



Visit us online!

Life at Redeemer

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 2, 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

- | | |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| #317 | Jesus on the Mountain Peak |
| #676 | Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak |
| #656 | Blest Be the Tie That Binds |
| #864 | Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven |

Interim Pastor Survey

As you know, Pastor Kessinger will be retiring from her position as Senior Pastor at the end of June. Pastor Sarah Garret Krey, Assistant to the Bishop, will be with Council in March to discuss the appointment of an Interim Pastor. Council is asking for feedback to share with her. Please provide your thoughts by filling out the survey available digitally [here](#) or through a paper copy available in the Crossroads. The survey deadline is March 2.

Counting our Blessings during Lent

Redeemer's Social Outreach Ministry has created a simple way for us during Lent to count the many blessings in our lives. It is so easy not to notice our blessings or perhaps to recognize some but not others. So, the hope is that each day we, both adults and children, stop to answer the question assigned to that day and give thanks. Please see your bulletin insert for a copy of the blessing calendar. For more information and a list version of the blessings, please refer to the March edition of *Tidings*.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Featuring "Art is Served: A Tasteful Exhibition" by Redeemer Renaissance Artists March 4 — 6 to 7 pm

All are invited to come support Redeemer's Youth Ministry by enjoying pancakes and fellowship. Please bring your family, friends, and neighbors!

Bring Your Palms to Supper

Please bring your palms from last year's Palm Sunday service. We will have a brief service at the end of the supper to bury the Alleluias and burn the palms that will be made into ashes.

Volunteers are needed to make the Pancake Supper a success. How can you help?

Both adults and youth are needed to set up, serve, collect donations, and clean up. Volunteering is a great way for youth to earn Community Service Hours! Click [this link](#) to let us know that we can count on your help!

Art is Served: A Tasteful Exhibition

Join us at the pancake supper to experience an exhibition, thoughtfully painted to inspire conversation, based on the common thread of sharing in the world around us. Drink in the sparkling creativity and passion of each masterpiece!

Ash Wednesday—March 5

Join us as we enter the season of Lent by attending an Ash Wednesday service. This year we will have two services, one at noon, and the other at 7:30 pm. There will be a simple supper offered at 6:30 pm before the evening service. You can view the live stream of the 7:30 service [here](#).

Joint Ramadan Iftar and Lenten Dinner March 12 — 6:30 pm

On March 12, Redeemer will host the American Turkish Friendship Association for a joint iftar dinner and Lenten supper. This will be an excellent opportunity to bring our communities together, share a meal, and further strengthen the meaningful connection between our congregations. We will have a short interfaith prayer service at 8 pm—a beautiful way to share in faith and reflection. If you are interested in attending, please sign up at [this link](#).

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

Weekly Construction Project Update

In order to complete our construction project, we are planning to have a new mortgage of \$1.6M. Members have asked how that compares to what Redeemer has done in the past. Prior to when Pastor Kessinger was called to Redeemer, we had two mortgages totaling \$2.3M. The monthly principal and interest payments were approximately \$15K per month. We paid off the first mortgage 7 years early leaving a \$10K monthly mortgage payment remaining, which was then paid off 6 years early. Therefore, we have handled larger obligations in the past and have paid them off ahead of schedule.

Help Lutheran Social Services Help Refugees

Lutheran Social Services National Capital Area (LSSNCA) is one of the local agencies contracted by the federal government to provide services to refugees arriving legally, including Afghan Allies (those who assisted the U.S. mission in Afghanistan). The current federal grant funding has not been released and the \$2 million amount for services already provided has not yet been reimbursed. 42 staff members have been laid off and others have been furloughed.

LSSNCA needs financial donations to continue providing basic services. Redeemer's Social Outreach Ministry has sent the congregation's annual budgeted donation. Individuals can help by donating at <https://lssnca.org/donate/> or by sending a check:

ATTN: LSSNCA Development
1730 Rhode Island Ave NW
Suite 712
Washington, DC 20036

Sign Up to Host Coffee Hour

Who makes the coffee? You can! Everyone is welcome to host Sunday morning Coffee Hour. Get your friends, family or ministry/group together and sign up!

What does the host do? Make the coffee, set up, keep the coffee area tidy and replenished, and clean up--and have fun! You can even go to service once things are set up. If you want to provide a simple treat like mini muffins, donut holes, bite-size breads or pastries--store bought is fine--that is appreciated but not required.

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 (kbwenk@gmail.com). Click [here](#) to sign up.

Youth Events

Youth Leadership Sunday March 9

Youth Leadership Sunday is next week! This is an opportunity for children to actively participate in worship services as they attend with their parents. You will see our youth serving as greeters, ushers, acolytes, and readers. The Youth Choir and individual musicians will also perform. If your youth is interested in participating please sign up at [this link](#).

Metro D.C. Synod Virginia Conference Play + Pray Event (Grades 6-12) March 9— 2 to 4 pm

Middle and high school students are invited to come play, eat, and join in fun and fellowship. It is completely free and students are encouraged to bring a friend! The Virginia Conference event will be from 2-4 pm at Bowlero Sterling. Please register [here](#) and email [Grace Howie](#) so she knows who from Redeemer plans to attend.

Good Trouble: Being Bold and Boundless March 8 — Middle School March 29 — High School

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

Guest Speaker Robyne Davis Navigating the Emotional Rollercoaster: Practical Strategies for Emotional Regulation March 11— 6:30 pm

Redeemer Renaissance will host Robyne Davis, a Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Special Education Teacher, and board-certified Dance/Movement Therapist with over 20 years of clinical experience. Please join us for an informative discussion that will provide concrete tools and strategies to help your child understand and regulate their feelings, leading to calmer days. This is a free event; all are welcome.

Tax-Advantaged Giving

Remember there is a tax advantage of giving appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares to the church as part of your planned giving. This method allows you to minimize capital gains taxes and yet provide the full current value and financial benefits to the programs and ministries at Redeemer. At the top of Redeemer's website there is a tab labeled "More" and then "Giving" and under the "All Other Options" there is additional information and forms available for your use.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Including Hybrid Options

Sun., 2/23	<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)
		Table Talk Adult Education (Conference Room/Hybrid)
	10:55 am - 11:25 am	Youth Choir Rehearsal
Mon., 3/3	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Racial Justice & Equity Book Club (Zoom)
Tues., 3/4	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Women's Prayer Group (Conference Room/Hybrid)
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Pancake Supper and Art Show (Gym)
	7:00 pm - 7:15 pm	Burying the Alleluias and Burning of Palms
Weds., 3/5	9:00 am - 11:30 am	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Lenten Dinner
	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs., 3/6	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Men’s Bible Study (Zoom)
	10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library/Hybrid)
	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@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

Please Remember to Pray....

For Healing

Aaron
Carol
CH
Jana
Jeff
Jesse
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
Budde, Jackie
Canes, David
Capodanno, Philippe
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
Himes, Jack
Holmlund, Gwenn
Hughes, William
Hunter, Baxter
Keating, Kathleen and Michael

Knorr, Lorelei & Gene
Kutscher, Betsy
Leong, Chee Lee
Leong, Helen
Maheshwari, Mohan
Martin, Beverly
Martin, Trevor
McManus, Pete & 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
Wuu, Jian
Yesko, Edmund
Yox, Karol
Zimmerman, Dawn

For Comfort in Death

The family & friends of Pam G.
The family & friends of Bonnie Jares
The family & friends of Patricia Layton-Smith

For Comfort and Peace

Brittin, Michael
Collins, Josephine
Meck, Eric
Portis, Carol
Peggy

For Safety

All refugees
All our military and 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 & Stephen
Sarah & 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 Bethel 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.