

An Invitation to Serve



Ministry Life and Activities at

Redeemer Lutheran Church

3637 Spring Arbor Road

Jackson, Michigan 49201

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“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.” Romans 12:10-13



Redeemer's Serving Opportunities

In meeting the needs of others (both within and outside the church), the fellowship of believers needs to have people like you participating in any way you can. Whether it's bringing food to a potluck, assisting with the Sunday service, attending a Bible Study, helping fold bulletins or calling others who need encouragement, there are opportunities for everyone at Redeemer.

"Where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I among them"
Matthew 18:20

Sunday Morning Worship and Fellowship

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:00 a .m. | Divine Service
Coffee Fellowship following |
| 9:20 a.m. | KidsVenture, Youth and Adult Bible Study |
| 10:30 a.m. | Celebration Service
Coffee Fellowship following |

Sunday Bible Studies

Adult Bible Study – Challenging, informative Bible and book studies are held upstairs in the library or sanctuary. They are led by Pastor Geml, and at times, by staff and congregational members. The class format makes it easy for a newcomer to join in at any time. Come grow with us!

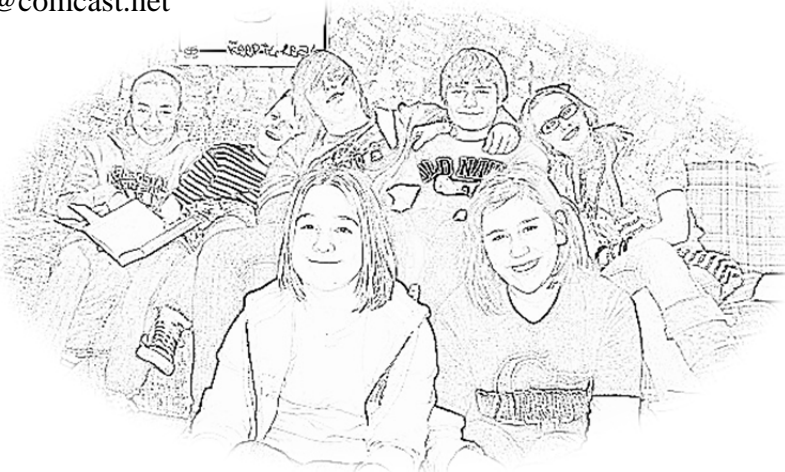
Teen Bible Classes - How can you live in this world but not be of this world? Is there a way to be a good Christian without being considered odd or strange by your classmates? How does God fit into your life today? These are just a few of the topics up for discussion.

- Junior High, Grades 6-8 meet in the Junior High Room. Located in the lower level educational wing at the end of the hall, then left. This class is led by **Craig Britton**.
- Senior High, Grades 9-12 meets in the Teen Room. Located in the lower level, down the main hall, first classroom on the left. This class for teenagers is led by **Steve Alenius**.

KidsVenture—Beginning at 9:20 a.m. on Sundays, children from age 3 through 5th grade learn God’s Word in a fun, age-appropriate venue. All classes are in the lower level.

- Infants - age 2 in lower level Nursery.
- Preschool age 3-5 meet in the Jungle Room.
- Grades 1 - 3 meet in the Clubhouse.
- Grades 4 - 5 meet in the Tree House Room.

Contact: **Craig Britton**, Director of Ministries, at 517.750.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net



Worship Arts & Sunday Morning Service

Worship at Redeemer Lutheran Church is the opportunity to receive from God His gifts of love and forgiveness that come to us through His Word and Sacraments. We, then, in response to His grace lift our prayers and praises to Him. In worship we are empowered to live God-pleasing lives in our various callings in life. We have a variety of venues...

Adult Choir

The Adult Choir sings regularly in the 8:00 a.m. service and for special worship services. There are no requirements other than a love of praising God! Even if you cannot read music, you are welcome to join. Practice is held on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the choir loft in the sanctuary.

Contact: **Kris Nowak**, Choir Director at 517.740.8715

Audio/Visual Team

The Audio/Visual Team encompasses three areas - sound, presentation and lighting. Sound technicians are responsible for the sound equipment and proper usage. Presentation volunteers are responsible for creating and executing PowerPoint and Media Shout presentations. Lighting technicians are responsible for stage lighting in the late service.

Contact: **Deb Fall**, Director of Worship at debfall@comcast.net or 517.250.4863.

Chancel Guild

The Chancel Guild maintains the chancel area of the sanctuary, the vestments and the communion vessels. Chancel is responsible for preparation of these items before and after each service. If you like needlework, decorating, ironing and caring for fine silver, then the Chancel Guild welcomes you!

Contact: **Lynette Luksan**, President of the Chancel Guild at lkluksan@yahoo.com or call the church office at 517.750.3100

Connect U Center Hosts

The purpose of Redeemer's Connect U Center is to connect a guest or regular attendee with important information AND with a real person – that is the Connect U Center host. The hosts' job is to smile, be friendly and engage people who come to the center in conversation. You will have the opportunity to share things about Redeemer and refer them to someone in order for them to pursue an interest or get questions answered.

Contact: **Diane Scouten**, Church Office Manager at rlcofc@comcast.net or 517.750.3100

Fellowship Coffee Hour

Reach out and extend Redeemer's hospitality to our guests and regular attendees through the offering of homemade and other provided treats in addition to the coffee, tea and lemonade. Sunday morning fellowship enhances a guests' experience and provides yet another welcoming opportunity.

Contact: **Phyllis Donnelly** at 517.795.4136 to help by picking up donuts or to bring in homemade treats for either service.

Greeters

Greeters are instantly recognized by their smiling faces and helpfulness before and after both services. We want to make our guests and regular attendees feel welcome every Sunday! One of the Core Values at Redeemer is, "We believe that God has called us to reach out with the love of Christ to meet the needs of people both outside and within our congregation." As a greeter you have the opportunity to convey God's Love from the moment people walk in the door.

Teams of four greeters welcome visitors and members alike before each service. These teams are made up of men, women, and families who are members of Redeemer and care about the comfort and welcome of our visitors.

Contact: **Diane Scouten**, Church Office Manager at rlcofc@comcast.net or 517.750.3100

Hand Bell Choir

The sound of hand bells is heavenly. This unique aspect of Redeemers music ministry uplifts the soul, bringing joy and peace to the worshipers in the 8:00 a.m. service. The members of the hand bell choir develop their musical skills and ability to work together by practicing at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays every other week. This ministry is the place for you if you have basic hand to eye coordination, a strong sense of rhythm, the ability to follow the notes and are looking for camaraderie.

Contact: **Kris Nowak**, Choir Director at 517.740.8715

Instrumental Music

Use your instrumental talent to praise the Lord during both of the worship services. Whether with solos, duets, keyboard, strings, brass, woodwinds or percussion, all are encouraged and valued.

Contact: **Deb Fall**, Director of Worship at debfall@comcast.net or 517.250.4863.

Men's Choir

Redeemer Men's Choir sings in the 8:00 a.m. service, on the third Sunday of each month. They perform hymns a cappella. All men are welcome to participate, even those who think they cannot sing! The Men's Choir practices on Saturday mornings from 9:30-10:00 a.m.

Contact: **Ted Miller**, Men's Choir Director at 517.750.2126

Newcomers' Fellowship

The purpose of Newcomers' Fellowship is to give our new people the chance to become acquainted with others in our church and to help everyone learn about the different ministries of Redeemer. Newcomers' Fellowship meets the first Sunday of every month for a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass). Everyone is encouraged to come for the potlucks and help welcome new people to the Redeemer Family.

Contact: **Phyllis Donnelly** at 517.795.4136, **Dave & Kim McFarland** at 517.796.1467, or **Linda Hunter** at 517.787.0835

Nursery

This important ministry is a wonderful place to serve if you enjoy caring for young children under the age of 3. By serving in this ministry you are allowing young parents the chance to be filled and nurtured during both worship services and Bible Study.

Contact: **Kim McFarland** at 517.796.1467

Organists

Redeemer's organists accompany hymns and provide prelude and postlude music in the early service, and at times, provide music for funerals and weddings or accompany special choral pieces. While previous organ experience is helpful, it is not necessary and anyone proficient in piano can be trained.

Contact: **Deb Fall**, Director of Worship at debfall@comcast.net or 517.250.4863.

Praise Team

The Praise Team leads the music for the 10:30 a.m. worship service. All interested instrumentalists (keyboards, guitars, percussion, brass, woodwinds) and vocalists should contact **Deb Fall** for an audition. Participation schedules are flexible. Practice is in the RAC on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: **Deb Fall**, Director of Worship at atdebfall@comcast.net or 517.250.4863.

Readers

At each 8:00 a.m. worship service a volunteer reads the first and second Bible readings for the day. Schedules are rotated among the volunteers.

Contact: **Kirk Balcom** at 517.789.1003

Ushers

By serving as an usher, you have the opportunity to help guests and regular attendees feel comfortable at Redeemer. Many times people make a decision about a church based on first impressions. One of the Core Values at Redeemer states, "People matter to God and therefore matter to us." You have the opportunity to convey our values by smoothing the way for people to participate in the service.

At both services, ushers welcome all those coming to worship by offering a friendly smile and a helping hand where needed. Duties include: handing out bulletins; directing people to communion; passing the offering plate and more. Teams of four ushers, made up of men, women and families from our congregation, provide practical care for our visitors and members alike.

Contact: **The Church Office** at 517.750.3100

Weekday Ministries

Backpack Program

Redeemer members reach out to needy children at Frost School, 9:00 a.m. each Thursday morning during the school year by filling backpacks with food for the weekend. Breakfast, lunch and dinner items are included. The recipients are chosen by school staff and the food is distributed discreetly.

Our annual **Spring Rummage Sale** proceeds go to support this ministry.

Contact: **Karen Balcom** at 517.789.1003 or **Ken & Deanna Brandt** at 517.782.6157 if you are interested in helping with this community outreach.



Bible Studies

Redeemer offers other Bible studies on varying topics and in different formats during the week, throughout the year. These studies are offered to mature us spiritually and to promote a closer walk with the Lord, each other and open to the community.

Pastor Geml leads a study that meets weekly on Thursday's from 2-3:30 p.m. in the church library. The class format makes it easy for a newcomer to join in at any time.

Beth Moore Bible Studies are hosted here too in the Spring and Fall.

Contact: **Craig Britton**, Director of Ministries, at 517.787.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net or visit our website at redeemerjackson.org.

Biblical Garden

Redeemer's Biblical Garden was started in 1999 and is located at the main entrance of the church. The plants in the Garden have religious connections to the Bible. Some of the plants in the garden are: Tulips-Song of Solomon 2:12; Crocus-Isaiah 35:1; Sage-Exodus 37:17-18; Lily-Hosea 14:5; Mint-Luke 11:42; Joseph of Coats Rose-Song of Solomon 2:1. If you would like to read more about our plants, trees and corresponding Bible verses, there is more information located at the Connect U Center.

Contact: **Jan Wetters** at 517.563.2638 if you are interested in helping with the garden.

Chrismon Tree Committee

This group handles the Chrismon tree in the Sanctuary from set up to tear down, as well as the maintenance of the tree skirts, stands and the Chrismon decorations themselves. This group repairs ornaments, creates new ones and decorates the trees for the **Advent & Christmas** season. If you enjoy being creative this may be an ideal activity for you.

Note: Each Chrismon is a representation of a Christian symbol of the person, life or ministry of Jesus Christ or the life, ministry or history of the Christian Church through the use of a single image, emblem or monogram.

Contact: **Jan Wetters** at 517.563.2638

Children's Christmas Program



Creating memories and celebrating Christ's birth in a hands-on way. This program has wonderful potential for community outreach. 'Children' of all ages make this a church wide production. Preparation for the Christmas Program at Redeemer usually begins in October with an open meeting for those who are interested. Regular practices begin in November and continue into December on Saturday mornings. Many different talents and skills are employed, so everyone can find a way to become involved.

Contact: **Kathy Voss** at 517.688.3398

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Spring brings excitement as we crawl out of those tough winter months. Entering into Holy Week Redeemer celebrates with a family targeted event known as our *Community Easter Egg Hunt*. Games, prizes, candy and of course '*The Hunt*' is wrapped around a wonderful Easter message as we help families with Pre-K through Grade 5 children get a handle on the real meaning of Easter.

Areas of service include game creation and monitoring, welcome center sign-ins, promotions and of course egg hiding! Follow-up contact with visiting families is another important element that you can help with. Anyone anytime is also welcome to simply show up and join in with the crew. '*The Hunt*' takes place the Saturday before Palm Sunday and planning gets under way about 1 month prior.

Contact: **Craig Britton**, Director of Ministries, at 517.787.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net

Countryside Worship

Members of Redeemer and Pastor Geml visit John Ganton's Countryside Care Center the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. for a worship service. This is Redeemer's longest running outreach into the community at 34 years and counting! Join us for this special time of coming alongside the elderly to bring God's Word and encouragement to them.

Contact: **Pastor Geml** at the church office, 517.750.3100

Fellowship Committee

Our function is to arrange weekly coffee fellowships, periodic fellowship meals (e.g. Lent and Advent) and funeral dinners. This is a great opportunity for church service and provides an unstructured opportunity for meeting other members without the constrictions of a conventional organization. Our aim is to provide a relaxed, comfortably homey atmosphere for friendly chatting. We are open to suggestions and welcome groups, families or individuals to sign up for as many or as few of these opportunities as they wish.

Contact: **Phyllis Donnelly** at 517.795.4136

Heaven's Helpers

Heaven's Helpers is a group of caring Christian people who come together, when there is a need within the church or the Jackson community to help families with minor home repairs, packing and moving, house cleaning for temporary shut-ins, convalescing members or other miscellaneous 'neighborly' help. **A.J. Hunter** and **Gail Sonnenberg** are the organizers for this group's activity.

Contact: **The Church Office** at 517.750.3100 if you know of a need or would like to help.

LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League)

A Synod-wide organization, this group is open to women of all ages. It is geared toward making people aware of the mission needs both at home and abroad. A chapter is being started here at Redeemer.

Contact: **Lynette Luksan** at 517.750.4772 or email lkluksan@yahoo.com

Meals Ministry

This outreach ministry provides meals to families and individuals who are recovering from a hospital stay, have a new baby or have a family member in the hospital and need a helping hand with meals. If you know of someone who needs help in this area or if you would like to provide a meal for someone with a need let us know.

Contact: **Gail Sonnenberg**, Meals Ministry Coordinator at 517.531.5483

New Ministries

Do you have a gift or talent you would like to put to use for God's glory?

Contact: **Craig Britton**, Director of Ministries, at 517.750.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net

Newsletter

The *Redeemer Reflection* is Redeemer's monthly newsletter, written and compiled for the benefit of our members and community. Included in the *Reflection* are informative articles on missions, community outreach, family, and prayer. It also serves as a tool to inform the congregation of upcoming events, training and serving opportunities.

The *Reflection* has a new topic for each month which is listed in the previous month's issue. Or the year's list of topics can be sent to you by the editor upon

request. New writers are always welcome. Articles can be emailed to the *Reflection* editor, **Peggy Bennitt**. The deadline is the 15th of the month preceding the issue. Early submissions are appreciated.

Hard copies of the *Redeemer Reflection* can be picked up at the Connect U Center on both levels of the church or a digital copy emailed to you. They can also be viewed on our website at www.RedeemerJackson.org.

Contact: **Peggy Bennit**, Editor at bennitt49@yahoo.com or 517.529.3924

Physical Properties

Physical Properties includes all properties belonging to Redeemer Lutheran Church at 3637 Spring Arbor Road in Jackson, Michigan. Membership at Redeemer includes the responsibility of maintaining this physical property that our Lord entrusts to our earthly care. If you love working with your hands, being outdoors or are talented in mechanical areas, join others in your Redeemer family in caring for our church property.

Contact: **Blair Bennitt**, Director of Physical Properties at 517.414.3988 or bebennitt@yahoo.com to volunteer.

Prayer Chain

There is power in prayer and the Prayer Chain links caring, praying members together in the strength of intercession for fellow members, as well as for those we touch through daily living.

Direct email posting: Redeemer_Prayers@comcast.net

Contact: **Carol Faris** at 517.750.3057 to become a part of the prayer chain or to put a prayer request on the chain if unable to email.

Quilters

Quilters usually share a 'coffee and cookie fellowship', working from 9:00 a.m. until noon on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. If you can sew, cut 6" or 8" squares or both, we'd love to have you share our fellowship and our mission. Our quilts are given to residents at the VA Hospital in Battle Creek and needy families in the area. If anyone knows of a family or individual suffering through hard times or an emergency need such as victims of fire, extended unemployment or homelessness, we will gladly provide a quilt(s) for them. Come join in the fun and fellowship; all are welcome!

Contact: **Deanna Brandt** at 517.782.6157

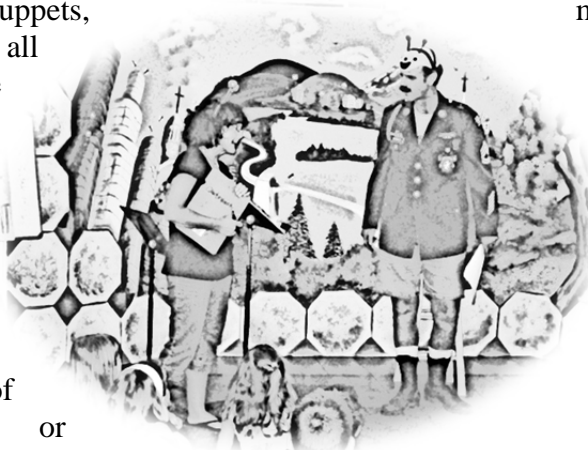
Servant Evangelism

Servant Evangelism consists of a group of Redeemer people going out into the community and finding opportunities to share the love of Jesus in practical ways. Servant Evangelism places a greater emphasis on serving people's needs instead of trying to get them to listen to a presentation about Jesus. When people are touched with a simple, no-strings-attached act of love, many of them become curious. Some may ask questions about what we believe or want to know about our church. Servant Evangelism is a low risk, practical outreach. It is giving away something free and it is High Grace! God is there and uses our acts of love to open up opportunities to talk about Jesus. Servant Evangelism is quite simply—FUN! (PLUS: This is a kid-friendly outreach; kids can participate, too!) Look for announcements each month and join us!

Contact: **Paul Rumohr** at 517.524.9086 or email paul@pcs-train.com

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at Redeemer is a fun-filled, high-energy, week-long adventure each summer where the Savior and His gospel are put on display in age-appropriate ways with themes that engage children Pre-K through the elementary grades. Parents and other adults are needed to creatively pass on the message of Jesus and His love through Bible teaching, drama, puppets, music, snacks, crafts and outrageous games all filled with the gospel message. If you love ministry to children, sense a calling to come along side young ones or even if you have never experienced the joy of loving kids for Christ, we have a place for you.



Contact: **Craig Britton**, Director of Ministries at 517.750.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net for more information on how God can use you in this life-changing endeavor. Hey, the life that changes just might be yours!

Young At Heart

If you are 50 or over, *Young At Heart* may be just what you're looking for! This group meets the first Wednesday of every month at noon in the Redeemer's Activity Center. A light meal is shared and the afternoon is spent playing board games or cards and enjoying the fellowship of other seniors.

Contact: **Birdie and Junior Rozelle** at 517.783.5809 or **Phyllis Donnelly** at 517.795.4136

Youth Activities

Bible studies, fun events and service projects are the focus of our youth and Christian teen fellowship. Pizza parties, lock-ins, camping, canoeing and caroling are just a few of the activities offered.

Contact: **Steve Alcenius** at 517.563.8150 or **John Highlen** at 517.629.9826 with ideas, suggestions, for information or to get involved.

Mission Support

Birthline

Birthline is a Christian, life-affirming organization that offers free, confidential services and support to any person facing a pregnancy whether planned, unplanned, a difficult pregnancy, or caring for an infant or toddler. This organization is open to all, and its services are available for mothers *and* fathers.

A Few Ways You Can Help:

- Financial support, one time or monthly
- Diapers (especially sizes 4-6)
- Formula (Enfamil brand)
- Baby food/cereal
- Books for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in English or Spanish, including Christian books.
- Modern books on pregnancy, parenting and child-rearing (English or Spanish).

Contact: **Dennis (Denny) Beach** at 517.529.9658

CRAVE in St. Louis

Redeemer has a personal interest in *CRAVE* in the city, which is a coffeehouse/mission church in the intercity of St. Louis, MO. Pastor John Rathje and his family are former members of Redeemer; we supported them throughout his seminary years and internship period at *CRAVE* and continue a modest monetary support.

Contact: **Craig Britton** at 517.750.3100 or cbritton4@comcast.net for more information about *CRAVE* and Pastor John's ministry.

Francis Street Food Bank

Redeemer members gather to help with the Food Bank at 3425 Francis Street (in the Red Cross building). In 2011 we set up and hand out food from 4 - 6 pm on March 30th, June 29th, August 31st and November 30th (the 5th Wednesday of the month)

Contact: **Dave and Fran Althouse** at 517.787.5963 or **Linda Kline** at the church office 517. 750.3100

World Missions

Because World Missions evangelism can encompass such a vast area, Redeemer has made the choice to focus on just two mission areas in order to concentrate our support for them.

- ❖ We support the **Erber Family in Nigeria, Africa**. Rev. David Erber was born and raised here in Jackson and is a missionary to Africa. You can participate by getting involved in one or more of these teams. 1) Prayer Care, 2) MACO*, 3) Support and encouragement for the Erber family and 4) Financial support for transportation needs.

**MACO stands for Master of Arts in Christian Outreach and is a program that trains native Africans to do the work of evangelism with their own people. Redeemer receives and organizes the supplies and books for MACO program, and then gets those items ready to be taken back to Nigeria by Rev. Erber on his twice yearly visits to the States.*

Contacts: **Prayer Care: Peggy Bennit** at 517.529.3924 or bennitt49@yahoo.com, **MACO: Blair Bennitt** at 517.414.3988 or bebennitt@yahoo.com, **Family: Craig Britton** at 750-3100 or cbritton@comcast.net, **Transportation: Ed Ferris** at 517.750.3057

- ❖ The **Open Doors** Ministry provides Bibles and other support to persecuted Christians throughout the world. At Redeemer, we support **Open Doors** with financial and prayer support. We provide our congregational members with daily prayer guides, special prayer requests and updates from the Open Doors website. To find out more visit www.opendoorsusa.org

Contact: **Ed Faris** at 517.750.3057

Resources For Members

Family Life Resource Center

The Redeemer Family Life Resource Center is located on the lower level of our church right next to the Clubhouse/Music room and is open whenever the church is. This small room contains several DVDs for building a family with Biblical dimensions, and notebooks filled with information to help families ‘do family in a healthy and God-fearing manner.’ Included here is marriage information, children and youth guidance and informational resources.

Whether the information is for you or a friend, everyone is encouraged to browse through the resources and borrow them. Since these resources are from my own (Peggy Bennett) library and studies, please fill out an available index card with your name, the name of the resource you are borrowing (title of book, video, article from a notebook), the day’s date and then place it in the card file provided.

Invest in your family. Spend time on them. Nowhere else are the returns from your investment so high. Spiritual family health is truly an investment in the future.

Contact: **Peggy Bennett, FLE** For more information or “family talk,” questions, or concerns, call 517.529.3924 or email bennitt49@yahoo.com.

Licensed Kitchen & Facilities Use

Redeemers’ kitchen is officially licensed by the Jackson County Health Department. Jackson County law mandates that the kitchen must be licensed whenever we have a church activity that includes the preparation and serving of food, and any non-church member is in attendance. This even includes things like serving food to visitors at our annual Rummage Sale.

If any of our Redeemer church groups, boards or committees want to use the kitchen or put on a meal that invites the community, our kitchen is ready.

Contact: **Diane Scouten**, Church Office Manager at 517.750.3100

Pastoral Care

Pastor Geml is available to talk with members who have a need for pastoral care.

Contact: **Pastor Geml** at 517.750.3100

Redeemer Library

The Redeemer library is available all week long. Books, ranging from fiction and non-fiction to theology and children's books, are all waiting for you to check them out! Don't miss the CDs and movies too. A card file is available on the desk in the library for you to place the title card in, with your name and the date on it. This allows our church librarian, to keep track of the books. It also helps her track which books are in the highest demand so she has a better idea of what to order when updating the library.

Contact: **Deb Rockwell** at 517.563.9212 if you love books, are organized and want to get involved.

Church Leadership

Board of Elders

This is one of the most important ministries a layman can be involved in with regard to the operations of the church. It is the 'right hand of the Pastor'. Elders are committed to the spiritual welfare of every member of the congregation. Christ's love for us is reflected and modeled by this group of men in their prayer life, care for others, concern for the spiritual well-being of Redeemer's members and constant assistance to the Pastor.

The Elders assist the Pastor in 'shepherding the flock' through prayer, visitations with congregational members in crisis, assisting with communion distribution, and supporting and encouraging the Pastor in his spiritual growth and congregational responsibilities.

Contact: **Kirk Balcom** at 517.789.1003 for more information on becoming an Elder.

Leadership Board

The Leadership Board members are approved for office by the voters. Congregational members may submit nominations for vacancies on this board to the church office or to any Board member from September to early November of each year. A vote on the next year's slate of board members is taken in December at the semi-annual Voters' Assembly.

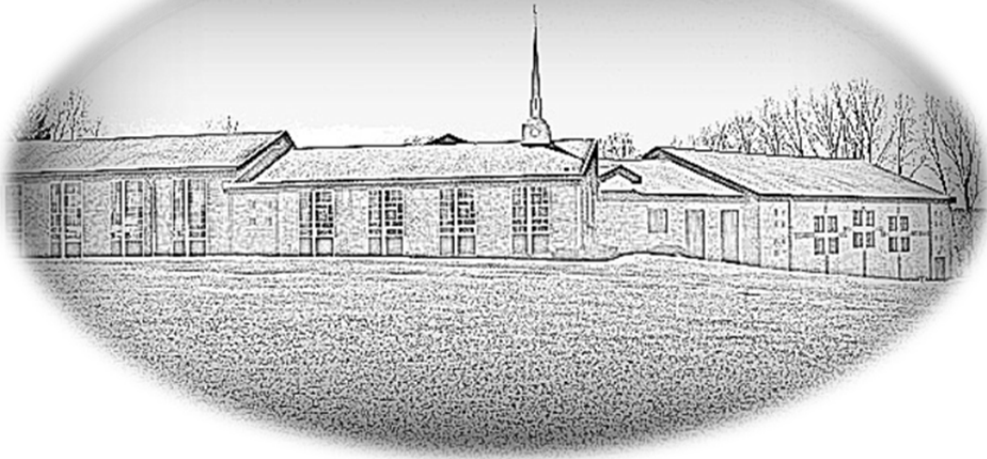
The term is three years for each position, with a maximum of six consecutive years of service in that position. This is an opportunity to develop relationships while doing God's work and to plan for the future. Being a team player and having a willingness to mature as a servant leader is important in this position. God is glorified by faithful, gifted servant leadership. He has called each one of us for work in His kingdom.

Contact: **John Highlen** at 517.629.9826 or **Steve Hall** at 517.750.4172

Voters' Assembly

This is for all members of voting age in the congregation. Voters' Assembly is the place to voice concerns, express your opinions, suggest and initiate any new challenges for the good of the congregation. Exercise your right as a member of Redeemer by supporting your church through participation in the Voters' Assembly. There are two standing Voters' Assembly Meetings. These take place in June and December.

For information on times and dates for Voters' meetings, watch the weekly church bulletins or contact the church office at 517.750.3100.



Belief & Practice of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Overview

With the universal Christian Church, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod teaches and responds to the love of the Triune God: the Father, creator of all that exists; Jesus Christ, the Son, who became human to suffer and die for the sins of all human beings and to rise to life again in the ultimate victory over death and Satan; and the Holy Spirit, who creates faith through **God's Word and Sacraments**. **The three persons of the Trinity are coequal and coeternal, one God.**

Being "Lutheran," our congregations accept and teach Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther that inspired the reformation of the Christian Church in the 16th century. The teaching of Luther and the reformers can be summarized in three short phrases: **Grace alone, Faith alone, Scripture alone.**

Grace alone: God loves the people of the world, even though they are sinful, rebel against Him and do not deserve His love. He sent Jesus, His Son, to love the unlovable and save the ungodly.

Faith alone: By His suffering and death as the substitute for all people of all time, Jesus purchased and won forgiveness and eternal life for them. Those who hear this Good News and believe it have the eternal life that it offers. God creates faith in Christ and gives people forgiveness through Him.

Scripture alone: The Bible is God's inerrant and infallible Word, in which He reveals His Law and His Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ. It is the sole rule and norm for Christian doctrine.

Who is Jesus?

For more than 2,000 years people have asked the question, "Who is Jesus?". We were not present when Jesus lived on this earth, but in the Bible we have the record of his birth, life, death on the cross, and resurrection. Study of the Bible, God's Word, will enable you to seek out the answer to this age-old question.

What does "Synod" mean?

The word "Synod" in The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod comes from Greek words that mean "walking together." The term has rich meaning in our church body, because congregations voluntarily choose to belong to the Synod. Though diverse in their service, these congregations hold to a shared confession of Jesus Christ as taught in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions which they believe are a correct interpretation and presentation of Biblical doctrine. Contained in *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, these statements of belief were put into writing by church leaders during the 16th century. The simplest of these is Luther's Small Catechism. The Augsburg Confession gives more detail on what Lutherans believe. For more information visit: www.lcms.org

Important Phone Numbers

Leadership Board Members

John Highlen	517.629.9826	Chairman
Steve Hall	517.750.4172	Vice-Chairman
Kirk Balcom	517.789.1003	Head Elder
Blair Bennitt	517.529.3924	
Tom Gamet	517.563.2107	
Jim Keat	517.589.5239	
Linda Kline	517.629.8942	
Paul Rumohr	517.524.9086	
David VanDerWeide	517.750.1747	

Board of Elders

Dave Althouse	517.787.5963
Kirk Balcom	517.789.1003
Al Dicks	517.769.6992
Bob Kellogg	517.262.1412
Ron Rockwell	517.563.9212
Ron Spangler	517.750.2460

Staff

Michael Geml	517.563.2179	Pastor
Craig Britton	517.796.9213	Director of Ministries
Deb Fall	517.250.4863	Director of Worship
Diane Scouten	517.750.3100	Church Office Manager
Deb Rockwell	517.563.9212	Custodian

Volunteer Staff

Blair Bennitt	517.529.3924	Physical Properties
Peggy Bennitt	517.529.3924	Family Life Educator
Linda Kline	517.629.8942	Treasurer
Lynette Luksan	517.750.4772	Financial Secretary

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.