



Our Mission: Sharing Christ's love with the greatest number of people



Life at Redeemer

Visit us online!

Redeemer Lutheran Church
1545 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, VA 22101
Tel: 703.356.3346 | redeemermclean.org
church@redeemermclean.org
Pastor Sandy Kessinger - psk@redeemermclean.org

March 16, 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. 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

- #769 If You But Trust in God to Guide You
- #781 Children of the Heavenly Father
- #770 Give Me Jesus
- #645 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Counting our Blessings during Lent Kids Socks for Share

During Lent this year we are counting the many blessings in our lives. The blessings calendar, available [here](#) or in Crossroads, has a question for each day to help us give thanks.

Once a week there is an "action" related to the "question". After answering a "question" about shoes in our homes, we give thanks for shoes and socks that keep our feet warm. The "action" is to help keep local grade-school children's feet warm by putting a pair of socks in the Blessings box in Crossroads. Share of McLean has a Clothing Room in addition to the Food Pantry that Redeemer has supported for many years. For more information about Share of McLean and other ways you can help, go to shareofmclean.org.

Baptism Today

Today we, the Redeemer Congregation, welcome into baptized membership Walter Frank Brainard. His parents are Samantha and Jamie Brainard, and sponsors are Lisa Fuller and Keri Wood. We pray God's richest blessings on Walter Frank as he and his parents continue to grow in faith.

Wednesday Lenten Service & Dinner

March 19— Supper 6:30 pm | Prayer 7:30 pm

Come and pray with us as we hold an Evening Prayer service every Wednesday at 7:30 pm through April 9. A light supper will be offered at 6:30 pm. The dinner will be hosted by Good Grub and God. During the service Max Miller will reflect on the Biblical character, Nathan.

Working Session Led by Pastor Kessinger

March 22— 10 am to 12 pm

Several members of the congregation who have been impacted by the recent federal layoffs have reached out to Pastor Kessinger. Others have reached out wondering how they can be of help. On Saturday, March 22, from 10 am to 12 pm, Pastor Kessinger will facilitate an open conversation to listen and develop concrete ways that our church can be of assistance. Pastor hopes that anyone who has been affected by these changes would attend. She also hopes that those who are in any position to help in any way would also attend.

If you are able to come, please email Pastor Kessinger at psk@redeemermclean.org. If you could come if we offered childcare, please let the pastor know that as well. We will do our best to accommodate you if we know there is a need. In the meanwhile, please look at our website and announcements for links to resources in our area.

Gwenn Holmlund

On February 27, Gwenn peacefully passed away at the tender age of 93. A memorial service will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 12, at 11 am. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. Please keep the family in your prayers, especially her sons, Mark, Kevin, and Jon.

Weekly Construction Project Update

At this point, it looks like construction will start in mid-August with the renovation work beginning in the classroom wing first. That portion should be completed in November allowing us to then reoccupy that space. Next the office wing will be closed, and renovation work will start there with planned completion in February. These timeframes from the contractors are longer than we had hoped for, so we will be working with the construction team to see where the dates can be improved without significantly increasing costs.

Sign Up to Host Coffee Hour

Everyone is welcome to host Sunday morning Coffee Hour. Get your friends, family, or ministry group together and sign up! It is a great way to meet people, welcome visitors, and inform people about your ministry/group. All coffee supplies, training, and written instructions are provided. If you have any questions, contact [Kim Wenk](#). Go to bit.ly/RedeemerCoffeeHour to sign up.

Information for Federal Workers / Contractors

Below are four websites with information for individuals affected by recent federal workforce actions.

- Fairfax County “Federal Workforce Resource Hub”
 - <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/federal-government-resource-hub>
- Civil Service Strong: “Resources for Civil Servants”
 - <https://www.civilservicestrong.org/resources>
- Commonwealth of Virginia “Resources for Impacted Federal Workers”
 - <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/constituent-services/federal-employee-resources/>
- United States Department of Labor: “Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees”
 - https://oui.dolleta.gov/unemploy/docs/factsheet/UC-FE_FactSheet.pdf

An “Employment Resource Fair” will be held at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville on March 23, 12:30-2:30pm. It is sponsored by Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services, Faith Communities in Action. A flyer with more information can be found at bit.ly/41H3YDH.

Theaters across the Washington, DC area are offering free and discounted tickets to federal workers affected by layoffs and furloughs. Please visit bit.ly/41J0DnK for a list of participating theaters.

Pancake Supper— Thank you!

Over \$1000 raised for our Youth Ministry

We want to thank everyone who volunteered and attended the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4. This year we raised \$1144 for our Youth Ministry! We want to especially thank Kim Wenk and her team and the youth who helped out in various ways. We also thank Redeemer Renaissance for a beautiful art show.

Youth Events

Parents' Coffee Today

Fellowship Hall— 10:45 am

Parents are invited to join for coffee and an opportunity to build fellowship with other parents and families at Redeemer. The gym will be open during this time for the youth.

Service Project & Pizza

March 23— 12 pm

Join us on Sunday immediately after services for pizza and a service project in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up [here](#) so we know how many to expect. A few parent volunteers are needed, but all parents are welcome to attend!

Good Trouble: Being Bold and Boundless

March 29— High School

The Metro D.C. Synod Racial Equity Team and Youth + Family Committee invite youth to a powerful event on racial justice. Led by Dr. Marci Vandiver, this session will include interactive activities, racial education, and a time of fellowship and discussion. This will be held in-person or online from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. For more information and to register, please visit this [link](#).

Young Adult Group Meeting

March 25— 7 pm

Young adults are invited to attend our meeting hosted at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church. Dinner will be provided. This group is a partnership between Redeemer, Lewinsville, and Immanuel Presbyterian Churches. Please contact [Grace Howie](#) with any questions.

Please submit contributions for *Tidings* no later than March 20 for inclusion in the April issue. Content should be sent to the [church office](#).

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Including Hybrid Options

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Sun., 3/16 | <i>Sunday Worship Service Times</i> | | |
| | 8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am | (<i>Live stream first two services</i>) | |
| | 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | Church nursery is available for infants and toddlers | |
| | 9:45 am - 10:45 am | Faith Formation and Confirmation Group Classes | |
| | | High School "Bagels & Bible" Class (Teen Center) | |
| | 10:45 am - 11:15 am | Table Talk Adult Education (Conference Room/Hybrid) | |
| | 10:55 am - 11:25 am | Parents' Coffee | |
| Mon., 3/17 | 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Youth Choir Rehearsal | |
| Tues., 3/18 | 9:30 am - 10:30 am | Racial Justice & Equity Book Club (Zoom) | |
| Wed., 3/19 | 9:00 am - 11:30 am | Women's Prayer Group (Conference Room/Hybrid) | |
| | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) | |
| | 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Lenten Dinner (Fellowship Hall) | |
| Thurs., 3/20 | 8:00 am - 9:00 am | Lenten Service (Sanctuary) | |
| | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm | Men's Bible Study (Zoom) | |
| | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library/Hybrid) | |
| | 7:45 pm - 8:45 pm | Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite A) | |
| Sat., 3/22 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Traditional Choir Practice (Music Suite B) | |
| | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Working Session led by Pastor Sandy (Fellowship Hall) | |
| | | Synod Discernment Day (Fellowship Hall) | |

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 McConaughay | ext. 106 | lmcconnaughay@redeemermclean.org |
| Director of Preschool | Katrina McNair | ext. 111 | preschool@redeemermclean.org |
| Evening Facility Host | Brian Doyle | | |
| Executive Director of Redeemer Renaissance | Linda McConaughay | ext. 106 | mcconnaughay@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
Bettina
Carol
CH
Charlotte
Christina
Geri
Jana
Jeff
Jesse
Kim
Mandy
Marie
Michael and Jana and family
Nancy and Peter
Steve M.
Trevor W.
Achikian, Maral
Antokas, Fr. Dimitrios
Augustenborg Epstein, Erica
Ayers, Kyle
Bates, Barbara
Blakey, Patrick
Blankenship, Bob
Born, King "Song"
Bornmann, Keith
Boyer, Charlie
Brown, Terrence
Canes, David
Capodanno, Philippe
Carter, Nicole
Cavallo, Michael
Cooke, Martin
Culhane, Ed
DeGioia, Jack
Detweiler, Shirley
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
Himes, Jack
Hughes, William
Hunter, Baxter
Keating, Kathleen and Michael
Knorr, Lorelei and Gene
Kutscher, Betsy
Leong, Chee Lee
Leong, Helen
Maheshwari, Mohan
Martin, Beverly
Martin, Trevor
McManus, Pete and Ada
Miller, Coletta
Moe, Mike
Myers, Kathy
Pujol Rodriguez, Esther
Reblitz, Jennifer
Richmond, Dan
Ryding, Karin
Schiedt, Mary Jane
Scheinblum, Terry
Schmid, Rahizza
Schneck, Pastor Tony
Schumacher family
Shaefer, Phil
Stear, Carolyn
Steinmuller, Chris
Stolar, Bob
Sullivan, Katie
Teutler, Alexander
Teutler, Olga
Vender, Harriet
Vosburgh, Leah
White, Jerry
Winter, Joyce
Wu, Jian
Yesko, Edmund
Yox, Karol
Zimmerman, Dawn

For Comfort in Death

The family & friends of Gwenn Holmlund

For Comfort and Peace

Brittin, Michael
Collins, Josephine
Meck, Eric
Portis, Carol
Peggy
Terry and Jana

For Safety

All refugees
All our military & diplomatic people throughout the world
All those who serve to protect our country
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

Ari
Dave
Katelyn
Anna and Stephen
Sarah and Jenny
Franks, Hannah
Martin, Ramona
Ogg, Lawrence
Stewart, Katie
Taylor, Charles
Weber, Amy and Emerson and Fynn
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 people in countries around the world that experience violence, war, and/or political division.
We pray for people who live in areas where there have been disasters of any kind.
We pray for the families who lost loved ones in recent plane crashes.
We pray for improved relationships among all nations.
We pray for our elected leaders that they lead with compassion while making hard decisions.
We pray for the unemployed and the underemployed and all federal workers.
We pray for all those facing persecution and oppression.

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 Christ the King Lutheran Church, Great Falls, and their pastor, Hank Langknecht.

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