

# TIDINGS Newsletter

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1545 Chain Bridge Road  
McLean, VA 22101

Vol. 71 No. 1  
January 2026



Our mission is to share Christ's love  
with the greatest number of people.

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**A Message from  
Pastor Sharon Core**



**Intention  
January 2026**

Growing up, my sister and I received a weekly allowance. And with that allowance, my parents taught us about budgets and savings. They gave each of us a folder and in the folder were multiple envelopes for us to label. These were for those things we wanted to spend our money on. And each week we would take our allowance and put certain amounts in each envelope. The labels on the envelopes changed over time indicating different interests and “wants”. What we chose to label the envelopes was up to us—except for one—my parents had already labeled one “church”.

From an early age, I learned that part of my money was to be given to the church. Part of my money went in the offering plate every Sunday. I understood this as giving money to God although I wasn’t quite sure what God was going to do with it.

My perspective and understanding shifted as I got older and as I became more involved in the life of faith communities. The hard reality is money is needed to run a church—salaries, utility bills, music, programming, outreach, mission support. None of it is free and as churches don’t “make or sell” things there is no profit margin by which these things can be paid for. A church’s ability to offer various forms of ministry is largely supported by the generosity of those who claim it as their spiritual home.

For the longest time, I viewed giving to the church as a way to help the church pay the bills. I have monthly expenses; churches have monthly expenses. I need money to pay my expenses; churches need money to pay their expenses. It’s really something of a transactional understanding. And, quite frankly not the best way to talk about money in the life of a worshipping community.

My favorite biblical factoid is that second only to the Kingdom of God, Jesus talks about money. He teaches that money is a significant test of one’s heart, warns against greed and serving money as a rival to God, encourages the use of wealth to care for the poor. He challenges a rich young ruler to sell all he has, give it to the poor and then come follow. He tells the parable of the rich fool, the hidden talents and the rich man and Lazarus. And not Jesus, but an often misquoted piece of scripture is that “money is the root of all evil”. 1 Timothy 6:10 is “the love of money is the root of all evil.”--a significant distinction!

Using scripture as a guide, we are invited to explore our relationship with money and how God is calling us to use it. Our sense of stewardship can best be understood as a spiritual discipline. And it is this discipline we will focus on the first three Sundays in January.

How is God calling me to use my money and what is my intention for giving to Redeemer in 2026? This is the question we’ll be reflecting on together. On January 18, you’ll have an opportunity to share that intention and as a community we’ll pray God’s blessings on them.

I look forward to exploring this discipline with you.

May God bless the turn of the calendar—a very happy 2026 to each of you.

Blessings,  
Pastor Sharon



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Traditional worship services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am  
Contemporary worship service at 9:45 am  
Faith Formation, Confirmation, and High School classes– 9:45 am  
Table Talk (Adult Class in Conference Room) – 9:45 am

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## WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite B) – 10:55 am
Mondays	Social Justice and Equity Book Club (Zoom) – 7:30 pm
Tuesdays	Women’s Faith Group (Music Suite A/Zoom) – 9:30 am
Thursdays	Bible Study (Zoom) – 8:00 am Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite A) – 7:00 pm Traditional Choir Practice (Music Suite B) – 7:45 pm

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## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Week of January 4

Wednesday, January 7  
Thursday, January 8  
Friday, January 9

Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) – 9:15 am  
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Conference Room/Zoom)–10:30 am  
2025 Annual Reports Due

### Week of January 11

Sunday, January 11  
Monday, January 12  
Thursday, January 15

Youth Leadership Sunday  
Confirmation Parent Meeting (Fellowship Hall)–12 pm  
Congregation Council (Conference Room/Zoom) – 7:30 pm  
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Conference Room/Zoom) – 10:30 am

### Week of January 18

Tuesday, January 20  
Wednesday, January 21

Good Grub and God – 7 pm  
Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) – 9:15 am

### Week of January 25

Sunday, January 25

Youth Service Project – 12 pm

### Save the Date

- **February 15 – We Welcome Bishop Hirsch:** Come and meet the new Bishop of the Metro D.C. Synod
- **February 22 – Annual Congregation Meeting**

**Minutes: December 8, 2025, Meeting of Congregation Council  
RLC Library and via Zoom**

**Council Members Present in Person:** Annabelle Allard; Steve Bott, Treasurer; Pastor Sharon Core, Interim Pastor; Lee Cronin; Sabine Detweiller, Vice President; Chris Hernadi, Secretary; Victoria Johnson; Megan Kratz; Lena Martikainen; Karen Miller, President; Gene Morrow; Tyler Posey

**Council Members Attending via Zoom:** None

**Council Members Absent:** Sarah Getter

**Council Meeting Guests:** Rob Wenk

**Call to order.** Karen Miller called the meeting to order at 7:32.

**Opening Devotions.** Pastor Core led opening devotions with a reading and study of Luke 1:46b-55. Pastor Core ended the Council's discussion with prayer.

**Approval of Minutes.** Minutes from the meeting were previously approved by email.

**Adoption of Agenda.** The agenda, as emailed in advance of the meeting, was approved by the Council.

**Approval Item: Budget for 2026.** Rob Wenk presented and reviewed the proposed 2026 Budget to the Council. Rob provided Council with clarification on line items and confirmed that the draft budget would be updated with end-of-year 2025 data before presenting to the Congregation at the Annual meeting for approval.

Megan Kratz made the motion to approve the draft budget as presented at the meeting. Sabine Detweiller seconded the motion. The draft budget was passed unanimously by Council.

Following Council approval of the draft budget, Rob provided an update of the construction project. The interior work is proceeding as scheduled, with a target completion date of around Easter. In January Rob will provide Council with more information about the status of the exterior phase of the construction project, once feedback from the county and contractors has been fully reviewed by his team.

**Discussion Item: Special Gift.** Karen Miller shared with Council that a donation of unrestricted funds will soon be made to Redeemer. Karen asked Council to consider ways to dedicate the funds including tithing 10% as is Redeemer's custom. Council expressed humble gratification for the donor's generosity and expressed the desire to commemorate the donor and the gift at the appropriate time.

**Executive Committee Summary.** The Executive Committee met on December 5 and talked about the items on tonight's agenda.

**General Updates from Pastor Core.** No updates.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Steve Bott presented the 2025 Financial Summary through November 30, which was made available via email prior to the meeting. Expenses exceeded receipts by \$108,000. It was noted that monthly contribution rates in 2025 are lower than rates during prior years when Redeemer faced a deficit in December. It was agreed that Council will ask the Stewardship Committee to send a letter via email and regular mail within the week to the entire Congregation, asking members to help close the gap before the end of the year. The letter will include data to provide context and reinforce the need for additional contributions. Steve agreed to share relevant data to Karen and Tyler Posey, who will forward to Stewardship Committee members.

**Discussion Item: Pledge Sunday in January.** Council agreed to dedicate Sunday, January 18 as Pledge Sunday to encourage members to pledge their intention to contribute for 2026. To encourage participation, Council considered reframing pledges as "Intentions" for 2026. It was confirmed that giving electronically is still an option. Identifying newer platforms and software options for contributing online is an ongoing project.

**Discussion Item: Preparations for Annual Meeting.** The Annual Meeting will be held February 22, after the 11:00 service. There will be one vacancy on Council, as Lena Martikainen is completing her term this year. Calls for end-of-year reports have gone out to Ministry committees so that Redeemer's Annual Report can be completed on time.

**Discussion Items: Transition Team Start-up.** Karen Miller reported that the Executive Committee reviewed the applications of those who had self-nominated. The Executive Committee selected 5 individuals to represent the congregation on the Transition Committee. Those members have been contacted and held their first meeting on December 7. The group will continue to meet on Sundays to provide the framework for the eventual Call committee in the search for a new pastor.

Pastor Core and Karen Miller expressed their enthusiasm and gratitude for the enthusiasm and wide range of experience and skills that Transition Committee members bring to the process.

**Approval Item: Nominating Team for Call Committee.** As a separate agenda item, Karen Miller reiterated that a slate of 8 candidates for the Call Committee would need to be approved by the Congregation at large. The Nomination Committee will form to identify these candidates, which could include members of the Transition team, prior to the Annual Meeting so the Congregation can approve at that time.

**Discussion Item: Constitution Update Status Report.** Tyler Posey provided a summary of the committee's review of mandatory and non-mandatory provisions of the constitution. Tyler noted that Council member Sarah Getter also serves on the committee and participated in the review. The committee will complete their review and send their revisions to Council for approval at the annual meeting in February.

**Discussion Item: Youth Representation for 2026.** Karen Miller proposed a youth candidate to serve as the youth representative on Council for 2026. The term of the current youth representative expires in February 2025.

**Ministry Reports: Membership Outreach.** Lena Martikainen led Council in a discussion of potential activities of this group to enhance membership at Redeemer. Ideas ranged from increased visibility at McLean community events to routine follow up calls to visitors who attend services. In the discussion, Council noted opportunities of collaboration between the Membership and Congregational Life committees.

**Ministry Reports: Congregational Life.** Lee Cronin presented a one-page overview of activities to build community, strengthen relationships, and create opportunities for fellowship within the congregation. Planned activities could include dinner groups, monthly lunch outings, and movie nights. Lee and Council agreed on the benefit of forming small volunteer teams to provide support.

**Ministry Reports: Youth Activities.** Victoria Johnson briefed Council on efforts made by Redeemer's youth to promote participation in youth activities. Karen Miller reported that she and the members who attended the recent Synod Youth Retreat enjoyed the event.

**Email Approval Item: Donation to Capital Area Food Bank.** On November 17, Karen Miller made a motion via email to approve the Endowment Committee's proposal of a \$4000 donation to The Capital Area Food Bank. The motion was seconded by Annabelle Allard. The motion was approved by Council with 11 votes in favor and two abstentions.

**New Business.** None

**Close with Prayer and adjourn at 9:34.**

**Upcoming Dates:**

- Living Nativity and Concert, December 19, 2025
- Executive Committee, January 7, 2025
- Youth Sunday, January 11, 2025
- Next Meeting of Council, January 12, 2025

## Construction Project Updates from December

The construction activity completed in December in the education wing includes: new classroom doors hung, door locks installed, existing electrical outlets corrected, new cabinets, drawers and shelves installed, new countertops and sinks installed, hallway and classroom lighting updated, and new flooring in the hallways and classrooms laid. We received an occupancy permit and turnover from the general contractor in mid December.

Pastor Sharon's temporary office is now located next to the conference room. Grace and Sara are located in the middle classroom and Cynthia is in the third classroom (Door #15). Bill in the Operations Office is next to Cynthia. Signs are posted to help you find who is temporarily located where. If you have a door fob, it will still work at Door #10. However, the visitor's entrance (Mondays - Fridays) has moved to the other side of the building to Door #15 on the Chain Bridge Road side of the building.

Construction has now started in the office wing. The Library is closed but the renovated Conference Room is now available for meetings. Items previously in the Robe Room have been moved to Sacristy and robing will now take place in the office. All of the staff offices are temporarily located in the classroom wing. Old building materials are now being removed from the office wing. On January 5<sup>th</sup>, the abatement process will begin on any of those materials that are deemed harmful. This will be done by specialists who are certified for this type of work and their setup is inspected by the county. They are required to seal off that portion of the building and filter the air. The materials are then bagged and sealed and disposed of according to state regulations.

The outdoor phase of our construction project involves the renovation of the playground area and the addition of a columbarium. We sent out RFPs (Requests for Proposals) to several area general contractors, including the firm that is currently doing our interior building renovations. Unfortunately, the bids have come back much higher than we were expecting. The construction budget for the outdoor work was based on two rounds of estimates done during the design phase from an independent estimator. However, additional county requirements for storm water management and tree protections and annual rising costs have led to this situation. We are currently working with our architects, engineers, and the general contractors to determine how we can reduce these costs and plan for a path forward.

# HAPPENING AT REDEEMER

## Living Nativity, Christmas Concert, and Bake Sale Thank you!

Thank you to everyone involved with the Living Nativity and Christmas Concert! Fun was had by all as Redeemer and community members visited the live animals before enjoying the joyful noise that filled our Sanctuary. We would like to especially thank Matt and Waka Osifchin and Kim and Rob Wenk. We also thank those who performed and volunteered to make the event such a success!

### **Bake sale raised \$1000 for Britepaths Food4thought Program!**

A huge thank you to all those who baked and volunteered with the Bake Sale this year. We were able to raise \$1000 for Britepaths Food4thought program. We plan for our youth to put together the food packages in the near future. We are so grateful for all who contributed whether by baking the yummy treats, or by selling them.



## Redeemer Renaissance Preschool & After-School Open House January 8

Join us on Thursday, January 8 from 10:30 to 11:30 am or 5:30 to 6:30 pm for an Open House showcasing all Redeemer Renaissance has to offer! Classes for 2's, 3's, and 4's are offered morning and all-day classes.

Registration for the 2026-2027 School Year will begin this month. This is the last open house before registration.

For questions or more information, please call 703-365-3567.



### OPEN HOUSE

1545 Chain Bridge Road

THURSDAY, January 8<sup>th</sup>

10:30 - 11:30 AM or 5:30 - 6:30 PM

2026-27 School Year Registration January 2026

PRESCHOOL 2's, 3's & 4's

Mornings & All-Day



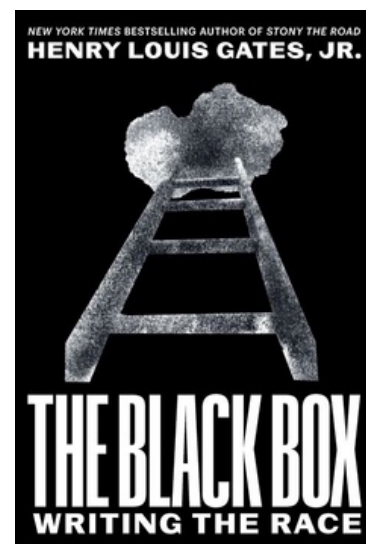
## Hearing Aid Drive Collection through January 11

Cooper Thesmar, from Troop 1916 sponsored by Redeemer Lutheran Church, is organizing the collection of Hearing Aid devices that are no longer needed (any brand, model, or age) for his Eagle project. Working with the Lions Club International the old equipment will be cleaned, restored/refurbished, and then provided to those in need. Donation receipts will be provided upon request. Thank you for participating in this worthy project and supporting our Scouting community. For additional information or questions, please email: [HearingAidRecycling@gmail.com](mailto:HearingAidRecycling@gmail.com).

## Social Justice and Equity Book Club New Book January 12

The Social Justice & Equity Book Club will be finishing up *Horse: A Novel* by Geraldine Brooks on our next meeting January 5 and will be starting a new book *The Black Box* by Henry Louis Gates Jr. in the new year on January 12. Anyone is welcome to join us and this would be a good time to do so! We meet every Monday via Zoom @ 7:30pm - 8:30 pm. Please contact [Teresa Schellenger](#) for more info.

Summaries of books previously read can be found at this [link](#). The summaries for *This Other Eden: A Novel* by Paul Harding and *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson were recently added.



**Redeemer Renaissance Preschool and After-School Registration 2026-27**  
**January 12-16 for Returning Families**  
**January 19-23 for Waitlist Priority and New Families**

It's time! Church and community families with children 1.5 – 12 years of age are welcome to register for the 2025-26 school year! Families with enrolled children returning for 2025-26 may register January 12th-16th. Waitlist Priority and new families may register January 19th – 23rd.

Program offerings promoting a sense of wonder, discovery, and exploration include a play-based curriculum with nature-based components for children to grow as happy learners. The Preschool and After-School holiday calendars align with the Fairfax County Public Schools' calendar.

- Good Beginnings Class for Toddlers and Caregivers - offered bi-weekly throughout the school year.
- 2.5 – 5-year-old Classes - offered part-time, full-time, morning only, and all day.
- K-6th After-School - daily programming including STEAM, sports, tutoring, music lessons, enrichment classes, and community building projects. Transportation provided from Churchill Road, Franklin Sherman, Haycock, and Kent Gardens elementary schools.
- K-6th Teacher Workday Special Camps – children from all schools may attend.
- Preschool and K-6th Summer Camps - children from all schools join in summertime fun with friends through games, art, workshops, and performances.

Children delight in experiencing open-ended play with peers in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. The Creative Curriculum used by our staff engages children as they delve into topics of interest, build hands-on projects, learn new skills, and create bonds that will help them navigate their childhood years and beyond.

We can't wait to welcome you! To schedule a tour or for more information:  
Preschool 703-356-3567 or After-School 703-356-3346 ext. 106



## Good Beginnings at Redeemer Renaissance Preschool Outdoor Classes for Ages 1.5 and older with Caregiver January 13 and 27–9:30 am

Come and play! This outdoor-play program for toddlers and caregivers to enjoy together promotes a sense of wonder, discovery, and exploration while providing a fun introduction to preschool. Children will build their first friendships and work with new materials as they engage in open-ended play in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. During exploratory play, caregivers will have the opportunity to discuss topics of interest and create bonds that will help them navigate the early childhood years and beyond.

The class is offered on the following dates: Jan. 13 & 27, Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10 & 24, April 7 & 21, and May 5 & 19.

Register [online](#) or call 703-356-3567  
for more information.



OUTDOOR CLASSES START OCTOBER 14th

### GOOD BEGINNINGS at Redeemer Renaissance Preschool

This outdoor-play program for toddlers and caregivers to enjoy together promotes a sense of wonder, discovery, and exploration while providing a fun introduction to preschool. Children will build their first friendships and work with new materials as they engage in open-ended play in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. During exploratory play, caregivers will have the opportunity to discuss topics of interest and create bonds that will help them navigate the early childhood years and beyond.

<b>AGES</b>	<b>TUITION</b>
<small>Children 1.5 years and older may enroll and attend with a parent or caregiver.*</small>	<small>\$350/child/15 Class Sessions</small>
<b>TUESDAYS at 9:30 AM</b>	
<small>October 14 &amp; 28 November 18 &amp; 25 December 9 January 13 &amp; 27</small>	<small>February 10 &amp; 24 March 10 &amp; 24 April 7 &amp; 21 May 5 &amp; 19</small>

**[REGISTER online](#) or call 703-356-3567 for more information.**

Good Beginnings will take place outdoors in small groups and space will be limited.  
\*Children must be 1.5 years old by Good Beginnings start date.



**REDEEMER Renaissance**  
PRESCHOOL & AFTER-SCHOOL

## Good Grub and God January 20 –7 pm

What is Good Grub and God? It is a night out in a local restaurant for adults for a good meal, fellowship, and a discussion on some aspect of our faith.

Come solo or bring a friend, co-worker, or partner, but come enjoy getting to spend time together.

We meet at the restaurant at 7 pm. You are welcome to come as often as your schedule allows. Each month someone will be the "host". Being the host requires no preparation or skills; you get to pick the restaurant and the topic for discussion.

If you would like to come, please sign up [here](#). You can sign up as late as the day before; we just want to be sure that we have enough seats for everyone.

Redeemer Renaissance Special Camp Days  
January 29 and 30

# Lego Challenge Rally



Builders + Bricks =  
Ultimate Creativity

**January 29th** K-6th Grade

AND! A special presentation by  
Andrew Wilson and Sea Creatures from Glen Echo Aquarium

- Snacks Provided
- Bring Lunch + Reusable Water Bottle
- Wear Warm Clothes to Play Outside
- Get Ready for Fun!

Hours: 8:00 AM - 6:15 PM

FEE: Included in Tuition if enrolled in the After-School Program or \$95 per child if not enrolled.

1545 Chain Bridge Road  
McLean, VA 22101 | 703-356-3346 | [afterschool@redeemermclean.org](mailto:afterschool@redeemermclean.org)

Space for both camp days is limited! You do not have to be enrolled in the RR After-School Program to join us!

Please email [afterschool@redeemermclean.org](mailto:afterschool@redeemermclean.org) for more information or to make a reservation for your child!

# SPECIAL CAMP DAY

# ALL ABOUT ME AND YOU

ADVENTURE & TALENT SHOW

WE ARE GROWING, LEARNING, LAUGHING, SINGING, PLAYING, DANCING, WORKING, AND DREAMING TOGETHER.

JANUARY 30TH  
8:00AM-6:15PM  
COST: \$95

TO REGISTER EMAIL:  
[AFTERSCHOOL@REDEEMERMclean.org](mailto:AFTERSCHOOL@REDEEMERMclean.org)



## Youth

### Youth Leadership Sunday

January 11

Youth Leadership Sunday is an opportunity for children to actively participate in worship services as they attend with their parents. Youth may serve as greeters, ushers, acolytes, and readers. *Please note there will be **NO** Faith Formation or Confirmation due to Youth Leadership Sunday.* If your child is interested in participating, please sign up at this [link](#).

### Confirmation Parent Meeting

January 11 at 12 pm

On January 11 a meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall for Confirmation parents, to allow for a mid-year check-in with the Confirmation teachers and Faith Formation coordinator. Lunch will be provided. Please let us know you are coming by signing up at this [link](#).

### Youth Service Project

January 25

We plan to hold a youth service project; the details are still being determined, so please save the date and check the announcements in the coming weeks.

## JOIN REDEEMER'S YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Do you want to help our Youth connect with God's Word through fellowship, service, worship and more?

Do you have ideas for events or programming?

**Support our Youth Ministry by getting involved!**

We are looking for Youth volunteers ages 12 to 18  
Adult Volunteers Needed too!



Sign up at this [link](#) or by scanning the QR code

For any questions or additional information, reach out to [Grace Howie](#).

For more detailed youth news, please read the Youth Newsletter.

## SOCIAL OUTREACH

### Share Donation Drop Off at Redeemer Paused During Construction

Thank you everyone for your donations to Share at the Redeemer drop-off location these past few years! You have consistently provided donations to fill Tricia's car most weeks! During construction of the offices, we will be pausing the drop offs at Redeemer. If you have a large donation, please reach out to Share or [Tricia Engle](#) to arrange the drop off. You are also welcome to drop off directly at Share of McLean. For the list of most needed items and the drop off location, please check <https://www.shareofmclean.org/food-and-clothing-pantry>.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry Meetings January 8 and 15

*Sharing God's love through hearts and hands.*

Much appreciation to all who participated in the 2025 scarf drive!

Through the generous participation of the congregation and the work of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, 116 warm scarves were knitted, crocheted, or purchased, and donated, for another successful scarf drive for the women at N Street Village. The scarves were delivered by Kate and Gordon Jones to N Street Village on November 11<sup>th</sup> and gratefully received by Matthew Grimmer. Please see Matthew's thank you letter below.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first and third Thursdays of most months. Because of the holidays, the next meeting will be on January 8<sup>th</sup>. The hybrid (Zoom and in person) meetings run from 10:30 am to noon. All are welcome. Beginners are enthusiastically welcomed! Please email Lynn Barth at [lynnbarth@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbarth@gmail.com) for more information or for yarn for scarves, Project Linus blankets, or prayer shawls. Yarn is also available most Sundays in the Crossroads.

*Hi Lynn and Kate,*

*I am reaching out because last week we gave out our winter coats and other winter gear, which included the scarves that you all donated!*

*The scarves were a huge success!! Our ladies loved them. There was a great variety of them to choose from and I could tell that they were so appreciative that they could choose a scarf that matches their style.*

*Thank you for everyone taking the time to create these scarves and ensuring that our women can stay warm and had an opportunity to find a scarf that matches their style! Everyone at N Street Village is so appreciative of the time that you all take to create these scarves and donate them to our women.*

*Your partnership is forever appreciated, and we look forward to working with you in the years to come.*

*Warm regards,*

*Matthew Grimmer*

*Volunteer and Gift-In-Kind Manager*

*1333 N Street, NW Washington, DC 20005*

## Honeybaked Ham Food Donations

Ham run report for September and October:

On September 12 Laura Wareham delivered 3 boxes from Fairfax weighing 90 pounds to So Others Might Eat.

On October 16 Laura Wareham delivered 5 boxes from Fairfax weighing 150 pounds to So Others Might Eat.

On October 29 Jim Kuhagen delivered 2 boxes from Falls Church weighing 60 pounds to Rising Hope Mission Church.

On October 30 Laura Wareham delivered 2 boxes from Falls Church and 2 boxes from Fairfax weighing 120 pounds to So Others Might Eat.

Our total delivery weight for September and October was 420 pounds and 4,094 pounds year to date.

Thank you all.

## Little Food Pantry

Current Little Food Pantry Needs

- All food donations are welcome, but currently, the Little Food Pantry supply is especially in need of:
  - peanut butter (plastic containers only)
  - oatmeal packets
  - hearty soups/stews
  - canned vegetables (not black or pinto beans)
  - breakfast bars.
- Volunteers are needed to help regularly restock the LFP with food that has already been collected. Contact Paula Green at [pegreen@verizon.net](mailto:pegreen@verizon.net) for more information.
- Thrivent members – did you know you can apply for (2) \$250 grants each year for great causes like the LFP? Contact your Thrivent rep for more details.



## Quilting Group

### Sewing Happiness into Every Stitch

We love what we do! The Quilting Group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, from 9:00–11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. We're a small but mighty group on a mission to share our love of sewing and make a difference through our craft.

Who We Support: Our quilts and handmade items bring comfort and care to those in need through:

- Partner for Surgery (Guatemala) – Providing medical and surgical care in rural communities. Quilts, tote bags, and bears are hand-delivered by Frank Petersen.
- Project Linus – Supporting children in Fairfax County and beyond, including:
  - Ronald McDonald House
  - Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)
  - INOVA Hospital
  - Local and national emergency response efforts
- Lutheran World Relief – Extending our reach globally with compassion.
- Redeemer – quilts for Sunrise parishioners while attending service, flannel blankets for toddler baptisms, shut-ins, or anyone else in our church family that is in need, upon request

Quilt Guidelines: We follow Project Linus sizing standards,

- Baby: 36" x 36"
- Child: 42" x 60"
- Teen: 45" x 72"

We also create fleece blankets and flannel baby blankets.

Partnering with the Prayer Shawl Group: We've teamed up with the Prayer Shawl Group to make fleece blankets for Project Linus. The Quilting Group preps the fleece, and the crocheters add a beautiful edge. Another wonderful way to get involved! For Prayer Shawl info, contact [Lynn Barth](#).

How You Can Help: We're always looking for helping hands—especially more sewers! If you can't attend in person, we'll provide you with:

- Supplies to design or sew quilt tops
- Bundled quilt kits (includes sewn top, pre-cut batting and backing, yarn and/or binding)

Other ways to support:

- Monetary donations (please designate for "Quilting Group")
- Fabric, thread, and sewing supplies

Donations help us purchase batting, fabric, thread, and other essentials.

If you are interested, please contact either [Darlene McCoy](#) or [Joyce Clarke](#).

## PASTOR AND STAFF OF REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Senior Pastor	Pastor Sharon Core	ext. 102	sharon@redeermclean.org
Bell Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com
Director of Music	Matt Osifchin		mosifchi@hotmail.com
Director of Afterschool	Linda McConnaughay	ext. 106	lmconnaughay@redeermclean.org
Director of Preschool	Katrina McNair	ext. 111	preschool@redeermclean.org
Evening Facility Host	Brian Doyle		
Executive Director of Redeemer Renaissance	Linda McConnaughay	ext. 106	lmconnaughay@redeermclean.org
Facilities Director	Bill Parks	ext. 110	bparks@redeermclean.org
Financial Coordinator	Sara Nail	ext. 103	sara@redeermclean.org
Nursery Care	Bernarda Rodriguez Lusbi Pina		
Office Manager	Cynthia Finocchiaro	ext. 101	cynthia@redeermclean.org
Organist	Joy Mentzel		joymentzel@gmail.com
Pianist	Kathy Detwiler		
Youth & Communications Coordinator	Grace Howie	ext. 105	grace@redeermclean.org
Youth Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Karen Miller
Vice President	Sabine Detweiler
Secretary	Chris Hernadi
Treasurer	Steve Bott

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Annabelle Allard  
Lee Cronin  
Sarah Getter  
Megan Kratz  
Lena Martikainen  
Gene Morrow  
Tyler Posey  
And a Youth Representative