



**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](http://redeemermclean.org)  
[church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org)  
Pastor Sharon Core—[sharon@redeemermclean.org](mailto:sharon@redeemermclean.org)

# February 1, 2026

### 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).

### 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

A reminder that the office visitor's entrance during the workday on Mondays to Fridays is now Door #15 on the Chain Bridge Road side of the building. If you have been issued a door fob, it will still work at Door #10 on the Westmoreland Street side of the building. However, as additional construction work is done in that entrance area, there may be times you will be redirected to Door #15. Visitors and members should not use Door #1, the preschool main entrance on the Chain Bridge side, during daytime hours Monday through Friday, due to our safety and security procedures for the preschool.

### Thomas V. Conway

Redeemer member Thomas Conway, beloved husband and father, passed away peacefully at home with family in Arlington, Virginia, at the age of 80 on January 1, 2026. He was a member of Redeemer for over 20 years. For more information please go to: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/arlington-va/thomas-conway-12695301>. In lieu of flowers, it was Tom's wish that those concerned kindly consider donating in his memory to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer or the Animal Welfare League of Arlington.

### Welcome Pastor John Teitman

With thanksgiving, we welcome Pastor John Teitman to the pulpit February 1 and February 8. Pastor Sharon Core is away these two Sundays—a long-planned bucket list trip with her husband Nick to New Zealand and Australia.

### Transition Team Update



As announced via email and during Temple Talks, the congregation survey is available now! You may take it online at <https://bit.ly/4qQ54Yd> or on paper. Please complete the survey by February 8, so we may provide initial impressions at the annual meeting on Feb 22. The survey results will drive small group meetings to dig deeper in understanding what we need and want in our next Pastor. Stay tuned for dates and more information!

Remember that Transition Team updates will come via email on Tuesdays (Transition Tuesdays). So please pay special attention to communications sent on a Tuesday! For questions, email [TransitionTeam@Redeemermclean.org](mailto:TransitionTeam@Redeemermclean.org).

### Constitution Updates

At last summer's Church-wide assembly, modifications to the ELCA Model Constitution were introduced. Some of these changes are required, while others are optional. Council has reviewed the updates and has created a proposed updated version of the Constitution that we will vote to adopt at the Annual Meeting on February 22nd. We are also taking this opportunity to update portions of the Constitution that are out of date (and not required). Please look for an email that was sent on Wednesday, Jan. 21 that provides the proposed Constitution changes. Questions can be sent to [president@redeemermclean.org](mailto:president@redeemermclean.org).

### Patricia Reblitz

Redeemer member Patricia Reblitz passed away on December 22, 2025. At the time of her death, she was living at the Ashby Ponds retirement home in Ashburn, VA and, prior to that, was a resident of Vienna, VA. Her remains will be buried in a family grave site in the Chicago area. She was 85 years old at the time of her passing.

## We Pray for Minnesota & Ways to Help

Many members have asked for ways that they can help Minnesota. Please see below for both synod-recommended and member-provided resources for use as desired.

- ELCA Action Alert Sent 1/26 - <https://bit.ly/3MbnDqw>
- Minneapolis Area Synod Welcome Fund - <https://mpls-synod.org/giving/welcome-fund/>

As the ELCA reminds us to be in prayer, here is a resource posted by the VA Conference: <https://bit.ly/3M3V261>

## Social Justice & Equity Book Club

New Book February 9 – Mondays at 7:30 pm

Redeemer's Social Justice & Equity Book Club would like to remind those that have books checked out from our lending cart to please return them to the cart once read so others can read them too! Thank you! We are starting a new book, *The Cost of Free Land* by Rebecca Clarren, for discussion on February 9. Anyone is welcome to join us and this would be a good time to do so! We meet every Monday via Zoom @ 7:30pm - 8:30 pm. Contact Teresa Schellenger at [jpschellenger@aol.com](mailto:jpschellenger@aol.com) if interested.

Your prayers and presence  
are requested for the

## Rite of Ordination of Jessica Zurcher

to the  
Ministry of Word and Sacrament

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026  
11:00AM

Luther Place Memorial Church  
1226 Vermont Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Lunch to follow

Clergy and seminarians of  
all traditions are invited  
to vest and process

Liturgical color is red



## Bishop Hirsch Visit and Lunch

February 15



The Metro D.C. Synod Bishop, Bishop Hirsch, will visit Redeemer to preach and preside on February 15. A lunch in Fellowship Hall will follow services. We encourage you to come and worship as a family this Sunday. If you would like to join for lunch please RSVP at <https://bit.ly/4t6cmbB> or by scanning the QR code.

## Redeemer Renaissance 2026-27 Registration

Registration for the Preschool & After-School is now open for all families!

We can't wait to welcome you!

To schedule a tour or for more information:  
703-356-3567

## Youth Service Project

### Meal Packages for Britepaths Food4thought Program

Rescheduled: February 22 at 10:45 am



On February 22, after our youth morning classes, youth are invited to join us to pack meals for students in our community in Fellowship Hall. We will come together to pack the food and have a time of fellowship with lunch once the project is complete. Please sign up at <https://bit.ly/3XvZX2F> or by scanning the QR code if your youth will participate. For any questions, please contact [grace@redeemermclean.org](mailto:grace@redeemermclean.org).

## Metro D.C. Synod Seekers Retreat for Grades 3-5

March 14 to 15

Youth in grades 3, 4, and 5 are invited to a weekend retreat. Throughout Saturday and Sunday, we will rotate through different stations to experience God through Bible study, games, arts and crafts, science, and service. This year's theme is "Growing God's Garden"

For this event, parents are required to accompany their own children as Redeemer staff or chaperones will not be attending. To register, and for more information, please go to <https://www.youngfaithmatters.com/events-retreats/seekers-grades-3-5>.

## SAVE THE DATE

February 17

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: 6 to 7 pm

February 18

- Ash Wednesday Services: 12 pm and 7 pm
- Ash Wednesday Dinner: 6:15 pm

February 22

- Redeemer's Annual Meeting: This will be held following the 11:00 service. Please join us!

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

### *Including Hybrid Options*

Sun., 2/1	<i>Sunday Worship Service Times</i>		
	8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am	( <i>Live stream 8:30 and 9:45 services</i> )	
	8:30 am – 12:00 pm	Church nursery is available for infants and toddlers	
	9:45 am – 10:45 am	Faith Formation & Confirmation Classes	
		High School “Bagels & Bible” Class (Teen Center)	
		Table Talk Adult Education (Conference Room/Zoom)	
	10:55 – 11:25 am	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite B)	
Mon., 2/2	7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Social Justice & Equity Book Club (Zoom)	
Tues., 2/3	9:30 am – 10:30 am	Women’s Faith Group (Conference Room/Zoom)	
Wed., 2/4	9:00 am – 11:30 am	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)	
Thurs., 2/5	8:00 am – 9:00 am	Thursday AM Bible Study (Zoom)	
	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Conference Room/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@redeemermclean.org
Bell Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com
Director of Music	Matt Osifchin		mattosifchin@gmail.com
Director of Afterschool	Linda McConaughay	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 McConaughay	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	ext. 105	grace@redeemermclean.org
Youth Choir Director	Waka Osifchin		waka.soprano@gmail.com

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

## **For Healing**

Jean  
Trevor W.  
Capodanno, Sophie  
Cavallo, Michael  
DeGioia, Jack  
Etkin, Nancy  
Green, Eve  
Harner, Julie  
Koenig, Tammie  
Kunec, Ingrid  
Lawrence, Ann  
Neece, George  
Pittman, Larry  
Stauffer, John  
Williams, Timothy  
Wu, Jian

## **For Comfort and Peace**

Christina K  
Shupp, Lloyd

## **For Comfort in Death**

The family & friends of Thomas Conway  
The family & friends of Mary Lou Cummings  
The family & friends of Mark Heuer  
The family & friends of Frank Nauman  
The family & friends of Patricia Reblitz

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

Laredo, Sandi

## **For Safety**

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

## **For Comfort and Strength**

Chris & Family  
Sakellarides, Liz and Dmitri  
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 Christ the King Lutheran Church, Great Falls, and their interim pastor, Sandy Kessinger.**

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