



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



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 Sharon Core—sharon@redeemermclean.org

October 26, 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.

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.

Construction Project Update

The recent construction activity in the education wing includes new pipes, ducts, electrical, and HVAC equipment installed in the ceilings. Soundproofing material has been added between the classrooms. New closets have been built in the back hallway. The old cement blocks in the hallways and classrooms have been covered over for an improved appearance. Plumbing has been added for two new sinks and counters to be installed. A new office was created for the Redeemer Renaissance Preschool and After School programs by splitting an existing large office into two sections.

Dave Muhlenberg

John D. S. Muhlenberg died at his home on September 23, 2025, at the age of 95 years. To read his obituary please go to www.moneyandking.com/obits/john-d-s-muhlenberg/. Funeral services will be on November 1, 2025 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Vienna, VA. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, 3 children, and 8 grandchildren.

Youth Leadership Sunday

Today

Today is Youth Leadership Sunday! 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 today. The youth choir and individual musicians will also perform.

Transition Team Work to Inform the Call Process

As everyone is aware, Pastor Sandy Kessinger served Redeemer Lutheran for 13-1/2 years. With her retirement, our faith community is now in a transition phase. Part of this phase is the invitation to consider who we are and who God is calling us to be. Before we begin searching for a new pastor, we need to gain clarity on our own identity and ministry through the transition process. During this time, we will look at Redeemer's mission statement, welcome statement, history, ministry partners, and level of involvement by members of the congregation. In the coming weeks we will form a transition team to coordinate and guide the congregation through these conversations. The information we uncover will be necessary as we begin work on our ministry site profile, the formal paperwork required by the synod for the call process. Note that the transition team and associated work are separate from the actual call committee which will be convened at a later date.

Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to this work. The skills and gifts needed include a willingness to dig deep, the ability to leave pre-determined ideas at the door, a willingness to engage in prayer and Bible study, the ability to see the forest and the trees, as well as several other attributes. The process to self-nominate will be announced soon! Also, if you feel that you know someone that would be an asset in this work, or if you have questions, you may email the council using the president@redeemermclean.org email address or Pastor Core at sharon@redeemermclean.org.

Fall Meal Baskets for Second Story — Donation Drive through Today

We have the opportunity to help Second Story provide fall meal baskets to area youth and families who are struggling through critical times in their lives. The cost of one basket is \$60.00. We're collecting contributions and hope to provide 25 baskets! You may give cash, checks, or online by going to <https://bit.ly/4pRIL5i> or scanning the QR code. Please mark the funds for Second Story. Contact Cindy Morrow with questions at thetomorrowplace@gmail.com.



Youth

"Called in our Wandering"

Confirmation & High School Event – November 21 to 23

Sign Up Deadline Today

Youth in grades 7 to 12 are invited to join the Metro D.C. and Delaware-Maryland Synod Event. Come make new friends and strengthen your faith! The sign up deadline is October 26.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord"—Psalm 100

Join Redeemer's Musical Groups!

We are seeking volunteers for the various musical groups at Redeemer including: bell choir, traditional choir, and youth choir. Please consider joining us in fellowship and sharing your musical gifts. We would love to have you join! For more information, contact Matt Osifchin at mattosifchin@gmail.com

Current Little Food Pantry Needs

- All food donations are welcome, but currently, the Little Food Pantry supply is especially in need of peanut butter (plastic containers only), oatmeal packets, hearty soups/stews, canned vegetables (not black or pinto beans), and breakfast bars.
- Volunteers are needed to help regularly restock the LFP with food that has already been collected. Contact Paula Green at pegreen@verizon.net for more information.
- Thrivent members—did you know you can apply for (2) \$250 grants each year for great causes like the LFP? Contact your Thrivent rep for more details.

Rise Against Hunger

Every 10 seconds at least one person somewhere dies of hunger or hunger related diseases. Rise Against Hunger is dedicated to ending hunger worldwide. The next McLean Community Meal-Packaging Event will be November 8, 2025 at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. The goal for this event will be to package 200,000 meals, requiring contributions of \$80,000. To donate, please go to: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/McLeanCommunity2025> or make a donation to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer designated for Rise Against Hunger.

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

November 16 – 2:30 pm

The McLean Interfaith Clergy group is hosting an Interfaith Thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 16th at 2:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church (6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean).

Bible Study with Pastor Sharon Challenging Words from the Lord

October 29—12 pm

Are there Biblical words/phrases that give you pause?
Righteousness, Obedience, Fear of the Lord.

Pastor Sharon has begun leading a conversation around some words and phrases that you've suggested! She will continue the conversation over the next 3 weeks (last day November 12). Gather over lunch (bring your own) and chew on the words for a bit; who knows what new appreciation may be discovered for them!

Sign up at <https://forms.gle/z1bLfKpAN4jPGVMk9>.

All Saints Sunday

November 2

All Saints is the one day in the church year when we remember and name aloud during worship services those who have gone before us in faith. We will read the names of those from Redeemer who died this past calendar year (November 2024–2025) and any other names that you submit. Please submit the name as you would like it read no later than October 27 by going to <https://bit.ly/rlc-all-saints> or by scanning the QR code. You may also call the church office at 703-356-3346.



Next Redeemer Day of Prayer

November 3

Redeemer's next Day of Prayer is Monday, November 3. You're invited to join others to pray for Redeemer and for our country and world.

The theme this time: prayers for God's presence in our lives as we continue to experience all the transitions in our lives/world, with a focus on how we interact with each other in a divided nation during these transitions.

Use this SignUpGenius form at <https://bit.ly/rlc-day-of-prayer> or call the church office (703-356-3346) to claim a half-hour time slot to pray at Redeemer or from home, school, or office. A resource document consisting of prayers and reflections written by Redeemer members/others, scripture selections, and audio files is available [here](#) and on the SUG for your use.

Metro D.C. Synod Bishop Installation

November 9 – 3 pm

Rev. Philip Hirsch will be installed at National Presbyterian Church (4101 Nebraska Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016). The ELCA's new presiding bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry, will preach at the installation. Due to her connection with the church, Pastor Sharon is involved with the event. If you are interested in attending this momentous occasion marking the beginning of new leadership, please register at <https://metrodcelca.org/event/installation-of-rev-dr-philip-hirsch/>

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Including Hybrid Options

Sun., 10/26	<i>Sunday Worship Service Times</i>	
	8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am	(Live stream 8:30 and 9:45 services)
	8:30 am--12:00 pm	Church nursery is available for infants and toddlers
	9:45 am--10:45 am	High School "Bagels & Bible" Class (Teen Center)
		Table Talk Adult Education (Music Suite A/Zoom)
Mon., 10/27	7:30 pm--8:30 pm	Social Justice & Equity Book Club (Zoom)
Tues., 10/28	9:30 am--10:30 am	Women's Faith Group (Music Suite A/Zoom)
Weds., 10/29	12:00 pm--1:00 pm	Bible Study with Pastor (Music Suite A/Zoom)
Thurs., 10/30	8:00 am-9:00 am	Thursday AM Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00 pm--8:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite A)
	7:45 pm--8:45 pm	Traditional Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite B)

PASTOR AND STAFF OF REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Senior Pastor	Pastor Sharon Core	ext. 102	sharon@redeermclean.org
Bell Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com
Director of Music	Matt Osifchin		mattosifchin@gmail.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	ext. 105	grace@redeermclean.org
Youth Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com

Please Remember to Pray....

For Healing

Aaron
Bettina
Carin & Bill
Carol
Charlotte
Chris
Christina
Jana
Jean
Jeff
Jesse
Joe
Jon
Kim
Mandy
Marie
Michael
Nancy and Peter
Sam
Debbie G.
Joan and Ed
Joe G.
Steve M.
Trevor W.
Achikian, Maral
Augustenborg Epstein, Erica
Ayers, Kyle
Bates, Barbara
Bergdahl, Carol
Blakey, Patrick
Blankenship, Bob
Born, King "Song"
Bornmann, Keith
Boyer, Carol
Boyer, Charlie
Brown, Richard
Capodanno, Sophie
Carter, Nicole
Cavallo, Michael
Cooke, Martin
Cox, Mary
DeGioia, Jack
Devine, Daniel

Diaz, Martin
Duval, Louis
Eifler, Ruth
Geissl, Irene
Glindemann, Ginger
Glindemann, Keith
Graham, Jim
Gross, Kathy
Henkel, Vernon Jr.
Heuer, Mark
Hopkins, Harley
Hughes, William
Jackson, Shirley
Jephson, Patrick
Johnson, Ted
Keating, Kathleen and Michael
Kennedy, Will
Maheshwari, Mohan
Martin, Beverly
Martin, Trevor
Miller, Coletta
Moe, Mike
Myers, Kathy
Pittman, Larry
Pleasant, John
Pujol Rodriguez, Esther
Reblitz, Jennifer
Ryding, Karin
Scheinblum, Terry
Schiedt, Mary Jane
Schmid, Rahizza
Schneck, Pastor Tony
Shaefer, Phil
Stear, Carolyn
Stolar, Bob
Teutler, Alexander
Teutler, Olga
Vanderhoof, Brenda
White, Jerry
Williams, Tim
Wright, Jim
Wu, Jian
Yesko, Edmund

For Comfort and Peace

Edi
Peggy
Collins, Josephine
Portis, Carol

For Comfort in Death

The family & friends of David Canes
The family & friends of Stephanie Foster
The family & friends of Dave Muhlenberg
The family & friends of Terry Retter
The family & friends of Larry Smothers

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
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 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 New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Lovettsville, and their pastor, Rev. Joshua Wullenweber.

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