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Our Vision Statement

To be a family of faith that has the courage to be good neighbors, by reaching out to meet the personal and spiritual needs in our community.

THE MESSENGER

February 10, 2023

*Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Newsletter*

Redeemer Lutheran Church | 5120 Harrison Road | Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Church Office: 540-898-4748 | Email: info@redeemerfxbg.org

*2023
Lenten Season*

Join Us
on the Journey

Pastor Dave Miner



The Lenten season provides a fresh opportunity to reemphasize the value of repentance, and embrace the promised treasures offered to us: God's Holy Word, Christ's Passion and resurrection, and our Baptism into Christ. This year as we journey together toward Easter, the Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study and Midweek Lenten Services will underscore hearing the Gospel, since "faith comes from hearing" (Romans 10:17), while accentuating how the Gospel is conveyed through physical senses of sight, smell, and touch. You will see, touch, smell, and feel each week of Lent: ashes, salt, water, light, bread, and palms. Then, during Holy Week, the focus shifts toward the elements: water and blood (wine), wood, fragrant oil, and finally, milk and honey.

The purpose of focusing on these earthly elements is to make the eternal love of God more memorable, tactile, and meaningful for you, God's people. These physical elements enable us, who live in an anxious and sinful world, to cling to memorable footholds for renewed hope and comfort as we live in Christ now and await the life to come in heaven.

Early Church Fathers wisely recognized this when their culture opposed the Gospel and when many people did not have the entire written Word of the Bible as we now have. Therefore, much of their teaching utilized common, tangible, and holistic elements to exalt the mysteries of Christ, the Gospel, and faith in the Bible. They would weave biblical narratives and salvation themes with common elements such as ashes, salt, water, light, or bread.

I invite you to join us for the Lenten season journey with the following resources available to you:

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**WEEKLY DEVOTION
WITH
PASTOR DAVE MINER
Devotion No. 76**

Reading: Numbers 12
(Optional Reading: Numbers 10, 11)

“¹ Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite.” (Numbers 12:1 NIV)

“You should not marry Marjorie,” my father told me. “Let me tell you why you should not marry her,” he continued.

Maybe you have had a conversation like that. Everyone gets criticized for something. Your clothing is not appropriate; or maybe your looks; or the way you behave. It can be anything. Some people will jump on you and yell and scream no matter how careful you are.

Moses received criticism from his brother and sister in the story we are looking at today. They criticized him about his marriage to Zipporah, but the real problem was they were jealous of him because God used him so much. Sometimes criticism is like that. The critic is jealous, or angry about something else, or in a bad mood.

Don't let criticism stop you. If you believe you are doing the right thing, have prayed about it and asked God for his guidance, then trust that he will give it. We all get criticized, but it is the one who keeps the course who succeeds.

Father, help me not to worry about criticism. Let me worry about pleasing you. Amen.

+ + + **Weekly Stewardship Message for Sunday 12 February A.D. 2023** + + +



Rethinking Stewardship

We all have a mouth, a gift from God. Sharing words of kindness, especially to people we don't know, is a way to give God back the mouth He's given you. Use your mouth to share a smile and Jesus will smile down on you.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.

“Blessed be the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; both now and forever unto the ages of ages.”

PANDA PANTRY "SOUPER" BOWL FUNDRAISER

Funds & Food Collection

Sunday, February 12

Let's Tackle Children's Hunger Together

Katie Tennstedt and Barbara Buck



- Our Panda Pantry Ministry is growing as more children, who are experiencing food insecurity, are receiving food donations from Redeemer.
- On February 12, we will hold our annual fundraiser to increase our food inventory to distribute to local elementary and middle schools.

How Can You Help?

- **A soup pot and ladle will be displayed in the narthex** to collect monetary donations, which will be used to purchase food products.
- You may also purchase any of the following individual/small food products including individual lunch items that can be heated up in a microwave, such as soup, ravioli, etc.:

Applesauce

Cheese-Its

Chef Boyardee Cups

Fruit Cups

Granola Bars

Juice Boxes

Mac & Cheese Cups

Oatmeal

Peanut Butter/Cheese

Crackers

Popcorn

Pop-Tarts

Pretzels

Rice Krispie Treats

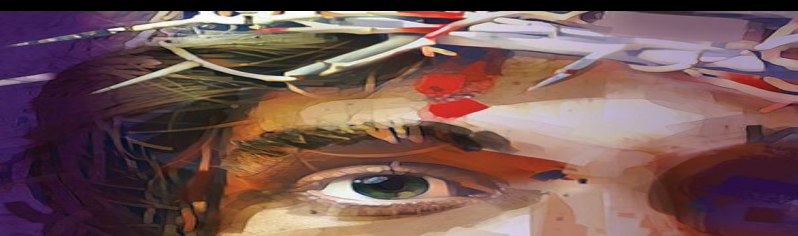
Ramen Noodles

Thank you for your generosity! If you have questions, please contact
Katie Tennstedt at outreach@redeemerfxbg.org
or Barbara Buck at blb.and.me@gmail.com.

2023 Lenten Season

Join Us on the Journey
Pastor Dave Miner

(continued from Page 1)



Lenten Resources Available to You

- ✝ 2023 Lenten Calendar
- ✝ 2023 Lenten Daily Devotional booklet
- ✝ Pastor's Wednesday Adult Bible Study
- ✝ Midweek Lenten Services at 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- ✝ Lenten supper 5:30 p.m. and family activity at 6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall).



Legacy Giving

If you are philanthropically inclined...

What is YOUR gift plan??

Rick Moseley

Many people do not believe they have sufficient wealth to leave significant gifts to both their family members and to establish an endowment for their favorite ministry. However, all of us have received gifts from God and even the humblest of gifts will have a positive impact.

A gift plan will provide a structure on how you will leave your assets to your loved ones in a way that often minimizes the taxes on your estate while providing the opportunity to do more with the blessings God has provided to you in your lifetime. Specifically, a gift plan can often provide a similar level of inheritance to your heirs and still let you provide a meaningful gift to the ministry and charities of your choice.

It is our hope that by establishing a gift plan, you will obtain peace of mind for yourselves and your family members; make the most of your God-given gifts and help to assure the future of Redeemer.

Please look for more of these short reminders about Legacy Giving in The Messenger on a regular basis and if you desire more information, please contact the Legacy Gift Committee at legacygift@embracedbyhim.org and one of our members will do our best to assist you in getting started with your gift plan.



Marian Dawgert and Anita Diederer

LWML February Meeting

Saturday, February 11 | 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Guest Speaker: Christine Maconachy
Chesapeake District President

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) will meet on **Saturday, February 11th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

Christine Maconachy, Chesapeake District President, will be attending as a guest speaker. We will also be making and mailing Valentines for our Redeemer members who are not able to attend in-person services.

As always, remember that ALL women who are members of Redeemer are automatically members of LWML. Please join us for coffee and fellowship if you are able!

Please reach out to Anita Diederer at 540-455-5058 or Marian Dawgert at 540-845-4235 if you have any questions.

God's Secret Saints for Lent

("Secret Saints")

Completed Forms are Needed by February 15

Mike Diederer
Lea Wiltenmuth

Secret Saints is an opportunity for members of our church family to devote daily prayer for one another during Lent. Members who would like to participate will be assigned a fellow church member for whom they are asked to **PRAY** for daily. Likewise, someone will be praying for you. You are also asked to provide your "Secret Saint" with a weekly note stating that you are keeping them in prayer, which you may leave in their mailbox or in a place where you know they spend their time. Although not required, you might include a treat or small gift with your weekly note. **Do not** reveal who you are during Lent, but do feel free to share your identity on Easter Sunday.

Forms must be completed by February 15. You may use the form below or pick up a form in the narthex. You will find your Secret Saint assignment in your mailbox on February 19.

If you have any questions, please contact **Mike Diederer (540-845-5552)** or **Lea Wiltenmuth (540-891-6626)**

Secret Saints Registration Form

Due February 15th

Name _____

I am a ☐ Man ☐ Woman ☐ Youth Boy ☐ Youth Girl

Youth's Age: _____

The Service I attend most often: ☐ 8:00 a.m. ☐ 11:00 a.m.

My prayer request: _____

Favorite color: _____ Favorite Treat: _____

Hobby: _____

Let's Walk for Good by Supporting Micah's
Coldest Night of the Year Walk

Saturday, February 25

Starts at 5 p.m. at Hurkamp Park (Check in at 4 p.m.)

Anita Dieren



**Help serve our neighbors experiencing
 Hurt, Hunger and Homelessness ...
 because it's cold out there!**

- ♥ Come and walk with your Redeemer family and friends to raise money to support Micah in their mission to end homelessness.
- ♥ Redeemer's Boards of Fellowship and Outreach have partnered to organize a team of walkers to join in the Coldest Night of the Year 5K Walk (and optional 1K Walk).
- ♥ Our team is set up online under "Redeemer Lutheran Fredericksburg" with team lead, "Anita Roberson". Please go to <https://cnoy.com/location/fredericksburg> to register. Registration is free.
- ♥ Check in starts at 4:00 p.m., and the walk starts at 5:00 p.m. in Hurkamp Park. It ends there as well with a "soup kitchen" meal provided by Foode + Mercantile.
- ♥ Our team goal to raise is \$1,000, and we can get there!

Please direct questions to Anita at 540-455-5058.

Micah Ecumenical Ministries

1013 Princess Anne St.,
 Fredericksburg, VA 22401
 540-479-4116

www.micahfredericksburg.org

Promoting Church News and Events

Sean Miller, DCS

How do you promote your news and events concerning Redeemer Lutheran Church and its ministries? Redeemer offers the following media options to promote your news and events. Depending on your media needs, please contact the designated person or persons below to share your news or promote your event.

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

Contact: Sean Miller

Digital
Communication
Specialist

info@redeemerfxbg.org

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & SLIDES

Carrie Frank, Secretary

Weekly Deadline
Thursday

info@redeemerfxbg.org
540-898-4748

NEWSLETTER

The Messenger
Susan Antonelli

Volunteer
Newsletter Editor

* Weekly Deadline
Monday 12:00 p.m.

newsletter@redeemerfxbg.org

* Procedures for submitting articles to the newsletter will be placed on our Website soon, or if you have questions or need assistance, please contact Susan Antonelli.



URGENT CLOSINGS AT REDEEMER

Randy Mayer
Congregation President



All closings of the church campus will be communicated by **Remind Text Message and 30 Second Update Email**. We urge you to contact the office if you are not already enrolled to receive these communication tools.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Church activities: We will con-

tinue to follow the *Spotsylvania County Government*, and **not** the county's school system, for delays and closings. If the government offices are already closed, church leadership will make a closing or delay decision. But, each person should make their own decision regarding safe

travel to Redeemer.

PRESCHOOL

The preschool may set additional policies regarding inclement weather that are more specific to their ministry. Such policies will be communicated to preschool families, staff, church council and the church office.

TAKE OR LEAVE A GAME OR PUZZLE EXCHANGE

Carrie Frank

Are you looking for a new puzzle to complete or a game to play during the cold winter months? Do you have a puzzle you have completed or a game that is ready for a new home?

If you do, please bring your puzzles and games to Redeemer to share in our **Take or Leave a**

Game or Puzzle Exchange. A table is set up in the fellowship hall for the rest of January and in February for members to donate games and puzzles or to take some fun home! At the end of February, all remaining games and puzzles will be donated.

Please tape your puzzle and game boxes closed to prevent the contents from spilling.

For more information, contact Carrie Frank at 540-898-4748 or info@redeemerfxbg.org.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF ELDERS

Redeemer's Call Committee & Call Process

Craig Nehls, Chair

As Redeemer's Call Committee's work and the Call process continues, we are reminded that the call process is a spiritual process of discernment led by the **Holy Spirit**. We know that the process will take whatever time God intends. **Prayer** is an essential part of the call process, and it cannot be overemphasized. When you pray, remember that God promises to lead us. Paul tells us in Ephesians 3:20 "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

As our Call Committee continues to work and pray to identify the Pastor that God has chosen for us, we ask that you pray that the Lord would continue to guide the Committee in its work.

CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Johanna Champney, Dave Cogley, Marian Dawgert, Allison DeGraaf, Judy Devey, Mike Eastman, Linda Gagon, Todd Miller, Mat Smith, and Carey Schwenzer.

Please see any of the committee members if you have any thoughts or questions about the call process.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship	8:00 a.m. (Traditional) and 11:00 a.m. (Blended)
Sunday School and Bible Study	Pastor's Bible Study will meet at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.
Livestreaming	Livestreaming is available on our website at www.redeemerfxbg.org . Scroll over "Media" on the top right of the page and click on "Watch Live" from the drop-down menu.

QR Codes Replaced Paper Bulletins for Worship Services

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Service CLICK HERE	Sunday 11:00 am Service CLICK HERE
	

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

February 10-16, 2023

Birthdays

February 10	Mike	Dieren	February 12	Alannah	Montgomery
February 10	Jessica	Rich	February 12	Aaron	Schwenzer
February 11	Ken	Elam	February 12	Carol	Tavares
February 11	Katie	Tennstedt	February 12	Joan	Woollard
February 12	David	Bye	February 14	Lucas	Woollard
February 12	Lisa	Garrett	February 16	Makenzie	Waltman

Anniversaries

February 11	David & Marjorie	Miner	February 14	Donald & Harriet	Schumann
February 13	Robert & Rita	Flohrs	February 16	Bob & Marie	Daniels

If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please contact the church
office at info@redeemerfxbg.org

Church Flowers

**Flowers this week are given
to the glory of God by Gale Parker
in memory of her mother, Betty Broadfield.**

Lutherans for Life - Life Thoughts

February 12 – Epiphany VI

Jesus affirms that God forbids both murder and adultery (Matthew 5:21, 27). The Lord categorically says, “No!” to abortion because He emphatically says, “Yes!” to marriage, family, and community. His “Yes!” even extends forgiveness and salvation to those who have aborted their own children. We may advocate the sanctity of human life with the same courage and compassion (Matthew 5:37)—no matter who calls us a fool (Matthew 5:22).

Worship Attendance and Contributions

	Attendance Total	Average Attendance	General Offerings	Year-to-Date General Offerings
February 5, 2023	243	222	\$18,470	\$77,716
Last Year	227	210	\$10,538	\$23,904