

TIDINGS Newsletter

Redeemer Lutheran Church
1545 Chain Bridge Road
McLean, VA 22101

Vol. 70 No. 10
October 2025



Our mission is to share Christ's love
with the greatest number of people.

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**A Message from
Pastor Sharon Core
October 2025**

“Puzzling”

I love jigsaw puzzles. Here is my most recent completion.

My longtime strategy
has been to find all the

straight edge pieces and fit together the border. I sift through the box – straight edges in one pile and everything else in another. And then as I begin to put the border together I realize I’ve missed some straight edges and have huge gaps in the border. At this point I can either sift through all the pieces again or stay with what I have and trust they will turn up as I work on other parts of the puzzle. Usually I stay with what I have.

Recently, I have tried another strategy—as I take pieces out of the box, I pay very close attention to the picture of the puzzle and begin grouping pieces by color and design. All the straight edges and others go in the same pile and then from there I begin putting the puzzle together based on whatever part of the puzzle I’m most drawn to.



The donut puzzle was a combination of the two—some straight edges put together and then all the rest grouped according to color/design. I started with the purple ones (because purple is my favorite color—although I don’t think I’d ever eat a purple donut—truth be told, I don’t think I’d eat any of them, but I digress!).

In the “little over a month” that I have been in your midst, I’m figuring out the pieces that make up the puzzle of Redeemer. I’ve been having lots of conversations, asking lots of questions, and doing a fair amount of reading. I’m working on understanding how everything fits together. And by everything, I mean everything—from worship to social outreach to ham runs to Tuesday morning faith group to confirmation to young adults to food donations to construction to ushers to chancel care to social justice and equity to (add yours here). Each part of your ministry has a distinct shape and purpose. And each is part of the larger whole held together by the border of being disciples of Jesus Christ.

As we continue on this transitional journey together, we’ll be looking at all the pieces and I imagine we will discover some that have fallen on the floor or are hidden in the couch cushions. This looking will be an opportunity to remember where you’ve been and where you would like to go. What pieces is God calling you to include in the Redeemer puzzle? How might the pieces be rearranged? All exciting questions and possibilities.

Happy Puzzling!
Pastor Sharon

OCTOBER



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Traditional worship services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am
Contemporary worship service at 9:45 am
Faith Formation, Confirmation, High School classes – 9:45 am
Table Talk (Adult Class in Music Suite A) – 9:45 am

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite B) – 10:55 am
Mondays	Social Justice and Equity Book Club (Zoom)– 7:30 pm (Not meeting Oct. 6)
Tuesdays	Women’s Faith Group (Music Suite A/Zoom) – 9:30 am
Thursdays	Bible Study (Zoom) – 8:00 am
	Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite A) – 7:00 pm
	Traditional Choir Practice (Music Suite B) – 7:45 pm

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Week of September 28

Wednesday, October 1	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) – 9:00 am
Thursday, October 2	Redeemer Renaissance closed
	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library/Zoom) – 10:30 am

Week of October 5

Monday, October 6	Congregation Council (Library/Zoom) – 7:30 pm
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Week of October 12

Sunday, October 12	Faith Formation Group Activity – 9:45 am
Wednesday, October 15	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) – 9 am
	Bible Study with Pastor Sharon (Music Suite A)– 12 pm
Thursday, October 16	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library/Zoom) – 10:30 am

Week of October 19

Sunday, October 19	Social Outreach Lunch Meeting – 12 pm
	Blessing of Animals – 1:30 pm
	Deadline: Sign Up for 2026 Mission Trips
Monday, October 20	Redeemer Renaissance closed
Tuesday, October 21	Good Grub & God – 7 pm
	Young Adult Group Meeting – 7 pm
Wednesday, October 22	Bible Study with Pastor Sharon (Music Suite A) – 12 pm
Friday, October 24	Renaissance Faire – 5:15 pm

Week of October 26

Sunday, October 26	Reformation Sunday (Wear Red)
	Youth Leadership Sunday – 8:30 am, 9:45 am, 11 am
	Deadline: Sign Up for Middle/High School Synod Event
Wednesday, October 29	Bible Study with Pastor Sharon (Music Suite A) – 12 pm

Construction Project Updates from September

Good news! The County has approved our site plan and granted our waiver request for a modification to the requirements for stormwater management. The modification allows for an underground pipe to be installed to hold water on site from a storm and then slowly release it. This is instead of having to build a more involved and expensive stormwater facility. We are still waiting for County approval on the construction documents for the Columbarium and the Natural Play Area. We still hope to break ground for the next phase, which is the exterior work, late this fall.

Ceiling tiles are now being removed in the old classroom wing so that new pipes and electrical wires can be installed for the new HVAC system. The old boiler has been taken offline and those pipes and wall radiators are being removed too. Also, the new rooftop HVAC control units will be put into place soon. There will be one on each side of the building and each room will now be able to control its own temperature, a function not available with the old boiler system.

You may notice that additional ceiling tiles have been removed in areas adjacent to the education wing. This needed to happen in order to more efficiently complete the work on the new HVAC system. Completing it in a more expeditious way will help improve the timeline for bringing the new heating system online sooner, given that cooler weather is around the corner.

Later in the fall when we break ground for the Columbarium, additional information will be distributed on how to reserve and purchase a niche. Individual niches will be able to hold one or two urns containing ashes. The internal size of a niche is 11.5" x 11.5" x 11.5". Therefore, when selecting an urn for a loved one, please note these dimensions and what size urn or urns will fit into the space. The outside of the niche will have a granite cover plate with one or two engraved names and dates.

Minutes: September 8, 2025, Meeting of Congregation Council
RLC Library and via Zoom

Council Members Present in Person: Annabelle Allard; Steve Bott, Treasurer; Pastor Sharon Core, Interim Pastor; Lee Cronin; Chris Hernadi, Secretary; Victoria Johnson; Megan Kratz; Lena Martikainen; Karen Miller, President; Gene Morrow; Tyler Posey

Council Members Attending via Zoom: Sabine Detweiller, Vice President; Sarah Getter

Council Members Absent: None

Council Meeting Guests: None

Call to order. Karen Miller called the meeting to order at 7:34

Opening Devotions. Pastor Core led opening devotions with prayer and a reading of Luke 13:10-17. Pastor Core used the story to reflect upon the value of being curious about other perspectives when experiencing new things.

Approval of Minutes. Minutes from the meeting were previously approved by email.

Adoption of Agenda. The agenda, as emailed in advance of the meeting, was approved by the Council.

Executive Committee Summary. The Executive Committee met on September 5 and talked about the items on tonight's agenda.

General Updates from Pastor Core. Interim Pastor Sharon Core shared that since her arrival in mid-August she has had several meetings and conversations with members and staff to learn about the Congregation, its ministries, and its routines. She reiterated that her door is open for even more conversations and opportunities to learn.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Steve Bott presented the 2025 Financial Summary through August 31, which was made available via email prior to the meeting. Expenses exceed receipts by \$35,000. The shortfall is less than reported in July, which is a trend in the right direction.

Approval Item: Endowment Committee Motion. On behalf of the Endowment Committee, Gene Morrow made the motion that Redeemer contribute \$4,000 as its quarterly gift to Comfort Cases, an organization which provides packed duffel bags and backpacks to foster children as they relocate to new foster homes.

The motion was seconded by Lena Martikainen. The motion was approved unanimously by Council.

Discussion Item: Stewardship Committee Update. On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, Tyler Posey asked Council for guidance on using Temple Talk as a possible venue for ministries and individuals to promote awareness and participation in their activities. Council expressed support and encouraged the Stewardship Committee to coordinate a schedule of recurring Temple Talks so that congregants can hear about the concrete ways in which Redeemer's ministries and individuals build faith, help others, and support the Church's operations.

Discussion Items: Updates from Redeemer. President Karen Miller provided Council with the following updates:

- Rooftop HVAC Work has been completed.
- The interior construction project is underway. Work in the classroom hallway is scheduled to be completed in December 2025, at which time work on the office hallway will begin.
- Tyler Posey drafted, and Karen Miller reviewed and sent a letter to Pastor John Teitman in appreciation of his leading Worship between PSK's retirement and Pastor Core's arrival.

Approval Item: County Signature Authority. To satisfy Fairfax County requirements for construction permits and mortgage loan closing, Karen Miller presented the following statement for approval by Council:

The Congregation Council of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer hereby affirms that Karen Cavallo Miller as President of the Council and Sabine Detweiler as Vice President of the Council are designated to sign on behalf of the congregation for the Fairfax County building permit documentation requirements and the mortgage loan closing documentation.

Tyler Posey made the motion to approve the statement as presented. Gene Morrow seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by Council.

Discussion Item: Pastor Core Schedule and Time Off. Due to family needs, Pastor Sharon asked for time off for one weekend in October and a more extended time in the early winter, yet to be determined. Council approved both requests.

Discussion Item: The Call Committee Process. Council discussed the feasibility and value of establishing a Transition Team, as described in “Healthy Transitions: From Rostered Minister Vacancy to Installation,” a handbook distributed by the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod to assist congregations in their transition between pastors. Among other benefits, a Transition Team could serve as liaison between the Congregation and the Interim Minister, assemble the Ministry Site Profile, and meet with congregation and council members in preparation of forming the Call Committee, which is a requirement in Redeemer’s constitution.

After discussion, Pastor Core offered to present at the next Council’s meeting guidelines on how a Transition Team, composed of 3-5 individuals, can navigate the call process. Council members were invited to prayerfully consider members to serve on a Transition Team. Karen Miller offered to draft a brief status update to appear in the green sheet before the end of the month.

Discussion Item: Council Membership Review. The council members listed below will complete their first term in early 2026 and are up for reelection at the annual meeting:

- Tyler Posey
- Chris Hernadi
- Megan Kratz
- Gene Morrow

They have been asked to notify Karen Miller if they do not intend to continue serving on Council to give adequate time to create a nominating committee to identify new candidates.

Discussion Item: Annual Meeting Date Selection. Council agreed on holding the Annual Meeting on February 22, 2026, in light of constitutional requirements and availability of Council members.

Ministry Reports: Faith Formation. Annabelle Allard confirmed that Faith Formation began on September 7 as scheduled and that all classes had coverage for the first session.

New Business. None

Close with Prayer and adjourn at 9:08

Upcoming Dates:

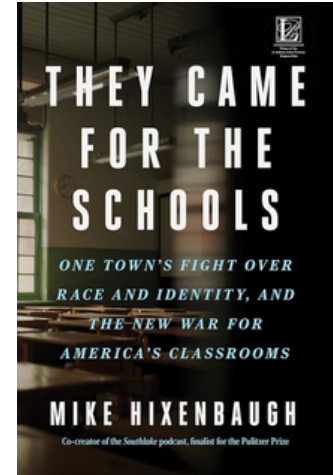
Executive Committee, October 1, 2025

Next Meeting of Council, October 6, 2025 (NOTE DATE CHANGE)

HAPPENING AT REDEEMER

Social Justice and Equity Book Club Starting New Book October 13 – 7:30 pm

Redeemer's Social Justice and Equity Book Club has resumed their Zoom meetings every Monday @ 7:30-8:30 pm, but will not meet on October 6. They will be starting a new book on Monday, October 13: *They Came for the Schools: One Town's Fight Over Race and Identity, And the New War for America's Classrooms* by Mike Hixenbaugh. This will be followed by *Mad Honey: A Novel* by Jody Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan. This would be a great time to join us! All are welcome! Contact Teresa Schellenger at jpschellenger@aol.com for Zoom info.



Good Beginnings at Redeemer Renaissance Preschool Outdoor Classes for Ages 1.5 and older with Caregiver Starting October 14– 9:30 am

Come and play! This outdoor-play program for toddlers and caregivers to enjoy together promotes a sense of wonder, discovery, and exploration while providing a fun introduction to preschool. Children will build their first friendships and work with new materials as they engage in open-ended play in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. During exploratory play, caregivers will have the opportunity to discuss topics of interest and create bonds that will help them navigate the early childhood years and beyond.

The class is offered on the following dates: Oct. 14 & 28, Nov. 18 & 25, Dec. 9, Jan. 13 & 27, Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10 & 24, April 7 & 21, and May 5 & 19.

Register [online](#) or call 703-356-3567 for more information.



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AGES

Children 1.5 years and older may enroll and attend with a parent or caregiver.*

TUITION

\$350/child/15 Class Sessions

TUESDAYS at 9:30 AM

October 14 & 28
November 18 & 25
December 9
January 13 & 27

February 10 & 24
March 10 & 24
April 7 & 21
May 5 & 19

[REGISTER online](#) or call 703-356-3567 for more information.

Good Beginnings will take place outdoors in small groups and space will be limited.
*Children must be 1.5 years old by Good Beginnings start date.

REDEEMER
Renaissance
PRESCHOOL & AFTER-SCHOOL

5-Week Bible Study with Pastor Sharon Core: Challenging Words from the Lord Starting October 15 – 12 pm to 1 pm

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

Beginning Wednesday, October 15, Pastor Sharon is going to lead a conversation around some words and phrases—ones that you've suggested! We'll gather for lunch at noon and chew on them for a bit. Over 5 weeks (last day November 12), who knows what new appreciation we may discover for them!

Here are the details:

- Wednesday, October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12
- 12 pm - 1 pm
- Music Suite A
- Bring your lunch
- Beverages provided
- Zoom in available

Sign up [here](#)—be ready to suggest your word or phrase and whether you will be joining in person or over Zoom.

Good Grub and God October 21 – 7 pm

What is Good Grub and God? It is a night out in a local restaurant for adults for a good meal, fellowship, and a discussion on some aspect of our faith.

Come solo or bring a friend, co-worker, or partner, but come enjoy getting to spend time together.

We meet at the restaurant at 7pm. You are welcome to come as often as your schedule allows. Each month someone will be the "host". Being the host requires no preparation or skills; you get to pick the restaurant and the topic for discussion.

If you would like to come, please sign up [here](#). You can sign up as late as the day before; we just want to be sure that we have enough seats for everyone.

Young Adult Group October 21 – 7 pm

Young adults are invited to attend our regular meetings at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm.

- **October 21**
- **November 18**
- **December 16** – Christmas Party, location TBD

This group is open to those between the ages of 19 to 39-ish, but if you feel you are a young adult, you are welcome to attend! This group is a partnership between Redeemer, Lewinsville, and Immanuel Presbyterian Church. For more information, please contact [Grace Howie](#).

**Redeemer Renaissance Faire
Volunteers Needed! Donate Candy!
October 24 – 5:15 pm**

Join in a Royal Celebration of our children and the bounty of fall! Get to know our Preschool, After-School, and church families! This event is a wonderful opportunity to get involved with the greater community at Redeemer as it will be an opportunity for the families of our Redeemer Renaissance program to join with those of the church.

Volunteers are needed for booths and candy alley (the trunk-or-treat)! Youth volunteers in confirmation and high school are encouraged. We will also have a table to showcase our youth ministry for all. Sign up to volunteer at this [link](#). Please contact [Grace Howie](#) with any questions or additional information.

Candy collection starting Oct. 5, you can donate by placing in the bin located in Crossroads – Candy CANNOT contain nuts.



**Redeemer Renaissance
Preschool – Register Now!**

Registration is open on a rolling basis! Church and community families are welcome to register now for children 1.5 – 5 years of age for the 2025-26 school year!

Program offerings promoting a sense of wonder, discovery, and exploration include a play-based curriculum with nature-based components for children to grow as happy learners. The preschool holiday calendars align with the Fairfax County Public Schools' calendar.

- Good Beginnings Class for Toddlers (1.5 years and older) and Caregivers - offered bi-weekly throughout the school year.
- 2.5 – 5-year-old Classes - offered part-time, full-time, morning only, and all day.
- Preschool Summer Camps - children join in summertime fun with friends through games, art, workshops, and performances.

Children delight in experiencing open-ended play with peers in a safe, developmentally appropriate environment. Our staff engages the children to delve into topics of interest, build hands-on projects, and create bonds that will help them navigate their childhood years and beyond.

We can't wait to welcome you! Schedule a visit to take a tour & register:
Preschool 703-356-3567 or After-School 703-356-3346 ext. 106

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 or group together and sign up!

What does the host person/s 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, or something similar—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 or group. All coffee supplies, training, and written instructions are provided. If you are interested, please sign up [here](#). If you have any questions, contact [Kim Wenk](#).

Youth

Register for Faith formation, Confirmation, and the High School Class

Faith Formation, Confirmation, and the High School Class are in session! If you have not registered your student, each needs a new registration each year, please do so at [this link](#).

Parent volunteers are needed each week for the 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, and confirmation classes. Please use these links to sign up.

- [3rd and 4th](#)
- [5th and 6th](#)
- [Confirmation](#)

Join the Redeemer Youth Choir!

Our Youth Choir is looking for new members! Join for great songs and lots of fun. Rehearsals are on Sundays during the school year from 10:55 am to 11:25 am in Music Suite B. The group performs periodically throughout the year. To register, please fill out the form at this [link](#).

Important Dates

- **October 12** – Faith Formation Group Activity
- **October 19** – Sign Up Deadline for Mission Trips
- **October 26** – Youth Leadership Sunday
- **October 26** – Sign Up Deadline for Youth Synod Event “Called in our Wandering”
- **November 2** – Service Project Opportunity
- **December 19** – Living Nativity and Bake Sale

For any questions or additional information, also reach out to [Grace Howie](#).

For more detailed youth news please read the Youth Newsletter

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Social Outreach Committee Lunch Meeting October 19 – 12 pm

Everyone is welcome to attend, learn and get involved with what Redeemer is doing to help those in need in our community. Watch the announcements for details and to RSVP.

Volunteers Needed

Ham Run

- Would you like to help feed people in our area who don't have enough to eat? Do you have 2 hours per month and a vehicle to drive? Please call or e-mail Laura Wareham for more information on how Redeemer helps deliver donations from Honey Baked Ham to various organizations that feed the hungry in Virginia and DC. (LLwareham@hotmail.com or 703-927-4397)

Assemble Fall Meal Baskets & place labels for Rise Against Hunger – November 2

- Youth and Adults are invited to join in assembling Fall Meal Baskets for Second Story and place labels on packaging for Rise Against Hunger. More details will be made available soon in the announcements.

Little Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone who has been placing food items in Redeemer's "Little Pantry" and collection bin in the Crossroads.

Neighbors in need continue to use Redeemer's Little Food Pantry and it needs refilling daily. As we move into fall, we would like to focus on stocking the Pantry with hearty canned soups and stews. Please consider adding them to your shopping list to donate to the Little Food Pantry.

In addition to donations, the Little Food Pantry needs volunteers to do daily maintenance. Since the pantry holds a limited amount of items, and is used daily, it needs to be stocked and tidied up a few times a week. Would you be willing to stop by once a week to check that it is stocked? No donation is necessary to do this; we will have donations in reserve to stock the pantry. If so, please contact Kim Wenk at kbwenk@gmail.com.



Fall Meal Baskets for Second Story

Once again, 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. God rained down manna. Jesus fed 5000. Now He is allowing us to provide food, so others can give thanks!



The cost of one basket of food plus a \$20 gift certificate is \$60.00. We're collecting contributions and hope to provide 25 baskets!

Since each basket needs to contain the same items, we will be collecting funds to purchase the desired items in bulk, and then we will gather to assemble the baskets. You can participate by:

- Making financial contributions.
- Helping assemble the baskets and/or delivering them to Second Story.
- Giving cash, checks, or online at this [link](#). *Please mark the funds for Second Story. The deadline for financial contributions is October 26th.*

Watch in the announcements to sign up to participate in the shopping, assembly (Nov. 2), and/or delivery. Questions? Contact Cindy Morrow at thetomorrowplace@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Winter Scarf Drive Collection ends October 26

HOOKS AND NEEDLES ONCE AGAIN: The prayer shawl group is hosting the annual winter scarf drive once more to benefit the women at N Street Ministries. Please consider crocheting or knitting a winter scarf; gently used and newly purchased winter scarves are also welcome. Thank you to all the anonymous crafters who have dropped off their beautiful scarves already.

Pick up a "scarf in a bag" kit in the Crossroads, or pick up just the yarn you need. Directions for both crocheted and knitted scarves are included, or use any pattern of your choosing. There is plenty of yarn available in the yarn closet for artisans to use as well. Contact the church office to arrange to visit the yarn closet.

Collection boxes for the scarves will be in Crossroads until noon on Sunday, October 26.

The scarves will go to the women being served by N Street ministries. Redeemer has had a long-term relationship with N Street, a ministry that helps homeless women in DC with a wide range of programs that foster independence. Here is the link to the website for more information:

<https://www.nstreetvillage.org>

The prayer shawl group meets the first and third Thursdays of most months. The hybrid (Zoom and in person) meetings run from 10:30 am to noon in the Library. All are welcome. Beginners are enthusiastically welcomed! Please email Lynn Barth at lynnbarth@gmail.com for more information or yarn.

Britepaths Fall Donation Drive Collecting through October 13

Fall Donation Drive

Please support Britepaths as part of the fall donation drive. As part of this drive, we are collecting funds which will assist our Fairfax County neighbors in need through Britepaths' Emergency Food Support program. Every donation directly assists individuals and families facing temporary crises by providing them with necessary household and personal hygiene products and a gift card for groceries. This crucial support allows recipients to purchase essential groceries and find relief during their challenging times, allowing them to focus on stabilizing their situation. Your contribution ensures that we can continue to provide timely assistance to those experiencing hardship in our community. Join us in making a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors by donating today to Britepaths' Emergency Food Support program. Together, we can provide vital support and foster resilience within our community.

To make a donation, please include "Britepaths" on your donation envelope or the memo line on your check. We will collect donations through October 13.

Thank You for Supporting the Britepaths Secret Garden Little Library

We extend our heartfelt thanks to those who generously donated books to the Britepaths Secret Garden Library. Your support has been truly inspiring, and your contributions are already making a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families in our community. Collectively, we donated over 200 books. Thanks to your thoughtful donations, the Secret Garden Little Library is now filled with a diverse and engaging selection of books that encourage curiosity, creativity, and a lifelong love of reading. Your contributions will continue to inspire young readers and strengthen our community for months and years to come.



August Ham Run Report

Hi All,

The following is the ham run report for August.

On August 14 Laura Wareham delivered 2 boxes from Fairfax and 5 boxes from Falls Church weighing 300 pounds to Rising Hope Mission Church. On August 22 Ralph Dutrow delivered 6 boxes from Falls Church and 4 boxes from Reston weighing 400 pounds to So Others Might Eat. On August 28 Laura Wareham delivered 4 boxes from Fairfax and 4 boxes from Falls Church weighing 240 pounds to Martha's Table. Our total delivery weight for August is 940 pounds and 3,674 pounds year to date. Thank you all.

Sincerely,
Laura Wareham

Partner for Surgery

We continue to support the children in Guatemala who are undergoing surgical procedures, providing handmade tote bags filled with items to make their stay easier. We just sent down 80 and will be sending close to 100 in the next 2 months, so supplies are needed quickly.

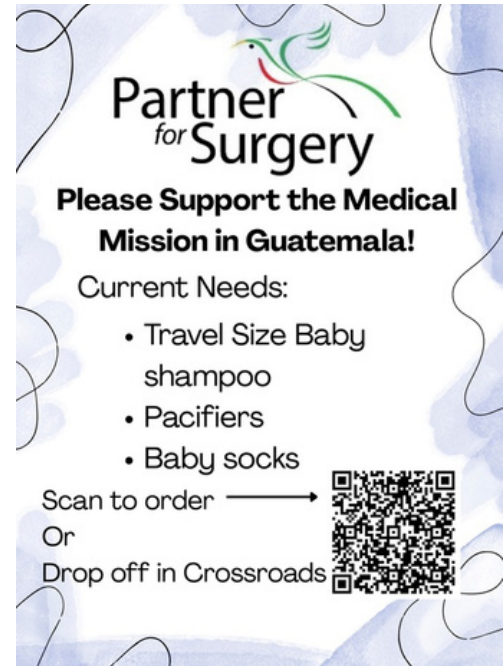
Need is highest for: travel-sized baby shampoo, pacifiers, baby socks, and rattles.

These items can be donated by:

- Placing them in the bin located in the Church Crossroads
- Purchasing them through the Amazon Wish list using [link](#).

We also provide beautiful handmade quilts made by the Redeemer Quilting group which meets on Wednesday morning in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider joining this fun and creative ministry.

For more information, please contact Joan Bradley at joan.bradley27@outlook.com.



Rise Against Hunger November 8

Every 10 seconds at least one person somewhere dies of hunger or hunger related diseases. Rise Against Hunger is dedicated to ending hunger worldwide through empowerment programs, sustainability projects, education, and providing emergency food relief.

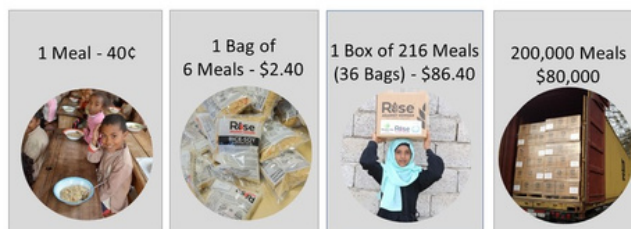
Since 2010, members of the greater McLean community and beyond have come together to package meals for the emergency food program.

The next McLean Community Meal-Packaging Event will be November 8, 2025 at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. Shifts begin at 8:00 am, 11:00 am, and 2:00 pm.

The goal for this event will be to package 200,000 meals, requiring contributions of \$80,000 (40¢ per meal) and over 1,000 volunteers.

Register and Donate at <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/McLeanCommunity2025>

Donations also can be made to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer and designated for Rise Against Hunger. For more information, contact riseagainsthungermclean@gmail.com.



HELP US MEET OUR GOAL
\$80,000

Quilting Group

We hope you enjoyed seeing all of our creative quilts in April and May when they were blessed. As you can see, we've been busy! Obviously, we love our mission.

The Quilting Group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 9:00-11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. We are a small group of five ladies on a mission to share our love of sewing. We continue to support Partner for Surgery in Guatemala along with Project Linus (which we started supporting in 2024). Our quilts are various sizes based upon Project Linus guidelines: minimum sizes: 36" x 36" for baby blankets, 42" x 60" for children's blankets, and 45" x 72" for teen blankets, in addition to fleece blankets.

Project Linus supports local Fairfax County organizations such as Ronald McDonald House, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), kids who have lost a military service parent, local emergency situations and national emergency situations when a call for assistance is received, and INOVA Hospital, to name a few.

Partner for Surgery, Guatemala provides medical and surgical care in rural Guatemala, helping impoverished Guatemalan children and families living in remote locations. Our quilts are hand delivered by Frank Petersen. Additionally, we provide handmade tote bags and bears for the children.

Additionally, this year, we "teamed" up with the Prayer Shawl Group to make fleece blankets for Project Linus. The Quilting Group purchased the fleece, rotary skip blade and prepped the fleece for the crocheters to put an edge on. Additionally, any leftover fleece from the blankets was made into scarves to support the Prayer Shawl's scarf drive later this year. The Quilting Group will deliver both quilts and blankets made by Prayer Shawl to the Project Linus drop off location.

Our group is always looking for assistance, and we welcome new sewers into our small group. If you are unable to attend in person, we can provide you with supplies to design a quilt or even a bundled set (quilt top, batting, backing fabric, and yarn) to make at your leisure at home. Other ways to help include monetary donations; fabric, thread, and other sewing/quilting items are welcome. When donating money, please designate it for the "Quilting Group." Monetary donations will go toward the purchase of much-needed batting, fabric, thread, and any other supplies as needed.

If you are interested, please contact either [Darlene McCoy](#) or [Joyce Clarke](#).

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		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
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CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Karen Miller
Vice President	Sabine Detweiler
Secretary	Chris Hernadi
Treasurer	Steve Bott

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Annabelle Allard
Lee Cronin
Sarah Getter
Megan Kratz
Lena Martikainen
Gene Morrow
Tyler Posey
And a Youth Representative