



# Life at Redeemer

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

1545 Chain Bridge Rd McLean, VA 22101

Tel: 703.356.3346 FAX: 703.562.7968

[www.redeermclean.org](http://www.redeermclean.org)

**Pastor Sandy Kessinger - [psk@redeermclean.org](mailto:psk@redeermclean.org)  
(703) 635-4672**

**Deacon Erin Swenson-Reinhold - [erin@redeermclean.org](mailto:erin@redeermclean.org)**

## December 2, 2018

### Wednesday Bible Study - 8 am December 5

The "Overview of the Bible" class will meet from 8 am to 9 am in the Conference Room. We will study Colossians.

### Redeemer's Annual Living Nativity and Christmas Concert

All are welcome and invited to enjoy the sounds of the season and the excitement of live animals in the creche on Friday, December 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family, neighbors, and friends to Redeemer.

Children are invited to put on angel or shepherd costumes, and visit the live animals, maybe pet a bunny or baby lamb!

At 7:30 pm everyone is invited inside to experience a concert of our many choirs - adult, children and bell choirs.

There are many opportunities to serve at this event, if you are interested, please contact Amanda at [Amanda@redeermclean.org](mailto:Amanda@redeermclean.org)

### Bake Sale to benefit the Youth Mission Trips

The bake sale during the Living Nativity will support our youth mission trips. If you would like to donate baked goods, please drop them off at Redeemer on Friday, December 14, by 6pm.

### 2018 Gifts of Hope Celebrating 26 Years!

**Gifts of Hope** offers an opportunity to purchase meaningful gifts while raising funds to support the beneficiary organizations of our Metro Washington D. C. Synod, ELCA.

**Gifts of Hope** is an alternative to traditional gift-giving. You can select gifts from a list of agencies and activities identified by the Metro Washington, DC Synod. For each gift you select, you will receive a card and an insert describing the gift. 100% of your donation goes to the designated organizations.

**Gifts of Hope** are available in the Crossroads area between services today and for the next 2 Sundays. Stop by to make your selection or for more information.

### Advent

Advent begins on Sunday, December 2. We would like to invite individuals and/or families to help during the worship services to light the candles on the advent wreath and to offer an advent prayer (written ahead of time by the pastor). Please email pastor at [psk@redeermclean.org](mailto:psk@redeermclean.org) if you would like to participate in this way. Sign up early!

Only week available is Dec. 23:  
Times available – 9:45 am or 11:00 am

When you email the pastor please let her know all of your names, and the time of the service you want to serve.

### Also in Advent...

As we embark on the busyness of the holidays, we invite you to embark on an Advent journey – a journey of preparation and anticipation. On Tuesday, December 4, 11, and 18 we will gather in the Crossroads for a light lunch at 11:15 am. A 30-minute worship service will follow that includes contemplative singing, prayers, and Holy Communion. We need one or two volunteers each week who can assist us in setting up for the lunch and providing a dessert.

If you have any questions or can volunteer to help with lunch, please contact Deacon Erin at [erin@redeermclean.org](mailto:erin@redeermclean.org).

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

At each service (8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am) the pastor preaches and presides over Holy Communion and other parts of the liturgy are led by our deacon. The rest of the service is designed to be led by the members / friends of the congregation. At this time we are seeking volunteers to be trained in the fullness of our worship experience: Chancel care, Ushers, Acolyte/Crucifer, Assisting Minister, Communion Assistant, and Reader. In addition it would be helpful to have more volunteers for Coffee Hour and the Soundboard. If you would like to volunteer your time and/or learn more about a particular role then please contact Pastor Kessinger or Deacon Erin immediately. We will then point you to the right person to learn more details. We hope to have a healthy list of names from which to draw as we quickly approach the Christmas Season and as we enter a New Year. Thank you!!!!

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

# A N N O U N C E M E N T S

## End of Year Tax Advantage

As we approach the end of the year, please remember there is tax advantage of giving appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares. This method of giving allows you to minimize capital gains taxes and yet provide the full current value and financial benefits to the programs and ministries at Redeemer. Veronique Thomas, Redeemer's Financial Coordinator, can help answer questions for you about this transfer process at [703/356-3346](tel:7033563346) or at [vthomas@redeemermclean.org](mailto:vthomas@redeemermclean.org). Also, you can visit Redeemer's website and at the top of the page there is a tab labeled "About Us" and a following tab for "Give Online". In the subsequent description, there are stock and mutual fund donation instructions and forms available.

## Rise Against Hunger

With the wonderful November 3rd Meal Packaging Event still fresh in our memories and Thanksgiving on the horizon, it is a good time to think about how much we have for which to be grateful. The McLean Community "Rise Against Hunger Events" Organization is extremely grateful to the congregation and staff of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer and its support for the meal packaging events.

We cannot, however, lose sight of the fact that there is already so much to do for next year's event. We have some new challenges with fund raising for next year's event on November 2nd so we have already opened a donation page for 2019, <http://events.stophungernow.org/McLeanRAH2019>

**A generous donor has offered to match any donations between now and November 30, 2018. Please consider donating now and throughout the year. Checks can also be made to "Lutheran Church of the Redeemer" and designated for "Rise Against Hunger."**

If you have any ideas or suggestions that would enhance the next event on November 2, 2019, please contact Roberta Pittman.

## Christian Formation for Adults — The TableTalk Group

New Series on Early Christian Writings  
9:45 am in Room 204

Join us for a new series on the writings of the Church Fathers and other Christians during the first centuries of the church. All are welcome to attend.

02-Dec-18	Sethian Gnostic Writings
09-Dec-18	Valentinian Gnostic Writings
16-Dec-18	Thomasine Gnostic Writings
23-Dec-18	No Class
30-Dec-18	No Class

## Shop AmazonSmile and help Redeemer

The holidays are quickly approaching!  
Shop AmazonSmile:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-0700803>

Redeemer gets a donation equal to .5% of each total order. What could be easier?! **Redeemer** has received \$733.16 as of August 2018.

## Habitat for Humanity

There is one day left in 2018 to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity - Saturday, December 15.

Where: 8300 Frye Road in Alexandria. This is an old, but very well built house on a large lot. Habitat has recently been demo'ing the interior down to the studs.

When: 8:40-3:30

Who: Anyone age 16 + up

As always, there will be tasks for EVERYBODY, prior building experience and skills are not required and they will teach anything you need to know.

For more information and to volunteer, go to SignUpGenius page at <http://tinyurl.com/Habitat-IC>  
Questions: Ellen Kennedy, [Ellen.kennedy@cox.net](mailto:Ellen.kennedy@cox.net) or 571-228-2505

## SCARF SALE A SUCCESS!

All the scarves made by the Prayer Shawl Group have been sold and \$760 was raised for the Good Neighbor Program at Redeemer which helps the Mehari family. The Good Neighbor Program is part of Lutheran Social Services which helps refugee families settle in local communities. The funds were used to purchase a computer, a printer and the virus protection programs to go with it for Mewael. All the extra funds will go to the Good Neighbor Program at Redeemer. Congregation members can continue to donate funds to this program through the offering envelopes. Please label all donations for the Good Neighbor Program. Thank you for your support.

**Ministers: The People of Redeemer Church**  
 703-356-3346 church@redeermclean.org www.redeermclean.org

Position	Name	Contact Information
Senior Pastor	Pastor Sandy Kessinger	703-635-4672 psk@redeermclean.org
Deacon	Erin Swenson-Reinhold	erin@redeermclean.org
Facilities Director	Bill Parks	bparks@redeermclean.org
Sexton	Lionel Jackson	ljackson@redeermclean.org
Office Manager	Carol D'Amico	cdamico@redeermclean.org
Director of Music	Matt Osifchin	mosifchi@hotmail.com
Director of Preschool	Tammie Koenig	tkoenig@redeermclean.org
Director of After-School Program	Linda Mcconnaughay	lmconnaughay@redeermclean.org
Director of Youth Ministry	Amanda Gebhart	Amanda@redeermclean.org
Financial Coordinator	Veronique Thomas	vthomas@redeermclean.org
Organist	Joy Mentzel	joymentzel@gmail.com
Youth Choir Director	Amy Tribie	atribie@gmail.com
Bell Choir Director	Waka Osifchin	waka.soprano@gmail.com

## This Week at Redeemer

## Upcoming Events

Sun	12/02	8:00a	Traditional Service	Nave
		9:45a	Contemporary Service	Nave
		11:00a	Traditional Service	Nave
		4:00p	Advent Family Worship	Fellowship Hall
		4:00p	I Drive Smart	Classroom 202
		4:00p	McLean Youth Orchestra Concert	Nave
Mon	12/03	5:30p	Sunshine Academy	Classroom 202
		6:30p	Aerobics	Conference Room
		6:30p	MOJO Volleyball	Parents' Hall
Tue	12/04	8:00a	Prayer Time	Nave
		9:00a	Faith Conversation	Library
		12:00p	Rotary	Fellowship Hall
		5:00p	Sunshine Academy	Classroom 202
		6:30p	MOJO Volleyball	Parents' Hall
		7:15p	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall
Wed	12/05	8:00a	Bible Study	Conference Room
		7:00p	Hadi Meditation	Classroom 204
		8:00p	Al-Anon	Classroom 204
Thu	12/06	5:30p	Teen CBS	RLC
		6:30p	MOJO Volleyball	Parents' Hall
		7:00p	Bell Choir	Music Suite A
		7:45p	Traditional Choir	Music Suite B
Fri	12/07	10:00a	Paul Esch Funeral	Nave
Sat	12/08	4:00p	I Drive Smart	Classroom 202



12/2	Advent Family Worship
12/4	Prayer Time
12/4	Advent Lunch/Service
12/5	Bible Study (8 am)
12/5	Quilting
12/6	Prayer Shawl Ministry
12/10	Congregational Council
12/11	Prayer Time
12/11	Advent Lunch/Service
12/11	Finance and Administration
12/12	Bible Study (8 am)
12/14	Living Nativity
12/16	Blue Christmas Service (5 pm)
12/17	Women of the ELCA
12/18	Prayer Time
12/18	Advent Lunch/Service
12/19	Quilting
12/20	Prayer Shawl Ministry
12/24	Christmas Eve (4,6,8,10 pm)
12/25	Christmas Day (10 am)
12/30	Lessons and Carols (10 am)
12/31	New Years Eve Service (5 pm)

*Redeemer members,*

*Please call Redeemer's office to let us know when you are in the hospital or if you know of a member who is in the hospital. We want to provide all members with a pastoral presence and prayer in times of need. Also, please let us know if a member is homebound, so that we can visit and provide Holy Communion. Thank you for your partnership in our caring ministry.*

*- Pastor Sandy Kessinger*



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

### **For Healing:**

Adam  
Scotty Benson  
Bill  
Spencer Blessing  
Keith Bornmann  
James Brown  
Shirley and Richard Carlson  
Carol  
Chelsea  
Michelle Crone  
Bill DeLong  
Elizabeth  
Jim Firth  
Kirk Gunderson  
George Hall  
Deanna Heier  
Grace Holby  
Meredith Hummel  
Jack  
Jeff  
Judith  
Audrey Markwart  
Coletta Miller  
Nicholas  
Jim Rakestraw  
Tish Richards  
Rev. Robert Richter  
Roy Rom  
Karin Ryding  
Katherine Elizabeth Savage  
Charlotte Sears  
Richard Skelton  
Kathy Stieg  
Beth Telford  
Terry  
Michael Tiernan  
Ray Tiernan  
Les Townsend  
Tracy  
Lillian Wilson  
Janet Wolfe  
Dawn Zimmerman

### **For Comfort in Death:**

The family and friends of Helen Kathleen VanderLeest Lulofs  
The family and friends of Betty Smith

### **For Comfort and Peace:**

Bertha  
George  
Lynn Porter Hardisky  
Susan  
Joann Shupp

### **For Comfort and Strength:**

Gwen Brown  
Sarah and Jenny  
Liza and Straker

### **For Safety:**

For all our military and diplomatic people throughout the world  
For all serving as police officers  
Greg Adams and Colette Marcellin, in Afghanistan  
Courtney Barnett, in Afghanistan  
Stephanie and Matt Kessinger and son, Ben, in Paraguay  
Jon Walsh

#### ***Prayer List Note:***

*To add names to this list, use the Prayer Request book located in the Crossroads. You may also email or telephone the church office. We will forward your request to the email prayer chain. We want all our prayers to be appropriate—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.*