beautiful 12-day cruise on a luxury liner that would visit Seville, Monte Carlo, Barcelona and Rome. For years, Joan arranged travel events for interested members of Redeemer. Groups traveled to a range of places in Latin America and Europe. Trips included repeated visits to Germany and a number of cruises in Panama, the Baltics and down the Elbe River. Redeemer members particularly enjoyed seeing the passion play at Oberammergau and visiting the historical sites related to Martin Luther on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. There were several travel "misadventures" over the years, including a conflict between the cruise operator and the staff on the Baltic trip, which was so serious our travelers were given vouchers for another trip! On another voyage to Copper Canyon, and other sites in Mexico, the group's planeneeded repairs, which caused a long delay, and fog did its best to keep people from seeing the canyon. Today, as part of the 100th anniversary celebration, Redeemer "voyagers" have gone to Lancaster, PA with current travel coordinator, Leslie Whitfield.

In 1997, Beth Howard took over the position of Director of Fellowship Ministries from Cindy Grove. Cindy continued her work as Director of Lay Ministries. Also in 1997, Redeemer held an Oktoberfest, which featured Lou Kasischke as the speaker. As Lou attempted to climb Mt. Everest, a life-threatening situation occurred. Lou gave a riveting speech about surviving Mr. Everest and returning to tell the tale. After his presentation, the Oktoberfest served traditional German food and a rockin' German band played for the audience.

2003 saw the establishment of the Prime Timers Group for those 50+. Led by the Hollis's, Sacks, and Gary Priskorn, Senior Fellowship Director, one of the inaugural events was a Spring Fling Potluck. The group enjoyed a lovely dinner and a service project to make hygiene kits. The Prime Timers have enjoyed many get togethers including picnics at the Hollis' cottage, a tour of Ford Field, and Tiger baseball games. Go Tigers!

Hosted by Pastor Randy and Andrea in 2003, the first end-of-the-year "Picnic at the Parsonage" for the seniors was really a treat. Food and beverages were transported by Elisa Stephens, and later, Marilyn Staargaard and Karen Pridmore. Picnic tables were set up with decorations, food and flowers. Pastor Randy and Gary Priskorn were the "master barbecuers", providing hamburgers and brats, potato salad, a variety of side dishes, and of course, a commemorative cake. Andrea was a perfect host, warmly greeting the appreciative seniors. It was truly a day to remember for the seniors who felt so honored to be invited to a wonderful day at the Parsonage.

Congregation-wide Fellowship opportunities abound around Redeemer. We have our annual Homecoming Picnic and Ice Cream Socials. In 1996, Kitty Sweitzer and Cindy Grove hosted the event with the theme, "United in the Spirit", based on Ephesians 4:3.A large frame was passed around and members could have their picture taken inside the frame. These days, our amazing Fellowship Ministry leader, Kim Davis, puts on a huge spread of food for the Homecoming Picnic and everyone enjoys fellowship under the tents and on the playground. Each member gets a special commemorative, themed t-shirt handed out at the Picnic. Our Redeemer t-shirts may seem like a small matter, but often it's the celebratory ribbon which ties the congregation together. Wearing a themed t-shirt invites a special form of camaraderie which makes everyone feel part of the group. Pastor Randy once gave a sermon about us being "billboards", and a challenge was put out to the congregation to wear our t-shirts around town and around the world and submit photos. We have an amazing collection of our Redeemer t-shirts in places from Birmingham to far off corners of the world. What a way to spread the world about our faith and fellowship!

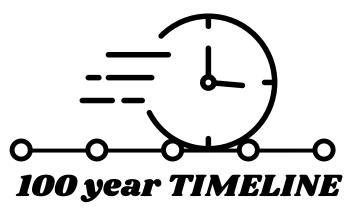
The first annual "Members and Friends Ride and Walk" took place in 2008. People enjoyed God's creation while cycling and walking around Stony Creek Park. Everyone was encouraged to wear their "Cross Training" t-shirt as they enjoyed crafts for the kids, a nature walk, and a picnic.

Also in 2008, Redeemer held a Chili Cook-Off. Chefs in the congregation were encouraged to bring samples of their favorite chili recipe for tasting. Recipes competed for the coveted "Best Chili Ever" award.

In 2017, the planning committee of Pastor Randy, Debi Hollis, Nancy Lesinski, Terry Holmes, Jimmy Greenwalt, Megan Jones, Kris Held, Donna Hollis, Kris Held and Michelle Margosian put together a spectacular Redeemer Social. The theme for the event was a celebration of spring. It was the first of many social events drawing large numbers of members who wanted to enjoy the company of their Redeemer friends.

In 2018, Redeemer members, family, and friends enjoyed the festive sounds of the Redeemer Brass and sampled delicious German food cooked by Michele Margosian. Oktoberfest 2018 was such a fun occasion as we celebrated our German heritage!

As you can see, Fellowship at Redeemer is like a tender tree sprouting at the beginning of the congregation, taking bloom over the years to become a strong and sturdy branch of Fellowship, which continues to enrich the congregation with friendship and mutual love for our Lord, Jesus Christ.



As another way to honor our 100 years, Ginny Schalm has prepared two very interesting timelines that are now published on our church website. They can also be found in the Theodore Wuggazer Memorial Library.

One is a World Timeline and one is a Christian/Redeemer timeline, both corresponding to the 100 year history of Redeemer. For all you fellow history lovers, please take a look and enjoy!

Click on the "Holy History" box on the church website to find these amazing treasures.

PASTORAL ACTS

WEDDINGS

7/18 - Ryan Mackenzie Scott and McKinlay Marie Vercnocke

FUNERALS

7/27 - Joanne Marie Evans

BAPTISMS

7/8 - Henry Phillip Ilitch son of Michael Ilitch III and Victoria Ilitch

7/13 - Emma Grace Staargaard daughter of Nick and Ellen Staargaard

7/17 - Reece Kimberley; Rylee Klaire; Zoe Kate Helm children of Darren and Devon Helm

7/20 - Andrew William Dutton, II son of Douglas and Danielle Dutton



October 2

Chicks with Sticks Young Adults Bible Study

October 8

Leadership Team Meeting

October 9

The Birmingham Musicale Concert

October 10

JAMS Game Night

October 11

Fellowship Breakfast

October 12

Fall New Member
Class Begins
Birmingham Concert
Band Fall Concert

October 13

FOG

October 15

4 G's-Gourmet, Grub, Games, & Gab

October 16

Chicks with Sticks

October 17-19

RYG Fall Retreat Harvest Hop House

October 19

Advent by Candlelight
Sign-up
Detroit Lutheran
Singers Fall Concert

October 22

Family Service Night

October 26

Bible Buddies

Third Grade Bible Blessing

Shine the Light Night

October 28

Wormen's Book Group



Redeemer's FUN fest! EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Save the Date

"Grate-Fall" Fun Fest

Redeemer is "grateful" for 100 years of community connection.

Friday, Nov. 7, 5:30 pm FREE Festivities & Concert

Please invite your neighbors & friends

5:30pm: Children's Carnival Games

6:00pm: Hot Dog Dinner

7:00pm: Detroit Youth Choir



8:00pm: Cookie Afterglow

There is no charge for any event.

Free will offerings gladly accepted to defray costs.



100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COOKBOOK!

Due September 12

We want all cooks and bakers to be part of our 100th Anniversary commemorative cookbook --and the deadline is approaching fast! Recipes need to be submitted by September 12 to ensure they are included in this special occasion cookbook. Multiple recipes from all members will ensure that the cookbook is a success, so don't be shy. Feel free to submit as many of your favorite recipes as you'd like.

In addition to recipes from our members, the cookbook will be supplemented by vintage recipes and images from the Redeemer archives. It will be professionally published in a 3-ring binder style, making it very easy to use.

We have created an online recipe portal through Morris Press Cookbook to make the recipe-gathering process as easy as possible. However, if you prefer, you can also submit hard copies to the Cookbook Committee.

To Submit Recipes Online:

- Go to www.typensave.com and click 'Login.'
- Enter the User Name: redeemercookbook
- Enter the password: potato096 and click 'Submit.'
- Enter your name and click 'Continue.'
- Click 'Add Recipes' to begin adding your recipes.

The recipe entry process is pretty foolproof, and you get a chance to review and edit. Under "Notes", we'd love you to include personal comments, such as "this recipe has been in our family for 50+ years" or "this is my kids' favorite meal", etc.

Please take part in this culinary collection with us.

The Cookbook Committee (Beth Lanthier, Donna Hollis,

Nancy Lesinski, Sharilyn O'Boyle, Liz Pedersen, Richelle Pedersen)







The "Sights & Sounds" of Lancaster's Amish Countryside – August 12 – 15, 2025

As morning dawned Tuesday, August 12th, 37 excited travelers arrived at Redeemer Lutheran Church ready to embark upon a 10-hour motor coach trip headed east for Lancaster County Pennsylvania and a tour of the Amish countryside. Pastor Randy and Andrea were there to see us off and take a group photo before we boarded. I had a magnetized bus sign made that read "REDEEMER'S ARK ON WHEELS" – Birmingham, Michigan. The sign was made to emphasize the bigger than life live performance of "NOAH" at the Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre in Lancaster. The sign was a great idea until we realized that the bus was covered in fiberglass not metal! (I learn something new every day!) So, Redeemer members, families and friends ages 3 to 80+ (7 delightful kids included) joined together, holding our "ARK" sign as Andrea captured our happy group on film.

The tour company that worked with us to organize this trip made everything seamless and very manageable for our group. DIAMOND TOURS reserved our bus, our driver, hotel, meals, tickets for all attractions, hop on tour guides and our fabulous 5th row-center seats for the spectacular stage production of "NOAH." With two full days of travel on this four-day excursion, the two middle days were filled with many unique experiences. We visited an Amish Homestead where crafts and handmade goods were displayed in abundance & could be purchased on site. Beautiful quilts, pillows, linens, wood & copper birdhouses, jellies, jams, honey, pastries, pies, fudge....is your mouth watering yet? One of our local guides is Mennonite and as she directed our driver, Chris, throughout the town and farmland, she shared a great deal of information about the differences between the Amish and Mennonite beliefs, culture and lifestyles. We sat in a one room schoolhouse (one of over 300 still standing and operating in Lancaster County today) and learned about the many challenges when one teacher is assigned to teach up to 30 or more students grades 1 thru 8 all at the same time. While touring around the region, often our coach passed alongside Amish horse-drawn buggies and we were witness to the beautiful farmland and rolling hills of Pennsylvania. Many of our group said they had never seen so much corn in their lives. Acre after acre, mile after mile as far as the eye could see.

One of our stops was at the "Kitchen Kettle Village" nestled in the picturesque countryside of Intercourse, PA. There we could experience over 35 unique shops, restaurants and local foods & flavors made by craftsmen & talented women in the area. We also enjoyed a luncheon theatre performance called "Imaginarium" at the MAGIC & WONDER THEATRE. A fun combination of illusions, comedy, circus acts and impressive illusions by an award-winning illusionist Brett Myers & his troupe.

All of these events and attractions along the way were fun, educational and relaxing, but none compared to the epic performance of "NOAH." From the beginning of the production, to the final curtain, "NOAH" was a spectacular array of amazing theatrical techniques and visuals; all were quite something to behold! This 30th anniversary of the "NOAH" production introduced an incredible cast which included over 140 live animals! They came from the stage wings, down all the aisles, up on stage and into the ark...most of which came up on cue with no assistance from the humans. It was something quite extraordinary to see such well-rehearsed pigs and goats. As you recall from this Biblical account, God gave "Noah" instructions, instructions that were not easy to imagine let alone fulfill. However, faith and remaining righteous to God's word helped Noah and his family got it done. God said the animals would come and they did. God said there would be a flood and the rains poured down. God promised a rainbow as a reminder that a flood would never cover the earth again. A rainbow, a beautiful reminder of God's promises to us even to this day.

continued on page 23

continued from page 22

The play ended with one more promise that God made; a Messiah would come one day to save God's children. And there it was. The wooden bow of the ark transformed and emerged as the "old rugged cross" on Calvary and the door to the ARK became the opening of the tomb where Jesus was buried. Out of the soft but bright glow within the tomb, Jesus appeared to remind us that He is the new promise, the new covenant for all mankind, for all believers in Him. A theatrical moment indeed, but even more so in that moment, it conveyed our truth as believers in Christ as our Lord and Savior. What a wonderful moment! If that weren't enough, when the doors of the theatre opened, we were faced with a torrential downpour of our own. Flood warnings in the area and ankle-deep puddles all the way to the bus didn't dampen our spirits. Drenched from head to toe, still amazed by our experience in the theatre, he headed to Hershey Farms for a family style dinner which didn't disappoint our happy travelers either. One item that was not on the itinerary or on the dinner menu that evening was this. As we were finishing up our dinner, the windows dappled with rain drops, allowed us to see the clouds begin to slowly drift away revealing a bright blue sky. There before our very eyes was a beautiful, magnificent rainbow above us! No, I didn't have anything to do with that, nor did anyone else! "ONLY HE" could send a glorious reminder of His promises, the promises He made to us because of the LOVE our Heavenly Father has for us.

An extraordinary trip, filled with love, friendships, old and new, fond memories for a lifetime and blessed reminders of how fortunate and grateful we are to live in such a glorious land of freedom, liberty and opportunities like this trip we shared together. To all our travelers, thank you for making this trip so special and to our congregation, thank you for your prayers for a safe journey and return home. Many thanks to Pastor Randy and Andrea for adding our trip to the 100th Redeemer Anniversary list of activities. Let's not wait another 100 years to do this again!!!

With heartfelt love and gratitude ~ Leslie Whitfield This production of "NOAH" was filmed earlier this year and will be shown in a MJR Theatre soon. Please look this up and attend if you possible can. It is certainly worth seeing.



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

Friday, September 12th

7:00pm: Five Lakes Silver Band Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 9th

11:00am: Birmingham Musical Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, October 12th

3:00pm: Birmingham Concert Band Fall Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, October 19th

3:00pm: Detroit Lutheran Singers Fall Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Friday, November 7th

7:00pm: Detroit Youth Choir (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, November 16th

4:00pm: Ukranian Music Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 7th

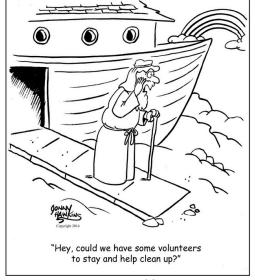
3:00pm: Birmingham Concert Band Holiday Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 9th

11:30am: Tuesday Musical Christmas Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 14th

4:00pm: Langford's Men's Christmas Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)





SEPTEMBER BIBLE READING PLAN

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 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

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

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

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

10

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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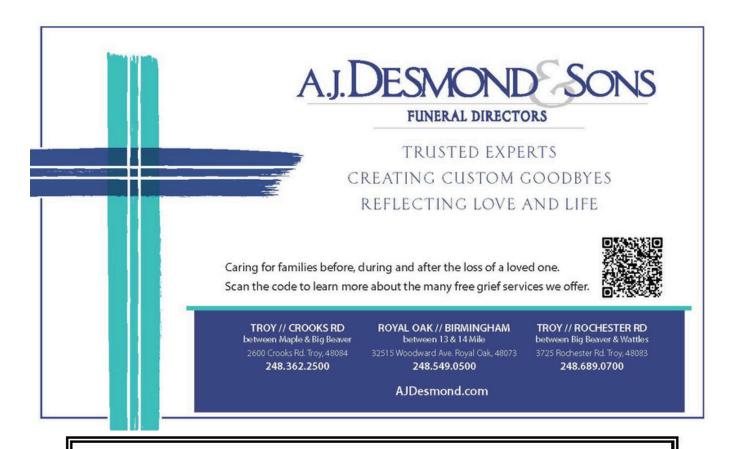
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September 1 Joseph LaLone

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 Burguess Elizabeth Cavanaugh Douglas Dutton Jacob Meissner Taylor Poppert

September 7

Elise Anzalone Regina Greer 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 Herdegen
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
Robert Smith
Sheridan Taormina
Betsy Ukrop

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
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Ashton Esling
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September 29

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September 30

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Daniel Hogan Jr.
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Sebastian Vanderhoef