



TIDINGS

Redeemer Lutheran Church
1545 Chain Bridge Road
McLean, VA 22101

Vol. 67 No. 9
September 2022



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KESSINGER

SEPTEMBER OF 2022

When Jesus started his ministry he would invite others to join his mission with three words – Come and see.

As we enter the fall season I invite you to come and see what we are doing at Redeemer. Our plans are well underway that offer everyone opportunities to worship as the body of Christ, to grow deeper in our relationship with God through the study of Scripture, and to serve those in our community and abroad. The church does not exist without a mission and without the presence of its people. Come and see.

September alone is filled with some new things and some that are familiar. Although we have been highlighting these events in the announcements each week I wanted to reiterate our efforts to engage you in our mission and ministry. Almost all of the events have a fresh start. It is the perfect time to join.

Worship and Faith Formation

We have returned to three services – 8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11 am. We livestream the first two services and then post the first service by 11 am if at all possible. Our Faith Formation, Confirmation, and High School classes resume on September 11 at 9:45 am. Table Talk, the adult class, will meet in the Conference Room at 9:45 am. Table Talk is hybrid so people can come in-person or attend via Zoom. On that same Sunday we will ask everyone who attends worship to help us pack the Baby Care kits, Health Care kits, and School kits for the ELCA Day of Service.

What is most exciting is all the other new things that will take place in September.

Women's Prayer Group – New

A new prayer group is starting on Tuesday, September 6, at 9:30 am. For our resource we will use a book by Eugene Peterson titled *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*. With each chapter in the book we will incorporate Scripture to find concrete ways to live out our life in Christ. We will meet weekly and in-person at the church. Women of all ages are welcome to join the group. Contact me if you are interested. Come and see.

Wednesday AM Bible Study – Renewed

On Wednesday, September 7, we will resume our morning Bible study at 8:00 am. The class is starting fresh with a study on the *Book of Daniel*. In order to accommodate those who attend from a distance this class will be held via Zoom. We will meet weekly. We take a brief break between Thanksgiving and Christmas before starting back up in the New Year. [Click here](#) for the zoom link to attend.

[Contact me](#) if you are interested. Come and see.

Sacred Ground – New Study Opportunity

On Saturday, September 10, we will meet at Redeemer from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to start a series called *Sacred Ground*. It is a dialogue series that was developed by the Episcopal church. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism. We will have lively discussions on how we came to have such divisions in our country and how to bridge the divide. Two groups have formed but we are open to more people joining us. The class will meet monthly through June of 2023. The first and last class will meet in-person at Redeemer. All the other classes will be held via Zoom at 7:00 pm, one on the second Monday of the month and the other on the second Tuesday of the month. Contact Carol Pribulka if you are interested at pribulkas@verizon.net. Come and see.

Youth Group – New

We are excited to have a set time for our youth to meet weekly. Starting on Sunday, September 11, at 5:00 pm Pastor Josh will gather with youth from Grades 6-12. Every Sunday for two hours there will be a meal, games, small group discussions, and worship. We hope all of our youth in this age group will set aside this time to be together. [Contact Pastor Josh](#) if interested. Come and see.

Wednesday PM Bible Study – New

On Wednesday, September 21, at 7:00 pm Pastor Josh will take the lead on a study of Luther's Small Catechism. It will be a wonderful refresher course for any who are already confirmed and an excellent overview of what it means to be Lutheran for those not as familiar with our teachings. We will meet weekly through November 2 via Zoom. [Contact Pastor Josh](#) if interested. Come and see.

Bible Study for Men – New

On Thursday, September 22, at 8:00 am Pastor Josh will lead a Bible study for men. They will use a resource titled *The Resolution* to discuss and explore ways to live a godly life. The class will meet weekly and in-person at the church. A light breakfast will be offered. [Contact Pastor Josh](#) if interested. Come and see.

Ukrainian Concert

We are blessed that we can host some special music offerings. Matt, our Music Director, has asked a Ukrainian couple to come to Redeemer to perform a concert on Sunday, October 2, at 3:00 pm. The concert will last 90 minutes and a small reception will follow. Donations will be collected at the door. A suggested donation is \$30 but please give as you are able. All proceeds will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to help support their work in and around Ukraine. [Click here](#) for a sample of their music. Come and see.

COME AND SEE

Please review the [Volunteer Booklet](#) that was distributed last month and review the litany of events and studies coming up in September. See where you might want to fit in. We are better together than apart.

In Christ – Pastor Sandy Kessinger





A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOSH

A New Worship Opportunity

Grace and peace be with each of you!

I am so glad to be back from my summer tour and joining once again in the life and ministry of Redeemer. As summer winds down here at Church, our programming for the Fall months is beginning to pick up – this means that if we are getting busy, I know that our families' schedules are filling up as well. School activities, sports, dance, band, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the list goes on and on. With so much happening throughout the week, some of your responsibilities will inevitably bleed into the weekend and maybe even into Sunday morning.

So what do you do if you miss Sunday morning service? No one wants to wait until next week.....

Fear not! We have you covered.

I am excited to announce that we will offer a fourth service on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. starting September 11th. We will gather in the sanctuary and end the night with a contemporary worship experience filled with praise and worship music, scripture, prayer, and Holy Communion. This will be a time to unwind from the busy week and spend just 30 minutes praising and worshiping God.

For those who have never been to a praise and worship service, it is a bit different than our traditional worship services on Sunday morning. We will still stick to the main movements of the Lutheran service – Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending – but the order of service looks different. Below you will find an example of the service as well as the style of music we will be singing (I encourage you to listen to the songs – I am including links to YouTube).

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Gathering Worship Songs

"I Will Follow"

"Come As You Are"

Word and Homily

Acts 8:26-40

Holy Communion

Closing Song

"The Blessing"

Final Blessing and Sending

So, if you cannot come on Sunday mornings for any reason, you want to try something new, or perhaps you want to worship more than once on Sunday (which makes a pastor's heart happy), please consider ending your busy weekend with us at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

I pray that each of you has a wonderful and blessed September.

Yours in Christ +

Pastor Josh



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am and 11:00 am – Traditional

9:45 am – Contemporary

TABLE TALK (ADULT EDUCATION)

Every Sunday – 9:45 am (Hybrid)

Sunday, Sept. 4	Come and Worship ⁺ (Labor Day Weekend)
Tuesday, Sept. 6	Prayer Group – 9:30 am (Weekly) (In-Person)
Wednesday, Sept. 7	Wednesday AM Bible Study – 8:00 am (Weekly) (Zoom) LWR Event – 4:00 pm (Zoom)
Saturday, Sept. 10	Sacred Ground – 10:00 am (In-Person)
Sunday, Sept. 11	Special Remembrance of 9-11 in Worship Faith Formation, Confirmation, High School classes resume ELCA Day of Service (After each service) Youth Group (Weekly) (In-Person) – 5:00 pm
Monday, Sept. 12	Congregation Council – 7:30 pm (In-Person)
Wednesday, Sept. 21	Wednesday PM Study on Luther's Small Catechism – 7:00 pm (Weekly) (Zoom)
Thursday, Sept. 22	Men's Bible Study – 8:00 am (Weekly) (In-Person)
Monday, Sept. 26	Worship and Music meeting – 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Sunday, Oct. 2	Ukrainian Concert – 3:00 pm
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SEPTEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wrapping it up: the winter scarf drive ends in October.

Just as winter approaches, the Redeemer Winter Scarf drive ends Sunday, October 23. The scarves will go to N Street Ministries, an organization working with homeless women in the DC area. We hope the scarves will keep the recipients protected against winter winds and wrap them in our prayers.

We are collecting hand made, purchased and gently used winter scarves. There will be collection bins in the Crossroad beginning October 2 and outside the office entrance. Please keep your collections at home until the bins appear.

The scarves will be blessed on Sunday, October 23.

To learn more about N Street ministries and how to help there please see the website: Nstreetvillage.org

The Prayer shawl group holds hybrid meetings the first and third Thursdays of each month from 10:30 to noon. Beginners are welcome and experienced fiber artists will gladly help newbies. Contact Gretchen Stark for more information (Gretchenstark@gmail.com) or the church office.



Tysons Interfaith Oneness of Humanity Series Event: Building Peaceful Communities, Promoting Mutual Respect: A Call to Action.

In recognition of the International Day of Peace, the Tysons Interfaith Oneness of Humanity Series continues September 21, 2022, beginning at 7:00 pm on Zoom. The event will be facilitated by Dara Feldman, an educator, international speaker, author, and founder of [Virtues Matter](http://VirtuesMatter.org). We will learn language and practical skills to promote peace, and how to recognize virtues in others to build/repair relationships and foster mutual respect.

To register and learn more about this event, please visit <https://tysonsinterfaith.org/iwe-event/building-peaceful-communities/>.

August Ham Report

On August 4, Ralph Dutrow delivered 11 boxes of ham weighing 385 pounds to Martha's Table from the Falls Church and Fairfax Honey Baked Ham stores.

On August 11, Roberta Pittman delivered 10 boxes of ham weighing 300 pounds to ThriveDC from the Falls Church and Fairfax stores.

On August 18, Rick Stewart delivered 3 boxes of ham weighing 105 pounds to Food for Others from the Fairfax store.

So for the month of August, we delivered 790 pounds of ham. A great month!

So far this year we have delivered 5,848 pounds of ham. A break down follows: Martha's Table, 2,320 pounds of ham; ThriveDC, 1,325 pounds of ham; So Others Might Eat, 1,015 pounds of ham; Rising Hope Church, 598 pounds of ham and Food for Others, 590 pounds of ham. All weights are approximate.

Many thanks to all of our Ham Heroes for their continuing efforts to fight hunger.

On to September!



Scholarships Available

There are scholarship funds available for students in the congregation who are pursuing studies in music and/or dance or to assist with the student's spiritual growth. These funds became available through a special gift given to Redeemer from charter members of the church. If you are interested, please send an email to church@redeermclean.org with the details of your specific situation and we will respond back to you.

Council to meet next on September 12

There are no August Council Minutes due to council taking a recess in August. The Council will meet on September 12. Look for minutes in the next edition of Tidings.

Lutheran World Relief Town Hall on Response in Ukraine – Sept. 7

On Wednesday, September 7, at 4 pm Lutheran World Relief will host a virtual event to learn about the urgently needed aid to Ukraine. Tamara Demuria, the main contact on efforts to help Ukrainians who fled the violence, will explain how the conflict and other factors have created a "perfect storm" that threatens millions of our brothers and sisters with hunger. This is an opportunity to learn about [the emergency response](#) and how our neighbors are being impacted. [Click here to register.](#)

Adult Catechism Class - Starting Wednesday, September 21 at 7pm

Join us via Zoom for a study of Lutheran Theology and Doctrine. In this six-week class we will explore our Lutheran faith using the resource "By Heart" by the former ELCA bishop, The Rev. Dr. Guy Erwin. This study is perfect for anyone who is new to the Lutheran church, those who are long time members and would like a refresher, or those who are not Lutheran and just want to learn more. At the end of the class those adults who wish to be Confirmed and go through the rite of the Affirmation of Baptism will have the opportunity to do so. Please [sign-up here](#). [Contact Pastor Josh](#) if you have any questions.

Fellowship Event - Barrell Oaks Winery Outing and Grape Stomping Sunday, September 25 from 1:30 - 4:30

The Congregational Life committee invites you to an afternoon of fun and fellowship at the Barrell Oaks Winery in Delaplane, VA. We will meet at the winery at 1:30 and spend the afternoon enjoying food, fun, and fellowship. This is a family friendly venue, and dogs are welcome as well. They serve pizza, oysters, cheese (of course), and other tasty treats. There will even be a grape stomping event taking place that day, where you can try your hand (or feet) at making wine – **please save all "I Love Lucy" references till after the event.**

For those who do not wish to drive, we will have a bus for the first 20 people who sign up via the Signup Genius Link. The bus will depart the church at 12:30 and return by 5:30. All are welcome, and we hope to see you there.

The address of the venue is: 3623 Grove Ln, Delaplane, VA 20144.

[Signup here](#) or call Andrea at the church office (703-356-3346) to reserve your spot.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord" - Psalm 100

We are seeking volunteers for the Bell and Traditional choirs. Come and enjoy fun and fellowship as we sing and ring out a joyful noise unto the Lord! Both choirs meet on Thursday evenings with the bells from 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm and the choir from 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm. Rehearsals for both groups will begin on Thursday, 8/25/22. If interested, please email Matt Osifchin at mattosifchin@gmail.com.

Adult Leaders Needed - Middle and High School Group Facilitators

Starting this Fall, Redeemer's Youth Group will meet every Sunday evening from 5 pm to 7 pm. Along with gathering for a meal, the middle and high school groups will split up to discuss faith, mission, and service to God and God's people. We will be using an interactive curriculum to help guide our discussion. Please let [Pastor Josh](#) know if you are interested in helping to be a group facilitator and lead discussion with either middle or high school youth.

First Communion Class - October 16 - 12:15 pm

This fall we will hold a class for First Communion on Sunday, October 16, from 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm. Lunch will be provided. If you, as parents, see a readiness in your child then please contact Pastor Kessinger so she can include him/her in the session. One or both parents are welcome to attend. We use a resource that covers what it means to take Holy Communion and it has Scripture passages that parents will review with their child(ren). Pastor Kessinger can be reached at psk@redeemermclean.org.

Happy Birthday to Redeemer Lutheran Preschool—celebrating 60 years!

Help continue the legacy! The Redeemer Renaissance Preschool and After-School Boards New Member Nominations are taking place. [Click here to view more information](#). If interested, please contact Executive Director, Linda McConnaughay at 703-356-3346, ext. 106.

FLAT JESUS TRAVELS!

"Flat Jesus" made his way around some of the states this summer! Pastor Josh encouraged everyone to take a photo with "Flat Jesus" as they travelled. Here are some photos.



*Flat Jesus made it to the Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge
in Minnesota with the Buddes!*

(above)



*Ben Stoessel had a
fabulous trip with
Flat Jesus to Atlantis!*

(left)



Betsy Kutcher went aboard the American Song cruise ship on the Columbia River, which runs between Oregon and Washington states, with Flat Jesus!

(left)



Andrew and Caroline, grandchildren of Janet Pfister, with Flat Jesus in Oahu

(above)

“God’s Work. Our Hands”

September 11: ELCA Day of Service

Redeemer will be taking part in the annual Day of Service, sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, on Sunday, September 11. Each year the theme for the day is “God’s Work. Our Hands” as we remember that we, freed in Christ, are to love and serve our neighbors.

Between worship services, you can help assemble kits that will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief: School Kits, Personal Care Kits, and Baby Care Kits.



After both services on September 11th, we will be assembling care kits to be distributed by LWR.

Afternoon Unity Walk on September 11

In the afternoon of September 11 we will gather in DC for the Unity Walk in DC. The walk is sponsored each year by the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington. The walk’s opening ceremony is at 2:15 p.m. at the Washington Hebrew Congregation (3935 Macomb Street NW); a resource fair is at the same location from 1:30-2:15. Participants then walk down Massachusetts Avenue, stopping at several houses of worship that will offer tours, informal conversations, and other activities: Embassy Church, Annunciation Catholic Church, St.Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church, Community of Christ Church, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral, and the Islamic Center of Washington. Activities specifically for teens will be happening in Bryce Park.

The closing ceremony will be at 5:30 p.m. You can choose which houses of worship to visit and you are not required to stay through the closing ceremony.

To see more information about the day’s program, go to <https://ifcmw.org/unity-walk-program-2022/>.

To buy tickets (\$5 for students/seniors; \$10 for general admission) or to make a donation, go to <https://givebutter.com/eAr9S1>.



UNITY WALK 2022

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

**RESOURCE
FAIR &
REGISTRATION**

1:30–2:15PM

JOIN US!

IFC's annual Unity Walk is a public demonstration of love and support for all who live in our region. Walk with participants of all ages to visit 11 different houses of worship and spiritual centers in upper Northwest DC to learn about and experience diverse faith traditions. There will be new opportunities to engage through moderated mini-dialogues, hands-on family activities, comedy, music, and sharing of tasty cultural treats. Come by yourself or bring friends to celebrate the wonderful diversity that exists in our region!

**PROGRAM
2:15–6PM**



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.ifcmw.org



unitywalk@ifcmw.org



In Recognition of the International Day of Peace

Please join us for an ONLINE EVENT on

Wednesday September 21, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Building Peaceful Communities

Promoting Mutual Respect: A Call to Action

- Learn to be a peacemaker
- Learn language and practical skills to promote peace
- Learn to recognize virtues in others to build/repair relationships and foster mutual respect



Breakout rooms and small group discussion will be facilitated by

Dara Feldman, a passionate educator, international speaker, author, coach and consultant who is deeply committed to social justice. She is a Virtues Project Master Facilitator, Chief Enthusiasm Officer, and Board Chair of [Virtues Matter](#). She is the author of *The Heart of Education: Bringing Joy, Meaning and Purpose Back to Teaching and Learning*. Dara was honored as Disney's 2005 Outstanding Elementary Teacher of the Year and Maryland's 2015 Mother of the Year.



TO REGISTER, [VISIT EVENTBRITE THROUGH THIS LINK:](#)

The Zoom link for this event will be emailed to registered attendees 48 hours before our discussion.



September Birthdays

We Wish You a Happy Birthday!!!

- Sep 1 Barbara Donne, Jennifer Henshall, Lisa Richter, Zachary Risseuw, Heather Waldon
- Sep 2 Becca Moser, Peyton Ostrup
- Sep 3 Jennifer Jordan, Mackenzie Niles, Stacy Pence
- Sep 4 Matt Anderson, Susan Garman, David Zimmerman
- Sep 5 Helen Goldfrank, Deanna Heier, Jason Koenig
- Sep 6 Victor Litwinski, Grace Myers, Carolyn Valuch
- Sep 7 Peter Kutscher, Autumn Reese, Michael Sheehan
- Sep 8 Cara Dillaman, James Goodwin, Walker Pence, Glenn Waldron
- Sep 9 Elisabeth Brittin, Tom Engle, Caitie McBride, Elin Schwartz
- Sep 10 DeAnn Allen, Ella Budde, Joan Coffman, Lauren Markwart, John Pleasant, Annabel Richter, Rob Wenk
- Sep 11 Lizzy Apple, Ken O'Brien
- Sep 12 Jamie DeGrafft, Cindy Hendricks
- Sep 13 Jonathan Grau, Dana Karangelen, Eve Stewart, Matthew Swarm
- Sep 14 Erica Augustenborg-Epstein, Jonny Grau, Judy Martin, Michael Petersen, Wyatt Windsor
- Sep 15 Johnny Bruemmer, Camryn DeGrafft, Karin Kutscher, Jack Posey, Eric Thronson
- Sep 16 Sophien Djemmal, Michael O'Brien
- Sep 17 Mark Madsen, Phillip Merrill, Chris Miller
- Sep 19 William Gibson, Kate Jones, Alexandra Lettow, Olivia Madsen, Shannon Wilson
- Sep 20 David Broderdorf, Ellen Opsal, Paul White
- Sep 21 Elizabeth Corvari, Nick Corvari, Paul Goodwin, Douglas Johnson, Jennifer Laredo
- Sep 22 Charlotte Bourgin, Emma Bradley, Carolyn Gilbertson, Shenafa Kenney, Thomas Mueller, Stefanie Schroeter
- Sep 23 Luke Austin, Tim Crawford, Carol Honigberg, Nicole Sheehan, Yasmina Shields, Kristen Silverberg, Christine Stelter, May Wilson
- Sep 24 Clara Hernadi, Gerry Schumacher
- Sep 25 Jerry Hahne, Stephen Mallard
- Sep 26 Claire Broderdorf, Soraya Hashemi, Elaine Lea, Roberta Pittman, July Rodriguez
- Sep 27 Caroline Austin, Leslie Humes, John Lettow, Liina Richardson
- Sep 28 Florence Hall, Meg Honigberg, Brian Stewart, William Thompson
- Sep 29 Larry Gilbertson, Bo Gilbertson, Ben Kostelancik, Tim Kostelancik
- Sep 30 Matthew Cronin, Sonja Kuhn

A Birthday Blessing

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up when they fall; and in their hearts may your peace, which passes understanding, abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. *Book of Common Prayer*