

# TORAH



January 7, 2024  
9:00 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.

*Lutheran Church of the Redeemer*  
1800 W. Maple  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**January 7, 2024 – 9:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.**  
**First Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**Not Under Torah**

***As We Gather***

What does Torah mean?

1. The body of wisdom and law contained in Jewish Scripture and other sacred literature and oral tradition
2. The five books of Moses constituting the Pentateuch
3. Leather or parchment scroll of the Pentateuch used in a synagogue for liturgical purposes (*Merriam Webster*)

***Prayer Before Worship***

Heavenly Father, we come before You with open hearts, asking for Your grace to be a light in our lives. Grant us the wisdom to understand more deeply the power of God's amazing grace, to recognize it as a gift of Your love, freely given, not something we can earn. We ask this in the name of Grace Himself, Jesus Christ, Amen.

**If you wish to join us at the Lord's Table, please read this Communion information. If you share our beliefs regarding the Lord's Supper, we welcome you to our altar.**

- **I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, Satan and death.**
- **I believe that Christ is really present in the Sacrament and that with the bread and wine I receive His true Body and Blood.**

- I resolve to dedicate my life to my Lord and Savior in His Body, the Church, by regular worship and devoted Christian service and living.

**Prelude**

Rick Helderop, Sunday

*(Please rise for the Opening Hymn)*

**Opening Hymn 127**

As with Gladness Men of Old

1. As with gladness men of old; did the shining star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright.  
So, most gracious Lord, may we; evermore be led by Thee!
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before; thee whom heav'n and earth  
adore,  
So may we with willing feet; ever seek Thy mercy seat!
3. As they offered gifts most rare; at Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sins alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly  
King!

**Order of Service for Holy Communion**

*P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

*P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the*

*name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

**P:** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**P & C:** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserve Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me a poor, sinful being.

**P:** *Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## ***Children's Message***

### ***Old Testament Reading***

Genesis 1:1-5

*(The Creation of Light)*

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God

said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning — the first day.

***Epistle Reading***

Romans 6:1-11

*(United with Christ)*

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

***Response:*** Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

*(Please rise for the Gospel Reading)*

## ***Gospel Announcement***

***Response:*** Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

### ***Gospel Reading***

Mark 1:4-11

*(The Baptism of Jesus)*

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

***Response:*** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### ***Confession of Faith***

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things

were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

**Sermon Hymn 295**

The Law of God is Good and Wise

1. The Law of God is good and wise and sets His will before our eyes,  
Shows us the way of righteousness, and dooms to death when we transgress.
2. Its light of holiness imparts the knowledge of our sinful hearts  
That we may see our lost estate and seek deliverance ere too late.
3. To those who help in Christ have found and would in works of love abound  
It shows what deeds are His delight and should be done as good and right.

## **Sermon**

Text: Romans 6:1-11

“Torah, what is its purpose?”

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

*(Please rise for the Offertory)*

## **Offertory**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence,  
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;  
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

## **Voluntary**

How Great Thou Art - arr. Courtney  
Justin Wicker, vocalist

## **Gathering of Offerings**

At this time, please take a moment to record your attendance here with us today. There are two simple ways to do this:

1. Scan the QR code on the front page of the announcements and fill out the online attendance form.
2. Use the worship card found in your pew. You may drop it in the offering plate or simply leave it in your pew after you fill it out.

This is also an opportune time for personal prayer and meditation. For help, see the prayers beginning on page 102 of the pew hymnal and the Psalms beginning on page 123.



*(Please rise for the Doxology)*

***Doxology***

Tune: hymn 15

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

***Prayer of the Church***

***Communion Liturgy***

***The Lord's Prayer***

*P: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil;*

**C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

***The Words of Institution*** (spoken by the Pastor)

***The Pax Domini***

*P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!*

**C: Amen.**

***The Agnus Dei***

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,

that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

### ***The Distribution of Holy Communion***

*For prayers before and after receiving the Sacrament, see pages  
118-119 in the red hymnal.*

*If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please raise your pointer finger. Communion wine is in the individual cup trays in the glass cups allowing for each member to grab their own wine cup. (Communion wine is dark in color, grape juice is light) If you desire to have the common cup, please indicate by raising your pointer finger. If you wish only to receive a blessing at the table, kindly come forward with your hands crossed at your chest or resting at your side.*

*(Please rise for the Benediction)*

***Benediction and Response:*** Amen! Amen! Amen!

## **Closing Hymn 388**

Just as I am, Without one Plea

*(favorite hymn of Ron Beyer, Mary Jane Johnson, Rick Russ, Cathy Hansen, Patricia Nehls, Donna Hollis, Susan Laramie, Jeanie Buechner, Janet Gibb, Erin Rodenhouse)*

1. Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Postlude**

Rick Helderop, organist

### Altar Guild

Beth Greenwalt, Karen Pridmore, Theresa Schulz,  
Stacie Millichamp,  
Marilyn Staargaard, Colleen Tafel, Laurie Krentz,  
Joanne Greenwalt

### Elders Assisting with Communion

David Mammel, Brian May, Rick Russ

### Acolytes

9:00 - Cam & Avery Friedrich and Liam Farrugia  
10:30 - Elle Gardner and Blake Dobbs

### Greeters

9:00 - David and Barbara Peterson  
10:30 - the Vowell family

### Readers

9:00 & 10:30 - Pamela Dundas

### Ushers

9:00 - Mike Grattan, captain; Rick McDonald, Andrew Tafel,  
Eric Rolf, Ron LaLone, Bryan Grattan, David Eberly  
10:30 - Bob Meyer, captain; Ron Curcio, Matt Pedersen,  
Norman Morrell, Jim Staargaard, Orion Pedersen, Brad Baldner

### Audio and Video Operators

9:00 - Jim Wingo  
10:30 - Mike Lapinski and Brian Fish

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER – Your Community Church

1800 West Maple Road ♦ Birmingham, Michigan 48009

Visit us at: [www.redeemberbirmingham.org](http://www.redeemberbirmingham.org) for more detailed information

Mission: Bringing the love of Christ to a searching world.



### **Church Office Hours**

Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Phone: (248) 644-4010 / E-Mail: [office@redeemberbirmingham.org](mailto:office@redeemberbirmingham.org)

### **Announcements for the week of January 7, 2024**

**Welcome to Redeemer!** No matter your past or present...Your current family or marital status...Your past or current religious affiliation...Your personal history, age, background, or ethnicity...You are invited, accepted, and most welcomed here. May all who walk through our door know that God loves them. We are pleased to have you worship with us. We pray you will return and share God's Word with us again. For information on membership, contact Laura Vowell at (248) 644-4010 x121.

### **Worship/Communion Schedule**

#### **Sunday**

**8am – Chapel** - *Communion 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday*

**9:00/\*10:30am – Sanctuary** - *Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday*

*\*10:30am livestreamed service*

*Go to [www.redeemberbirmingham.com](http://www.redeemberbirmingham.com) and click on*

*VIMEO/LIVESTREAM.*

#### **Monday**

**7:00pm – Chapel**

*Communion after 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday*

***Out of respect, please do not bring food or drinks into the Sanctuary or Chapel (i.e. coffee, water bottles, etc.). Also, please turn cell phones off or to silent. Thank you for your cooperation.***

***~Redeemer Board of Elders and Pastors***

**Redeemer Nursery:** Infants and children are always welcome in church, but if you choose, our nursery is available during 9:00 and 10:30am Sunday worship services for children 3 and under. You are welcome to bring your child to the nursery at any time during the service.



**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:** Scan this QR code and fill out the online attendance form.

**COMMUNION NEWS:** If you would like communion to be brought to you, **please let an usher know before the service begins** and they will be sure that you are accommodated.

**Wednesday Lunch and Worship:** January 17<sup>th</sup>; lunch at 12 noon and Worship with communion is at 1:00pm. Please call the church office (248-644-4010) by January 15<sup>th</sup> if you plan to join us for lunch. Also, if you need transportation, let the office know and we'll do our best to assist. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn at the number above.

**Congregational Church undecorating day is TODAY! Sunday, January 7th following the 10:30am service.** You are needed and we would be so grateful for your company! The Chapel, Town Square, Sanctuary, Columbarium and exterior all need to be taken

down and stowed away for another year. Please sign up on the Town Square bulletin board and help. So appreciated!

**SAVE THE DATE: Rummage Sale March 8-10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Save your treasures! Intake Day: March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.**

**More information is coming soon!**

**Pastor Jimmy will be away for school and will not be here for worship today, January 7th.**

**Takin' it to the streets!** Have you ever seen people in need on the streets as you're driving around town? Sometimes they hold up signs asking for help, and sometimes they don't. Do you ever feel badly that you don't have any cash on hand or food to give them? Care packages can be found by the Town Square doors, so grab a few as you leave worship today and keep them in your car. When you see someone in need on the streets, you can give them a care package! Contact Laura Vowell ([laura@redeemberirmingham.org](mailto:laura@redeemberirmingham.org)) with any questions or for more information.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024!**

**Teaser and trivia for Family Life Ministry**

Who remembers Bill Meinert? His contributions to Family Life at Redeemer were remarkable. He left a successful career at Ford Tractor to lead our families to Christ. Learn more in January of 2025



## **Lutheran Northwest News**

- **CRUSADER OPEN HOUSE: Wednesday, January 10,** Prospective families with students at all grade levels are invited to learn more about us during this informative evening. Guided tours will cover the full range of the high school experience at Lutheran Northwest: Meet our administrative team, members of our faculty, and current students! Tours begin every 10 minutes from 6:30-7:30pm. (Plan an hour for the entire experience.) Visit our website at [www.lutherannorthwest.com/events](http://www.lutherannorthwest.com/events) to pre-register.
- **BEGIN YOUR CHILD'S PATH TO BECOMING A CRUSADER:** Have you already made up your mind to enroll your 8th grader at Lutheran Northwest? If you haven't yet applied, now is a great time to take this step! **Our application is live at [www.LutheranNorthwest.com/apply](http://www.LutheranNorthwest.com/apply).** Questions? Call our Admissions Office at 248-852-6677 or email [mgutenkunst@lhsa.com](mailto:mgutenkunst@lhsa.com).

### **Current and Prospective Altar Guild Members!**

Please join us on **Saturday, January 20th at church from 9:00am – 10:30am** for a continental breakfast, fellowship, and a presentation by Dr. Sandy Pourcho on "Prayer and the Power of Praying". Please RSVP by signing up in the Town Square or calling the church office. We look forward to seeing you there! ~Kathy Eley and Karen Pridmore

**WELCOME!** While Westmaple and Mom's Day Out is in session, ONLY the TOWN SQUARE (WEST ENTRANCE) DOORS will be open. All other doors will be locked from 9:20am-11:30am.



**Chicks with Sticks:** We hope you will find time to come to the library at Redeemer and share your talent or new interest in knitting or crocheting hats and scarves for the people of Detroit Street Mission. Join us in January on: **Thursday, January 11 - 1:00 pm /Friday, January 19 - 1:00 pm / Thursday, January 25 - 1:00 pm**

**Our Sanctuary has a hearing loop to assist those with hearing loss. Please see an usher if you have questions or for additional information.**

### **2024 FLOWER SIGN UPS AVAILABLE!!!**

Sign up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel. (Sanctuary/\$55; Chapel/\$50; Lectern/\$45) (Please leave the flower liners behind for the next week's flowers!!!) The sign-up charts are up on the Town Square bulletin board and are also available online via sign-up genius (links found on the front page of the website [www.redeemberbirmingham.org](http://www.redeemberbirmingham.org) by clicking the "Ways to Serve" box then the "Altar and Lectern Flower Signup" box). Once you sign-up, you will be mailed a dedication/payment form a month before your date OR you can fill out your dedication form and pay online. If you need assistance, please contact the front office at 248-644-4010 or [office@redeemberbirmingham.org](mailto:office@redeemberbirmingham.org) and we would be happy to assist you!

**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, January 19th 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@redeemberbirmingham.org) with questions or concerns.

**Kids Against Hunger!** Redeemer is partnering with "Kids Coalition Against Hunger" to serve God's kingdom. KAH is a non-profit organization that uses volunteer efforts to provide prepackaged, nutritious meals to starving children in the United States and 40 countries worldwide. LOTS of volunteers ages 5 – 95 are needed on Wednesday, January 24th to help pack 40,000 meals for KAH! There are TWO SHIFTS... 4:30pm – 6pm & 6:15pm – 8pm. Please consider volunteering your time during one of the shifts and sign up via the church website or on the Town Square bulletin board. If you would like to donate money to the cause or have any questions, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberbirmingham.org) or Pastor Randy.

**AFV!!! America's Funniest Home Videos!** One of our members, David Kiehle, and his grandpup, Phoebe, has made the cut! They will appear on AFV TONIGHT, at 7pm on ABC. You can't miss them! David is wearing a tie-dye shirt and Phoebe is a black Labrador Retriever.

### **Faithful Friends - Enrichment Event February 11 – Planning a Funeral**

Save the Date for our next Enrichment Talk sponsored by Faithful Friends! All are invited! Pastor Randy will be speaking on Planning a Christian Funeral. It's on February 11th in the Great Room

immediately following the 10:30 service for an hour. For further information speak with Gary Priskorn [gpriskorn@redeemberbirmingham.org](mailto:gpriskorn@redeemberbirmingham.org) 248-644-4010 x123 or a committee member.

## **Young Adult Bible Study!**

Join us at Michael's house on the first Thursday of every month (3217 Maplewood Ave. in Royal Oak) for fellowship, food, and to learn more about God's Word! Please text Michael Banerian to RSVP (248.925.7125).

## **Leadership Meetings**

### **Leadership Team Meetings**

January 10, February 14 (after worship), March 13 (after worship)

### **Board of Elders Meetings**

January 24 and March 27

*\*should you have a discussion topic for consideration, please direct it to Deb Vanderhoef at [dknovan@gmail.com](mailto:dknovan@gmail.com) and grant some time for a response*

## **FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST - HOSTED BY MEN'S MINISTRY**

Men and women of all ages are cordially invited to join us for our next Fellowship Breakfast hosted by Men's Ministry on **Saturday, January 27th, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. in the Great Room.** A hearty breakfast is served at 8:00 a.m. and the program begins at 8:45 a.m.

Our special guest presenter will once again be Pastor Ron Farah, whose topic will be: "Transitions – Part 2 – Personal Identity and the Ability to Deal with Retirement, Aging, Illness and Last Days". It promises to be a thought-provoking and informative morning as

always. A freewill donation will be received. Please sign up by January 22 on the Town Square bulletin board or call/email Gary Priskorn (248-644-4010 or [gpriskorn@redeemerbirmingham.org](mailto:gpriskorn@redeemerbirmingham.org)).

## **WAYS TO SERVE REDEEMER:**

### **PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP!**

Be a Reader! Be a Greeter! Host a Coffee Hour! Be an acolyte or Cross Bearer! Sponsor Altar Flowers! **\*Sign-up on the Town Square bulletin board, the front page of the church website by clicking on the "ways to serve" box or call the church office!**

**Donation Information:** If you would like to donate, you can scan this QR Code using your phone's camera, or you can use one of the offering envelopes found in the pew. If you choose to give online, we have cards in the pew for you to place in the offering basket indicating you have donated online. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!



## **WESTMAPLE NURSERY SCHOOL:**

### **Wrapping Paper Tube Collection**

Westmaple is looking to collect as many wrapping paper tubes as possible for future projects and crafts. If you have any to donate, there is a box outside of the gym by the coat rack for you to place them in. (They are NOT in need of paper towel sized tubes). They will be collecting them through the end of January. Thank you for your help!

## **Prayer and Praise List**

### **For those facing health concerns:**

- Maryann, friend of Bonnie Ernewein
- Mick Lanthier
- Tim Nealt, family member of Terry and Jean Roberts
- Myrna Orava
- Gordon, brother-in-law of Robert O'Boyle
- Thom & Mary Jane Johnson
- Max Merget, 27 year-old nephew of the Bergstrom's
- Rick Seefelt, father of Katie Baetz
- Patricia Kubik, Lynn Duerr's mom
- Betty, friend of Kathy Eley
- Beth Hamada
- Courtney VanderWerp's Nephew
- Dr. Dale Robinson
- Jeff Walsh, family friend of Lynn Duerr
- Ron Ging
- Rick & Carol Warnicke, parents of Debbi Warnicke
- Brian Leahy
- Tony Kurnat
- Pat Nehls
- Chris Decker, friend of Pat Nehls

### **For those in Hospice Care:**

- Etta Unruh

### **Special Petitions:**

- Please watch over the many people in Israel in this time of war.
- All those who are serving in the military, police & fire-fighters.

- President Biden and all world leaders, to be receptive to Godly counsel.
- For all those suffering from health concerns and for their caregivers devoting themselves to helping everyone who is sick.

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving:**

- For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

**Anyone in need of long-term prayers (more than 3 weeks) will be included in our daily prayer chain email distribution and rotated on our Sunday prayer list once a month.**

## **COUNSELING**

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

**Sandy Pourcho, Ph.D. 248-568-6040 / Anna Lewis, LMSW 248-224-0383**

**ATTENTION REDEEMER MEN** - Did you know we have a Pastoral Counselor for you here at Redeemer – Rev. Ronald Farah - that you can talk to man to man? Don't hesitate to call Rev. Farah at 248-642-3137 to make an appointment.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **MDO Net Income for 2023**

Revenue	\$44,000
Approx. Expenses	<u>28,500</u>
	\$15,500

MDO (Mother's Day Out) allows moms to take a morning break and have MDO lovingly care for their children from one year old and up.

Toddlers sing, make crafts, enjoy free play, go outside and have Bible stories and snacks. Babies are sung to, played with, taken for rides in our stroller and gently nurtured. All caregivers are screened and CPR-certified. Our youngest children need to be one by December first of the school year. Contact the church for days and times. MDO runs during the school year from September until mid-May. Call Nicole Olds X124 for more information!

**Redeemer Youth Group (High School Youth)**

**CORE GROUP: Wednesday (6-8pm)**

**RYG Sundays: Youth Room (7-9)**

**Questions? Contact Gia or Eric \*Make sure to follow RYG on Instagram for event updates and photos @redeemer\_y00th**

**Women's Book Group:** We will no longer be reading Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury in January because our guest speaker, Justin Sweitzer, isn't able to join us. We are now reading, Fresh Water for Flowers by Valerie Perrin, a saga of a woman's life from nothing to something. **Join us on Tuesday, January 23 at 7:30pm in the Town Square to discuss. See you there!**

**Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study begins in the New Year on January 9 at 6:30pm in the Great Room.** Come and hear one of our favorite study leaders, Andy Stanley with a three-session study on pride entitled "Killin' It". Pride. It shuts us in and shuts God and others out. It keeps us from saying what needs to be said and hearing what needs to be heard. Join us, fellowship with us, learn with us! Are you new? Reach out to Kitty at

misskitty@redeemberbirmingham.org and see how much you will learn that applies to your everyday life. We are waiting for you!

**Our Woman of the Year 2023 is Kathy Eley** and what a wonderful choice she was! Kathy co-chairs our Altar Guild, serves in the kitchen, Palm Cross Workshop coordinator, takes very good care of everyone in her path and will be honored in March at the Council of Lutheran Women's annual meeting. **If you would like to join Kathy at the luncheon Tuesday, March 19 at 11:00am at The Mirage in Clinton Township, tickets will be available via Eventbrite on or after January 15, 2024. Women's Ministry will provide a link for Eventbrite at that time.** Congratulations Kathy and many thanks for all your hard work and the love you bring to it.

**Did you know....**we mail weekly church bulletins & announcements, the monthly Lamp, and Portals of Prayer/Hopeful Living publications to those who can't make it to church on Sunday? If you know someone who is homebound and would like materials mailed to them, please let the church office know. (office@redeemberbirmingham.org / 248-644-4010)

### **Associate Pastor Position Call Committee Update**

The Call List from the Michigan District has arrived! The Call Committee will start the review process of the prospective candidates shortly. Stay tuned for updates!



## **Bible Studies**

### **Sunday Morning Bible Study - Rev. Ronald Farah**

Romans - meets all year long

Sundays, after 9am service (Scheidt Room)

### **Children's Sunday School - Nicole Olds**

Sundays, 10:30am (lower-level classrooms)

### **Adult Bible Study - Pastor Jimmy**

Romans

Tuesdays, 9:30am (Great Room)

### **Women's Bible Study - Kitty Sweitzer**

The Chosen: Season 3

Tuesdays, 6:30pm (Great Room)

### **Men's Bible Study - Gary Priskorn**

Isaiah **\*Zoom available**

Wednesdays, 6:45-7:30am - all year long (Great Room)

### **Positive Parenting - Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thompson**

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

### **Confirmation Classes - Laura Vowell**

Wednesdays, 6-8pm (various rooms)

### **Core Group (RYG - High School) - Gia Scheidt**

Wednesdays, 6-8pm (Youth Room)

### **Young Adult Bible Study - Michael Banerian**

First Thursday of every Month - 6:30pm (Michael's house)

\*starting January 4, 2024

### **Redeemer Youth Group (High School) - Gia Scheidt & Eric**

Wisniewski

Sundays, 7pm (Youth Room)

## **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

**(248) 644-4010**

### **Senior Pastor**

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### **Assistant Pastor**

Rev. James Greenwalt (ext. 117)

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**Men's and Senior's Ministry** ..... Gary Priskorn (ext 123)

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**Children's Ministry** ..... Nicole Olds (ext 124)

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**Family Life/Middle School/Outreach/Confirmation** .....

..... Laura Vowell (ext 121)

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**Director of High School Ministry** ..... Gia Scheidt (ext 120)

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**Redeemer Counseling**.....(248) 568-6040  
**Pastor Emeritus** ..... Rev. Ronald Farah