

# TIDINGS Newsletter

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1545 Chain Bridge Road  
McLean, VA 22101

Vol. 70 No. 1  
January 2025



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

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**A Message from  
Pastor Sandy Kessinger**

**January of 2025  
Fresh Starts**

The church gets two opportunities to start fresh – once in December during the season of Advent and then when the world turns their calendars to a new year. We have a lot to anticipate in 2025. Look ahead with me into the new year and see where you might fit in!

**Construction Project / Capital Campaign**

In response to requests from the congregation, we have been providing weekly announcements that keep us updated on the different aspects of our building and grounds project. As you recall, the project was approved at our last annual meeting and the next step was to get final approval from the county. Our people have been working with the architects, engineers, and the county over this past year to get everything in order so that we can start securing contractors for each of the different pieces of the project – the natural playground area, the columbarium, and the renovations to the inside of the church building.

We have been in a waiting pattern with the county (sounds more like Advent) but not idle during this time. The task force that was set up to encourage the members and friends of the congregation to make a financial pledge have been creative in their efforts to raise money. Every gift is critical before we come to the congregation in February to discuss the size of the loan we will need. And, like everything else, we will not be sure of the final costs until we get bids back from the contractors and negotiate the details. We are a work in progress and at our annual meeting we will learn more about where we stand currently and what to anticipate in 2025.

**2025 Commitments – Financial Gifts and Volunteering**

The Stewardship Ministry team spent most of their time in 2024 giving our volunteer booklet a fresh look. It is now called “What’s Happening at Redeemer.” I have linked it directly to this article so that you can see its contents. Our new volunteer booklet was also used to develop the 2025 Commitment card. A Commitment Card is the means by which members and friends of the congregation can make a financial pledge to our church for the coming year. It also lists volunteer opportunities.

You will be surprised at how much we are doing at Redeemer. One of the joys of serving a faith community is the vast opportunities we have to give of our time. Please review the list carefully and prayerfully consider where you might want to get more involved in our church. You and your gifts will be accepted with joy and appreciation.

[Link to 2025 Commitment Card](#)

[Link to “What’s Happening at Redeemer”](#)

As your pastor, I lean heavily on everyone doing their part to make everything run smoothly and efficiently at Redeemer. In the coming year I will continue my efforts to encourage different people to take on leadership roles. Over the years we have made great progress in this area and I hope we can do even more!

For example, we have moved from Bible studies being led mostly by the pastor to those that are led by members who are well-qualified and do a wonderful job. Robin leads our adult class that is held on Sunday mornings at 9:45 am, also known as Table Talk. She leads the class with integrity and intrigue and opens the minds of those who attend the sessions. Doug has also taken the leadership role for the Men's Bible and Judy will often substitute for me when I am not able to be present for our Wednesday evening studies.

Another example of how we have shared responsibilities is in our church office. Grace coordinates with Cynthia on some of the administrative tasks that I needed to pass on to others. Our entire ministry staff is connecting well and we are able to accomplish much.

Here are some areas where we could use some additional help. In 2025, Grace will need parents to get more involved in our Youth Ministry program. We can always use more volunteers to help with worship. We love the hospitality in between our services, especially on the first Sunday of the month, also known as Donut Sunday. Matthew and Megan offered to do it for a calendar year with the hope that others would take some of the responsibility.

The 2025 Commitment Card will give you a more extensive list of volunteer opportunities.

### **Annual Meeting**

Our council is very diligent 12 months out of the year to make decisions on your behalf. In appreciation for what we have accomplished over the past year, I encourage all our voting members to attend the meeting to be held on Sunday, February 9, immediately following the 11 am service. A voting member, via our constitution, is a confirmed member who has communed and made a financial contribution during the current or preceding calendar year.

We have important information that will need your attention. On the agenda so far we have the elections of new council members, voting members to the synod assembly where we will be electing a new bishop, and financial decisions about the building project.

Please mark your calendar and come to the meeting if you are a voting member of Redeemer. It speaks volumes of your commitment to our mission and ministry when you are present. It is imperative that we hear your voice on issues that impact our future. Please come!

God's peace - Pastor Sandy Kessinger

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**ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**  
**Sunday, February 9**  
**12:00 pm**

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### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 2025**

Services at 8:30 am, 9:45 am, 11:00 am

Faith Formation, Confirmation, High School – 9:45 am

Table Talk (Adult Class) – 9:45 am

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### **WEEKLY EVENTS (STARTING WEEK OF JANUARY 6)**

Mondays	Racial Justice and Equity Book Club (Zoom) – 7:30 pm
Tuesdays	Women’s Prayer Group (Hybrid) – 9:30 am
Wednesdays	AM Bible Study (Hybrid) – 8:00 am
	PM Bible Study (Zoom) – 7 pm
Thursdays	Men’s Bible Study (Zoom) – 8:00 am

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### **ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **Week of January 5**

Sunday, January 5

Return to 3 services – 8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am

Faith Formation, Confirmation, High School – 9:45 am

Table Talk (Adult Class) – 9:45 am

Wednesday, January 8

Quilting Ministry – 9:00 am

#### **Week of January 12**

Sunday, January 12

2024 Annual Reports Due

Parents’ Lunch and Conversation – 12 pm

Monday, January 13

Congregation Council (Hybrid) – 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 16

Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:30 am

#### **Week of January 19**

Tuesday, January 21

Good Grub and God Dinner – 7 pm

Wednesday, January 22

Quilting Ministry – 9:00 am

#### **Week of January 26**

Sunday, January 26

2024 Annual Report Available

Tuesday, January 28

Beyond Measure Capital Campaign Meeting – 7 pm

Thursday, January 30

Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:30 am

### **SAVE THE DATE – FEBRUARY 9**

**ANNUAL MEETING – 12:00 PM**

## Minutes of Meeting of Redeemer Congregation Council December 9, 2024

**Council Members Present in Person:** Sabine Detweiler; Hannah Hughes; Ellen Kennedy, President; Sandy Kessinger, Senior Pastor; Megan Kratz; Karen Miller; Gene Morrow; Nate Paukovits, Vice-President; Tyler Posey; Ed Regan, Treasurer

**Council Members Present via Zoom:** Lee Cronin; Lena Martikainen

**Council Members Excused:** Chris Hernadi, Secretary

**Council Members Unexcused:** None

**Guest of Council:** Rob Wenk, Linda McConaughay

### **Call to Order:**

Ellen Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM

**Devotions:** PSK led devotions based on Chapter 17 ("Making the Best Use of Our Resources") in *Growing Together: Spiritual Exercises for Church Committees*.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from the meeting were previously approved by email.

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

The agenda was amended to remove the report on Membership Outreach as that particular report was provided at the previous council meeting. The agenda was adopted.

**Discussion Item: Redeemer Renaissance 2025 Budget.** Linda McConaughay presented the preschool and after-school budgets to the council. The budgets were previously approved by the Redeemer Renaissance Board and the Finance Ministry Team. The council asked questions regarding enrollment, overhead, employee salaries, program offerings, and budget balancing. Megan Kratz made a motion to approve the budget; Nate Paukovits seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion Item: Redeemer 2025 Budget.** Rob Wenk, representing the Finance Ministry Team, presented the Redeemer annual budget to the council. The council asked questions regarding facility use fees during construction, the youth ministry, staff salaries, offering estimates, and a variety of discussion areas. Karen Miller made a motion to approve the budget; Tyler Posey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Pastor Kessinger Report.** Pastor Kessinger submitted her report via email in advance of the meeting. Some of the items she highlighted in her report included:

- **Connections through Pastoral Care.** Conducted member and visitor contacts and hospital visits.
- **Weddings, Baptisms, New Members, and First Communion.** One wedding reception was held; one child was baptized; six new members and their families were welcomed; and four members received their first communion.
- **Connections through Ministries of the Congregations** were ongoing. In addition to the regular meetings, Bible studies, and classes, this past month included Advent lunch and devotions and Advent evening prayer.
- **Connections through Meetings.** PSK attended various meetings involving office administration, membership outreach, and Executive Committee business.

- **Connections through Synod.** PSK attended the Virginia Conference Meeting at Christ the Servant in Reston and separately met with several Synod staff.
- **Connections through Community.** On November 17, Redeemer hosted a Community Interfaith Service that was well attended and received. PSK attended the American Turkish Friendship Association Dinner with members, the Tysons Community Alliance Meeting for First Quarter Report, and the Board Meeting for Tysons Community Alliance.

**Treasurer's Report.** Ed Regan presented the financial summary for the prior month. The month of November saw a surplus of approximately \$3K bringing the annual surplus to \$32K.

**Executive Committee Summary:** The Executive Committee met November 22, 2024, and developed the discussion items that we are covering this evening.

**Discussion Item: Nominating Committee.** On behalf of the nominating committee (Ellen Kennedy, Nate Paukovits, Tricia Engle, Steve Lancaster), Ellen Kennedy presented the slate of nominees for the council and endowment committee.

**Congregation Council**

Annabelle Allard  
Steve Bott (for Treasurer)  
Sarah Getter  
Victoria Johnson, Youth Member

**Endowment Committee**

Stephanie Hunter  
Mark Thronson

Ellen Kennedy made a motion to approve the slate of nominees; Karen Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HR Matters.**

- **Redeemer Renaissance Executive Director (RRED).** HR Committee representatives presented the council with a recommendation to increase the baseline salary of the RRED based on comparable positions in the area. It was confirmed that the Redeemer Renaissance budget has enough funds to cover the change. Nate Paukovits made a motion to increase the salary contingent on Redeemer Renaissance Board approval; Megan Kratz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Pastor Kessinger Evaluation.** The council conducted Pastor Kessinger's annual evaluation discussing characteristics such as leadership, preaching ability, pastoral care, community engagement, and relationship with the congregation. Karen Miller made a motion to increase Pastor Kessinger's salary; Tyler Posey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Pastor Kessinger Housing Resolution.** Council conducted their annual review of the housing allowance resolution which designates a portion of the pastor's salary to be used for housing expenses. These expenses are exempt from federal income taxes. Tyler Posey made a motion to approve identified housing expenses; Gene Morrow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Ministry Reports: Beyond Measure Construction Update.** Recently received construction estimates for the interior renovations came back \$1.37M, which is an increase of over \$400K from original estimates. Cost increases are attributable to labor and material increases and the current high demand for contractors.

Scaling back interior renovations are not viable options. Estimates for the columbarium and natural play area were slightly lower than originally planned. Overall, the total project cost is currently \$3.1M (up from \$2.7M); the capital campaign pledged amount is \$1.6M; and the amount needed to borrow would be \$1.5M (~\$10K/month based on current rates). Per reference, the previous initial debt for the 2011 renovations was \$2.3M.

**Ministry Reports: Social Outreach.** Mary Eckberg will be working with Tricia Engle as the ministry chair. The team is researching ways to maximize the resources provided through Thrivent membership. Thrivent members are eligible to receive grants twice per year to support Redeemer ministries. For example, one member recently purchased yarn for the knitting group.

### **Close with Prayer**

### **Meeting adjourned at 9:38**

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- Executive Committee, January 7, 2025
- Ministry Reports Due, January 7, 2025
- Next Meeting of Council, January 13, 2025
- Annual Meeting, February 9, 2025

## Construction Project Updates from December

The interior renovations will create a new space specifically for the copy machine and the church ministry mail slots. The mail slots will still be available to members during off hours. This will allow us to better secure the office manager's and financial coordinator's workspaces and supplies. It will improve the general work environment and productivity by reducing copy machine noise and traffic interruptions. Also, additional lockable storage spaces will be created to be used by various church teams.

Regarding the status of the county approval process on the interior renovations of the classrooms, offices and adjacent areas, the county has now asked us for additional drawings on the existing gas piping throughout the entire building, even in the areas we are not renovating. This is not a request that our MEP engineers are used to receiving; however, it is more practical to provide additional drawings than challenge the request. We hope to get the building permit for the interior renovations in January.

As you think about how you can support Redeemer's renovation and expansion plans, please consider one of the tax advantaged giving options. The gifting of appreciated stocks or mutual funds will help minimize capital gain taxes. Also, the gifting of retirement Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) can also lower your taxable income. See Redeemer's website under the Giving heading for more information.

Members of the congregation should have recently received a letter about our capital campaign and the building project status. If you did not receive a letter and/or would like to discuss anything specific about the project or additional giving options, please reach out to [Mary O'Brien](#) on the capital campaign, [Rob Wenk](#) on construction items, or [Pastor Kessinger](#) on any other related items.

## Hearing Tips in Redeemer's Sanctuary

- Sit directly in front of a speaker. There are four speakers in the sanctuary (two on each side). The speakers are tall, thin, tan-colored, and mounted to the wall. It is advised for better hearing to sit at the end of the pew, closest to the wall, and facing a speaker as the sound comes directly from them.
- Avoid sitting where the sound is less clear. If you are in a pew where the closest speaker is behind you (not pointed directly at you) the sound will be traveling away from you, and you will not hear as well. If a wall column partially blocks your view of the speaker, then it is partially blocking the sound from that speaker.
- Use one of our sound amplifiers. The sound system operator can provide you with a battery-operated device that amplifies the sound coming from the sound system. They come with a plug that goes directly into your ear. We have several extra ear plugs, and you can keep one with you and re-attach it yourself to the device each week, if you prefer.
- Sit in one of the front pews. In addition to the recommendations above, some people find they hear better the closer they are to the front. It may be especially helpful to sit directly in front of the pulpit for the sermon. At the same time, please keep in mind the recommendation described in Item #1 above and be as close as possible to one of the speakers facing towards you.

The sound system operators do their best to keep the sound volume as high as possible without it becoming too loud and uncomfortable for other people in attendance. Thank you for your understanding and we hope these recommendations are helpful to you.



## HAPPENING AT REDEEMER

### Annual Lenten Retreat Saturday, February 22, 2025 10 am - 4 pm

Mark your calendars for our annual day of fellowship and reflection as we prepare for our Lenten journey. We will gather in a rooftop setting in Reston from 10:00 am—4:00 pm. “Hidden Gems of the Bible” will be our theme to explore how God worked through different characters of the Bible. We will deepen our knowledge and understanding of the ways in which God uses each of us to further God’s kingdom. The retreat will cost \$50 and scholarships are available. The Retreat is open to all.

### Racial Justice and Equity Book Club

The Racial Justice & Equity Book Club has had a very productive year reading a total of 7 books!

1. *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom* by Ilyon Woo
2. *Hell of a Book (The Altogether Factual, Wholly Bona Fide Story of a Big Dreams, Hard Luck, American- Made Mad Kid)* by Jason Mott
3. *The Undocumented Americans* by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio
4. *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride
5. *The Religion of Whiteness: How Racism Distorts Christian Faith* by Michael O. Emerson and Glenn E. Bracey
6. *The Guest Book* by Sarah Blake
7. *Solito* by Javier Zamora

Summaries of these books are available below. We will resume our weekly Monday 7:30-8:30 pm Zoom meetings on Jan 6, 2025 with a new book, *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson. This will be a great time to join us! If interested, please contact [Teresa Schellenger](#).

***Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom: by Ilyon Woo.*** The true story of Ellen and William Craft, who escaped slavery in 1848 with Ellen posing as a wealthy, disabled White man and William posing as “his” slave. They traveled over 1,000 miles using steamboats, carriage and trains from where they were enslaved in Georgia to the free states of the North. They were never truly safe as their identity was at risk of being revealed by many. Along the way they became famous and were written about in newspapers across the country, speaking at events alongside Frederick Douglass. They were constantly fearful and so very brave as they were constantly at risk of being returned to their enslavers because of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850.

***Hell of a Book (The Altogether Factual, Wholly Bona Fide Story of a Big Dreams, Hard Luck, American-Made Mad Kid): Jason Mott.*** Winner of multiple awards. In Jason Mott’s *Hell of a Book*, a Black author sets out on a cross-country publicity tour to promote his bestselling novel. Mott’s novel also tells the story of Soot, a young Black boy living in a rural town in the recent past, and The Kid, a possibly imaginary child who appears to the author on his tour. The book references themes about family, art, money, police shootings and what it can mean to be Black in America.

## Racial Justice and Equity Book Club Continued

***The Undocumented Americans:* by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio.** In the book the author, as one of the first undocumented immigrants to graduate from Harvard, describes some of the lives of other undocumented Americans. She writes about undocumented workers who were recruited into the federally funded Ground Zero cleanup after 9/11; about people running botanicas in Miami (where people look for other options if they are unable to be covered by medical insurance or have access to other healthcare options because of their undocumented status; how they were prevented from access to clean water in Flint because of not having a government ID, and families separated due to parents being in a sanctuary).

***The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store:* by James McBride.** The story is set in 1972 with flashback after a skeleton is found in an old well in a Pennsylvania neighborhood where both Jewish and Black communities live together as both work to manage racial tensions and pressures from the outside world. The stories span various generations and show what those outside dominate majorities have to manage in order to survive. It also shows how love and community can unite to make a difference.

***The Religion of Whiteness: How Racism Distorts Christian Faith:* by Michael O. Emerson and Glenn E. Bracey.** From a survey of a collection of people of faith, this book explores the unconscious and conscious “sorting” of people that differ from white people. For those of us who chose to be inclusive, the reading brings further awareness of the divisiveness that exists under the guise of being a Christian or of being religious. The book was difficult for the group to believe as its premise was that there is a significant group of white Christians in America who in fact are believers in a “Religion of Whiteness”. The authors examined White Christian Nationalism and the role it plays in our country today. The book challenges us to examine whether we are defending the status quo in a way which is denying others the right to advance. In the book the authors argue some are conflating the issue of racial inequality and fear that those who describe themselves as “white” being disadvantaged, with the religion of Christianity itself.

***The Guest Book:* by Sarah Blake.** The story explores three generations of the Milton family as they respond to changes in society and tragedies to the family beginning before WWII. It addresses issues of those who have wealth and who don’t, who is included as acceptable in society and who isn’t. The main setting where the issues are explored is the family’s summer retreat on their own exclusive island off of the coast of Maine. We had spirited discussions in the group as what it means to preserve heritage even as we acknowledge mistakes and tragedies of our ancestors. How much we decide to let our past define us as we design our future.

***Solito:* by Javier Zamora.** Zamora writes about what it was like for him as a nine year old to join a group of mostly adults and one other child to be brought to the US to join his parents. He described the journey of 3,000 miles (leaving his small town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, and finally across the US Border). We were all terrified when we thought about how young he was thinking of our own family members who are that age. Zamora managed to both capture the terror (dangerous boat rides, being at risk from police and from criminals along the way, as well as exposure to the elements) and the kindness of his small group along the way. *Solito* describes what others are willing to do if they feel like they have no other choice but to risk everything on a chance of a safe life in the United States.

## Good Grub and God! — January 21

Good Grub and God 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 are meeting the 3rd Tuesday of the month:

- January 21st.

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 are interested in being a host, please contact Kim Wenk at [kbwenk@gmail.com](mailto:kbwenk@gmail.com) or 703-909-3424. We ask that if you would like to attend, please sign up via the link below or contact Kim. You can sign up as late as the day before; we just want to be sure that we have enough seats for everyone.

[Yes, I would like to come to Good Grub and God](#)

## Parents’ Lunch and Conversation — January 12

Parents at Redeemer are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall after worship for lunch and conversation. The conversation will focus on the support Redeemer provides to parents and how this may be expanded. Please sign up using this [link](#) so we know how many to expect. Thank you!

## Youth

### Important Dates:

January 12 — Parents’ Lunch and Conversation

January 26 — Summer Mission Trip Meeting

For Parents and Students attending the June, 2025 Mission trip.

For more detailed Youth News, please read the Youth Newsletter.

For any questions, please contact [Grace Howie](#).



# REDEEMER *Renaissance* PRESCHOOL & AFTER-SCHOOL

## Registration 2025-26

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 13th -17th. Waitlist Priority and new families may register January 20th – 24th.

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.

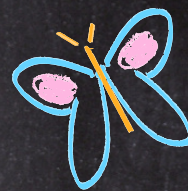
Children delight in experiencing open-ended play with peers in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. Our staff engages the children to delve into topics of interest, build hands-on projects, and create bonds that will help them navigate their childhood years and beyond.

**We can't wait to welcome you! Schedule a visit to take a tour & register:  
Preschool 703-356-3567 or After-School 703-356-3346 ext. 106**





Ages 1.5 - Grade 6  
Register Online



REDEEMER  
*Renaissance*  
PRESCHOOL & AFTER-SCHOOL

## 2025-26 School Year Registration

- January 13th - 17th Returning Families
- January 20th - 24th Waitlist Priority and New Families may register as space is available.

Schedule a visit: 703-356-3567





## SOCIAL OUTREACH

### November Ham Report

Hi All,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. Here is the ham run report for November.

On November 7 Steve Greanias delivered 8 boxes of coffee cakes (weighing 160 pounds) and 10 boxes of ham (weighing 350 pounds) from Falls Church and Fairfax to Rising Hope.

On November 14 Roberta Pittman delivered 2 boxes of ham (weighing 60 pounds) to Martha's Table and 5 boxes of ham (weighing 120 pounds) from Falls Church and Fairfax to Bread for the City.

On November 21 Ralph Dutrow delivered 2 boxes of ham (weighing 60 pounds) from Fairfax to So Others Might Eat.

Thank you all.

Sincerely,

Laura Wareham

### The Prayer Shawl Group and Project Linus

The Prayer Shawl Group usually meets on the first and third Thursday of the month from 10:30 to noon (virtual option as well) in the library. We will next meet on January 16th from 10:30 to noon. We have an exciting and worthwhile new effort underway - knitting and crocheting baby and toddler blankets for Project Linus!

Project Linus supports any child aged 0 - 18 that is in distress due to illness, injury, or traumatic event in their life by giving them a warm, soft blanket. They have a great need for baby and toddler blankets especially.

Here is a small sampling of the organizations the Fairfax County Chapter supports:

- Ronald McDonald House, D.C.
- TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors...kids who have lost a parent in military service)
- Local emergency situations and national emergency situations that put out a call for assistance
- INOVA Mt. Vernon Pediatric Emergency Room

#### **Knitted and crocheted blanket requirements**

Handmade-only blankets made with new, washable materials from non-smoking homes. Ends should be secure as blankets for hospitalized children may undergo daily washing.

Soft acrylic yarn, 100% cotton, or a soft cotton/acrylic blend (no wool, please!)

Baby - 36" x 36"

Toddler - 40" x 50"

Free yarn and patterns will be available in the Crossroads in mid-January. Knitters and crocheters can provide their own yarn and pattern as well.

Please contact [Lynn Barth](#) if you have any questions.



## January Birthdays - We Wish You a Happy Birthday!

Jan. 2	Hayley Wenk, David Truslow
Jan. 3	Charles Lettow, Melissa Gorsline
Jan. 4	Dan Bader V, David Young, Justin Young
Jan. 5	Jessie Straub, Annelie Wiklund, JaLyn Tiffany, James Prince, Kelly Dewberry
Jan. 6	Judy Prince, Daniel Moreno
Jan. 7	Karlen Bader, Judy Kastner
Jan. 8	Griffin Stieg, Greg Adams, Maren Sulkala
Jan. 9	Christine Bader, John DeLeonardis, Darlene Lebedev
Jan. 10	Fritz Muhlenberg, Finn Koehli, Tessa Skochko
Jan. 11	William Dutrow, John Corvari, Edwin Pan
Jan. 12	Madeleine Engel, Brent Armstrong, Sebastian Salzman, Tessa Stoll
Jan. 13	Barb Perlowski
Jan. 14	Rekha Arness, Jim Sullivan, Martha Blue, Knut Opsal
Jan. 15	Matthew Duval, Maddie Barb
Jan. 16	Amara Okorie
Jan. 17	Phyllis Peter-Mallard, Arcel Castillo, Elias Tiffany, JoJo Warren
Jan. 18	Jason VerWest
Jan. 19	Justin Bornmann, Kelly Kight, Caden Stuart
Jan. 20	Tua Maria Goodwin, Sarah McIlrath
Jan. 22	JoAnn Mueller, Jean Speegle, Niels-Oliver DeChaine, Nathaniel Tiffany
Jan. 23	Amelia Dutrow, Mark Hughes, Edward Berendt
Jan. 24	Emma Mykityshyn, Julian Mentzel
Jan. 25	Grace Chambers, Emma Horn, Natalie Horn
Jan. 26	Rebecca Behraves, Benjamin Epstein, Mary Eckberg
Jan. 28	Alexandra Gomes McKay, Cindy Goodman, Forrest N. Stieg, Benjamin Campet, Caroline Elliot
Jan. 29	Nicholas Elbert, Kevin Dempsey, Adem Sevimli
Jan. 30	Gretchen Odegard, Anika Crone, Bob Speegle, Katie Romhilt
Jan. 31	Katherine Miller, Jeff Pishner, Anna Villagran, Luke Niles

## PASTORS AND STAFF OF REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor	Pastor Sandy Kessinger	ext. 102 cell: 703-635-4672	psk@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		grace@redeermclean.org
Youth Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Ellen Kennedy
Vice President	Nate Paukovits
Secretary	Chris Hernadi
Treasurer	Edward Regan

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lee Cronin  
 Sabine Detweiler  
 Megan Kratz  
 Lena Martikainen  
 Karen Miller  
 Gene Morrow  
 Tyler Posey  
 And a Youth Representative

**Redeemer Lutheran Church | 1545 Chain Bridge Road | McLean, VA 22101**  
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