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## Life at Redeemer

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1545 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, VA 22101  
Tel: 703.356.3346 | [redeemermclean.org](mailto:redeemermclean.org)  
[church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org)

Pastor Sandy Kessinger - [psk@redeemermclean.org](mailto:psk@redeemermclean.org)

# January 5, 2025

### Welcome to Redeemer

We welcome you to our worship service this morning! Please sign the guest book that is found in our entry area or the red attendance book found in the pews. If you include your email address, we will keep you informed of any upcoming events. You can also email us at [church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org). Pastor Kessinger is open and available for one-on-one conversations with you.

### Holy Communion Open to All

We offer Holy Communion at all of our worship services. Please follow the instructions of the pastor when it is time to come forward. If you are not comfortable taking Holy Communion for any reason but would like to come forward for a blessing, then just cross your arms and the pastor will bless you. All are welcome to the Lord's Table.

### Hymns Today at the 8:30 and 11:00 services

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| #275 | Angels, from the Realms of Glory       |
| #815 | I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light |
| #793 | Be Thou My Vision                      |
| #886 | Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing     |

### Pew Cards

In follow up to the letter sent recently to the congregation regarding the Beyond Measure Capital Campaign, there is now a pledge card for your use in the pew racks. Completed pledge cards can be placed in the offering plate or in the locked drop box in the Crossroads lobby. If you already have made a pledge or a direct contribution, we heartily THANK YOU! We invite everyone to join us in the campaign to improve our grounds and facilities and "together our impact is limitless".

### News about Bonnie Jares

We've received word that Bonnie Jares died recently in Florida. She and her late husband Don were members of Redeemer in the 1970s and early 1980s as well as for a short period of time in the 1990s. Some of our members saw Bonnie when she attended Bob Hahne's funeral. We are keeping her family in our prayers.

### Frederic (Ric) Francke

We remember in our prayers the family and friends of Ric Francke. Ric died suddenly on Christmas Day and the funeral was held at graveside on Tuesday, December 31, at Columbia Gardens in Arlington. Ric was an active member of the church and our choir. Rend, his wife, and Chris, his son, are grateful that Redeemer was such an important part of Ric's life.

### Racial Justice and Equity Book Club

**New Book— Monday, Jan. 6 at 7:30 pm (Zoom)**

Hurray! The Book Club has chosen our next book, *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson, to start discussing on January 6. This is the true story of Walter McMillian and other innocent people of color on death row. The author is his lawyer who has released over 140 wrongfully convicted prisoners on death row. This would be a great time to join our group for some lively discussions! Contact Teresa Schellenger ([jpschellenger@aol.com](mailto:jpschellenger@aol.com)) for more information.

### Two New Bible Study Series

On Wednesday, January 8, two new Bible Study series will start. The Wednesday AM Bible Study will delve into the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. It is recommended that everyone interested in these sessions purchase the book, *Discipleship* (Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works - Reader's Edition - November 1, 2015). The class will be both in-person and via Zoom.

The Wednesday PM Bible study will concentrate on "The Sermon on the Mount" and will meet only via Zoom.

All are welcome to either or both series. Contact the church office ([church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org)) for the Zoom link for each series.

OUR MISSION: SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE  
WITH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE

### Construction Project Update

One of the lenders we are talking to about a new mortgage is the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund. The Mission Investment Fund is part of our national church organization, and they make loans to new and existing congregations for new buildings, renovations and expansions. Their rates are very competitive with other lenders and banks. Plus, our monthly mortgage payments would help fund future loans to other congregations.

### Parents' Lunch and Conversation January 12 at 12 pm

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!

### Bruce Onobrakpeya: The Mask and the Cross

Nigerian sculptor and printmaker Bruce Onobrakpeya began creating works depicting Christian iconography in 1966, when Catholic priests petitioned the artist to interpret the Passion of Christ. The resulting body of work is titled *Fourteen Stations of the Cross*. *Bruce Onobrakpeya: The Mask and the Cross* showcases the earliest of these commissions, from the late 1960s, on display through January 21 at the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, 950 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC.

### Good Grub and God Dinner November 21 — 7 pm

Join us for a night out at a local restaurant for fellowship and casual discussion on an aspect of faith. Come solo or bring a friend, coworker, or partner. More details will be available soon!

### Large Print Worship Bulletin Now Available

On Sundays we will now have a limited number of large print worship bulletins available for those with low vision, or anyone who would benefit from this easier-to-read version during the worship service. (Please note they are only available for the traditional worship service at 8:30 am or 11 am.) If you are interested in utilizing this bulletin, please speak to an usher.

### A Message from Pastor Zhanibek

Your Reverence, dear sister in Christ Sandy Kessinger!

Christmas greetings to you from me personally and on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of St. Mary in the city of Ulyanovsk. Our Savior Jesus Christ is born!

On Christmas night an angelic song was once heard to never cease. And now believers in Christ are joining this angelic song with their hearts and lips to proclaim Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace!

I wish you and all your flock peace. May the hearts of all those who listen to your sermon sing glory to God. And may the joy of Christmas illuminate the whole world. And may the Christ Child, who was once born in Bethlehem, be born in the hearts of all those around you so that your prayers for the salvation of your loved ones and those far away might be fully answered!

Merry Christmas!

With prayers for you,  
pastor Zhanibek Batenov  
December 23, 2024, Ulyanovsk, Russia

### 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.

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. 10

### Hearing Tips During Worship

If you are having difficulty hearing during worship services, we have a sheet with recommendations to help improve your experience. Just stop by to pick up a copy from one of the sound system operators in the back.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

### *Including Hybrid Options*

Sun., 1/5	<i>Sunday Worship Service times</i>	
	8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am (Live stream first two services)	
	8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Church nursery is available for infants and toddlers
	9:45 am - 10:45 am	Faith Formation and Confirmation Classes
		High School “Bagels & Bible” Class (Teen Center)
		Table Talk Adult Education (Conference Room/Hybrid)
Mon., 1/6	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Racial Justice & Equity Book Club (Zoom)
Tues., 1/7	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Women’s Prayer Group (Conference Room/Hybrid)
Weds., 1/8	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Weds. AM Bible Study (Conference Room/Hybrid)
	9:00 am - 11:30 am	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Weds. PM Bible Study (Zoom)
Thurs., 1/9	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Men’s Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite A)
	7:45 pm - 8:45 pm	Traditional Choir Practice (Music Suite B)

## PASTOR AND STAFF OF REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor	Pastor Sandy Kessinger	ext. 102 cell: 703-635-4672	psk@redeemermclean.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@redeemermclean.org
Director of Preschool	Katrina McNair	ext. 111	preschool@redeemermclean.org
Evening Facility Host	Brian Doyle		
Executive Director of Redeemer Renaissance	Linda McConnaughay	ext. 106	lmconnaughay@redeemermclean.org
Facilities Director	Bill Parks	ext. 110	bparks@redeemermclean.org
Financial Coordinator	Sara Nail	ext. 103	sara@redeemermclean.org
Nursery Care	Bernarda Rodriguez Lusbi Pina		
Office Manager	Cynthia Finocchiaro	ext. 101	cynthia@redeemermclean.org
Organist	Joy Mentzel		joymentzel@gmail.com
Pianist	Kathy Detwiler		
Youth & Communications Coordinator	Grace Howie		grace@redeemermclean.org
Youth Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com

# ***Please Remember to Pray....***

## **For Healing**

Aaron  
Carol  
Jan  
Jeff  
Jesse  
Trevor W.  
Achikian, Maral  
Antokas, Fr. Dimitrios  
Augustenborg Epstein, Erica  
Ayers, Kyle  
Bates, Barbara  
Blakey, Patrick  
Blankenship, Bob  
Bornmann, Keith  
Canes, David  
Carter, Nicole  
Cavallo, Michael  
Cooke, Martin  
Culhane, Ed  
DeGioia, Jack  
Devine, Daniel  
Diaz, Martin  
Dotterweich, Pam  
Duval, Louis  
Eifler, Ruth  
Geissl, Irene  
Gelfand, Roy  
Glindemann, Keith  
Graham, Jim  
Gross, Kathy  
Henkel, Vernon Jr.  
Heuer, Mark  
Holmlund, Gwenn  
Hughes, William  
Hunter, Baxter  
Keating, Kathleen and Michael  
Kutscher, Betsy  
Lavery, Margaret

Leong, Helen  
Maheshwari, Mohan  
Martin, Beverly  
Martin, Trevor  
Miller, Coletta  
Millward, Jane  
Moe, Mike  
Myers, Kathy  
Ogg, Lawrence  
Ogg, Lornie & Eleanor  
Parks, Mary Jane  
Pujol Rodriguez, Esther  
Reblitz, Jennifer  
Ryding, Karin  
Schiedt, Mary Jane  
Scheinblum, Terry  
Schmid, Rahizza  
Schneck, Pastor Tony  
Schumacher family  
Shaefer, Phil  
Stear, Carolyn  
Stolar, Bob  
Sullivan, Katie  
Swenson-Reinhold, Ephraim  
Teutler, Alexander  
Teutler, Olga  
Vender, Harriet  
Vosburgh, Leah  
White, Jerry  
Winter, Joyce  
Yesko, Edmund  
Yox, Karol  
Zimmerman, Dawn

## **For Comfort in Death**

The family & friends of Karen  
The family & friends of Ric Francke  
The family & friends of Bonnie Jares  
The family & friends of Charles Lettow

## **For Comfort and Peace**

Brittin, Michael  
Collins, Josephine  
Portis, Carol  
Peggy  
Smith, Trish Layton

## **For Safety**

All refugees  
All our military and diplomatic people  
throughout the world  
All those who serve to protect our country  
Erik  
Armas, Jesús  
The Uriel family

## **For all healthcare workers and first responders**

Dominic, Elizabeth, and Ian  
Sharon  
Tara and family  
Kuhagen, Leslie  
Kutscher, Karin  
Laredo, Sandra

## **For Comfort and Strength**

Dave  
Katelyn  
Anna & Stephen  
Sarah & Jenny  
Franks, Hannah  
Taylor, Charles  
Weber, Amy and Emerson and Fynn  
Family of Kevin and Yam  
Those who suffer from depression  
Those who suffer from mental illness

### **Prayer List Note:**

*To add names to this list, you may email or telephone the church office. We want all our prayers to be current —so please keep us up to date on those whom you have added to our prayer list. With the exception of safety prayers for our military, we will remove names after one month unless we hear from you. We are prepared to pray indefinitely.*

## **Prayers for the World, our Nation, and our Community**

We pray for the people in countries around the world where there is violence and war.  
We pray for the people in areas where there have been natural disasters.  
We pray for improved relationships among all nations.  
We pray for our newly elected leaders.  
We pray for the unemployed and the underemployed.  
We pray for all those facing persecution and oppression because of their faith and/or ethnicity.

**Each month we will offer prayers for one of our congregations in the Virginia Conference.**

**We are part of the Virginia Conference of the ELCA Metro DC Synod.**

**We pray for Zion Lutheran Church in Lovettsville, and their pastor, Andreas Armstrong.**

**We also have a prayer partnership with Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Mary in Ulyanovsk, Russia, and their pastor, Zhanibek Batenov.**

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