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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 17, 2023

*Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Newsletter*

Redeemer Lutheran Church | 5120 Harrison Road | Fredericksburg, VA 22408
Church Office: 540-898-4748 | Email: info@redeemerfxbg.org

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 18

8:00 a.m.

Jimmy the Greek Restaurant
3401 Lafayette Boulevard
Fredericksburg, VA



John Overbey

Saturday's Devotion will be "New Every Day".

Just a reminder that the Men's Breakfast will meet on Saturday, February 18, at 8:00 a.m., at the Jimmy The Greek Restaurant.

If you have not been with us lately, come join us for breakfast and fellowship. If you have never been with us for breakfast, all are welcome.

The wives are also invited to join Grumpy Sue for breakfast.

Hope to see you Saturday morning.

Yours in Christ, John

Check your Mailbox on Sunday, February 19 to Reveal Your Secret Saint Prayer Assignment

Mike Diederer and Lea Wiltenmuth

If you signed-up to participate in the Secret Saint prayer program during Lent, **your Secret Saint assignment will be in your mailbox on Sunday, February 19.**

Please remember to provide your "Secret Saint" with a weekly note letting them know that you are keeping them in prayer. 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.

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

**WEEKLY DEVOTION
WITH
PASTOR DAVE MINER
Devotion No. 77**

Reading: Numbers 13
(Optional Reading: Numbers 14-16)

“³⁰ Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.” (Numbers 13:30 NIV)

Sometimes you will have to stand alone. In the story of the twelve spies in the book of Numbers, we see ten scared men who gave a bad report about the land they had seen. They said the people were powerful. Their cities were fortresses. Some of them, the sons of Anak, were virtual giants. The Israelites could not take the land.

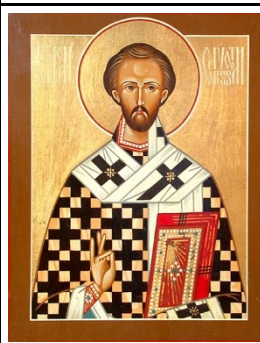
One man stood out, and then another joined him. Caleb assured everyone they could take the land with God’s help and Joshua agreed. But in the end, the people did not listen to them. Why? Because they did not have the kind of faith that these two men had.

There will be times when you must stand alone for Jesus. Maybe at work, or school, or church, or neighbors, or even your family. You might be the only Christian in your group of friends. That will bring times when you must speak for the truth even if no one else may agree with you.

All through history, Christians have often stood alone. Two examples are Martin Luther King, Jr., and the person he was named after, Martin Luther, who started the Reformation of the church and changed history too. Many Christians have been persecuted. But they stood firm. Why? Because they had faith in the risen and living God. Faith always gives you courage because God is the source of the faith and strength, and He is with you ... always!

Lord, help me not to be afraid to stand up for what is right. Amen.

+ + + Weekly Stewardship Message for Sunday 19 February A.D. 2023 + + +



Rethinking Stewardship

RETHINK Stewardship! It’s more than monetary giving. Everything we are and have are gifts from God. Be a good steward. Give God back what is His. Not only money, but also time, hands, arms, ears, and mouths.

Ash Wednesday this week. Remember we are dust, and to dust we shall return.

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Mark 1:2-3

**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:

- ✝ 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.

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.

Prayer for Call Committee and New Pastor

CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

The importance of prayer for the Call Committee and the process of calling a Pastor for Redeemer cannot be over-emphasized. The Call Committee is seeking prayer from the congregation, as follows:

- Prayer for wisdom and discernment for the Call Committee in recognizing God's appointed Pastor for Redeemer.
- Prayer that the Call Committee and the Congregation will be unified in its prayers for a Godly Pastor who will serve and feed the flock in accordance with God's will. (Psalms 133:1)
- Prayer for a Pastor who has been called by God to lead us and guide us according to the whole counsel of God.
- Pray that God's will be done in this Call, and while we wait, that Pastor Dave Miner be covered in prayer as he holds up the staff and stands in the gap. May we hold up his arms as a congregation. (Exodus 17:9-12)
- Please also pray for Marjorie, Pastor Miner's helpmate, in her very important role as the Pastor's wife.

"¹⁵ And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding." — Jeremiah 3:15 KJV



"¹¹ He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." — Isaiah 40:11 KJV

**Please see any of our 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 17-23, 2023

Birthdays

February 17	Sebastian	Martinek	February 20	Lisa	Fedeson
February 19	Deanna	Hinz	February 20	Ryan	Schilling
February 19	Shirley	Schmidt	February 22	Christopher	Schilling
February 19	Jacob	Sullivan	February 22	Tim	Smith
February 19	Ryan	Tutchings	February 23	Brittanye	Van Deusen
February 20	Carol	Dixon			

Anniversaries

February 19	Waverly & Alicia	Alley
February 19	Jason & Katie	Tennstedt

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 Joanbeth Segal
in memory of her husband, Joseph,
and in celebration of the birthday of her son, Jeffrey.**

Lutherans for Life - Life Thoughts

February 19 – Transfiguration of Our Lord

The transfigured Jesus came down the mountain. He did not camp His glory in a comfortable status quo but put it to work accompanying His loved ones into adversity. So let us take hold of this Gospel and invite our neighbors to leave behind the seeming ease of abortion or assisted suicide. And let us find the blessed life Jesus reveals even in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis.

Worship Attendance and Contributions

	Attendance Total	Average Attendance	General Offerings	Year-to-Date General Offerings
February 12, 2023	227	223	\$18,805	\$96,521
Last Year	217	223	\$13,744	\$106,560