



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Redeemer Park Ridge**  
**January 7, 2018**

**UPCOMING MESSAGES:** Today we continue with our November-through-June focus on *The Story*, a version of scripture that puts everything together into a continuous narrative that reads like a novel. *The Story* tells the great story of God's love for us and the lengths God was willing to go to reach us with that love. Today we look forward to this week's reading which finds the Israelites going in to conquer the land God had promised to them. After 40 years of training and testing, they must now rely on God to fight for them.

<i>Today</i>	The Battle Begins
Jan. 14	A Few Good Men...and Women
Jan. 21	The Faith of a Foreign Woman
Jan. 28	Standing Tall, Falling Hard

**THE STORY:** Pick up your copy of *The Story*! *The Story* for adults is available on the display table in the back of the sanctuary. Please take one – there is no charge. Copies of the children's versions are available for sale. See the display for information. If you have a child in Sunday School and she or he hasn't received a book, please speak to Shannon Gonzales, Sara Trivedi, or Pastor Carol.

**MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SUNDAY MORNING:** Come to Sunday morning learning hour. Sunday school for children meets at 9:45am in the Family Room (the room at the very end of the downstairs hallway). Youth group meets at 10:00 in the conference room (up the steps and on the left) and adults meet at 10:00am in the gym.

**NEW YEAR'S OPEN HOUSE AT THE STUHMULLERS':** Pastor Matt and Steph invite you to their home today for an afternoon of food and fellowship from 3pm-6pm. We'll have plenty of food and drinks for the whole family and some activities for kids. After the rush of the holiday season, let's recharge our batteries together as a church community. There's no need to bring anything except yourselves. The Stuhlmullers live at 100 Forest Place P40, Oak Park, IL 60301. There is free street parking available on Sundays.

**MONTHLY FAITH-IN-ACTION OPPORTUNITY:** Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children (1072 National Pkwy, Schaumburg, IL 60173) on January 18 from 8-9:30pm. We'll hand-pack nutritionally complete meals into bags which will be shipped around the world. Children over 5 are able to participate. Because we have a limited number of spots, please sign up on the clipboard in the coffee area no later than January 14. Questions? Contact Dan Quest (dan.quest@redeemerchicago.com).

**STATEVILLE VISIT:** Our next trip to Stateville Prison will be on Saturday, February 10. This is a highly rewarding ministry as we go cell to cell, handing out copies of the *Spiritual Survival Guide for Prison and Beyond* and praying with inmates. If you're interested in going or just want

more information, please get in touch with Ben Blobaum ASAP. Names needed to be submitted well in advance for clearance to enter the prison. Even if you're not sure, if you think you might want to go, let Ben know. We can drop you from the list at the last minute a lot easier than we can add you to it! You can reach Ben at [bblobaum@gmail.com](mailto:bblobaum@gmail.com) or 224-392-1834.

**UNWRAP YOUR GIFTS:** On Saturday, January 13, we'll have an Explore Your Gifts workshop at Redeemer North Ave., a chance for you to home in on your best spiritual gifts and think about how God might want to use you in a unique way in the year(s) ahead. We'll start at 9:00 and finish by noon. There's no charge to do the workshop, but you do need to register ahead of time so that we can send you a gifts inventory to be completed before we meet. A sign-up sheet is in the church entryway, or you can email the office at [Redeemeroffice@comcast.net](mailto:Redeemeroffice@comcast.net). Questions? Talk to Rachel Quest or Pastor Carol.

**HELP CHANGE THE LIVES OF FORMER PRISONERS:** Our prison ministry has launched a revolutionary online tool that will connect "returning citizens" with a statewide network of churches and service providers. We're looking for some help, including data entry and phone calling, to enroll individuals and service providers in the network. This is a crucial step toward getting the site up and running! If you're able to help out, or just want additional information, please contact Ben Blobaum at [bblobaum@gmail.com](mailto:bblobaum@gmail.com) or 224-392-1834.

**FOOD DONATIONS:** The first Sunday of the month is food donation Sunday. Please place your food donations in the red wagon as it's brought forward during the offering. All food goes to the Maine Township Food Pantry. Thanks for making life better for people in need!

**DE-DECORATING:** The Christmas season is winding down, and so our decorations must come down. If you can be around after the 11:00 service next week to help de-decorate the church, that would be very helpful. The more people we have the sooner we're done. We'll provide your lunch to make the rest of your afternoon a little easier.

**WORLD HUNGER GOAL MET:** In June 2016, the Metro Chicago Synod of the ELCA (our denomination) passed a resolution calling the churches of the synod to raise \$1 million for ELCA World Hunger by October 2017. We're happy to announce that that goal was met and exceeded. A total of \$1,060,000 was raised to fight hunger around the world. We're happy to have been a small part of this success. May God guide the decision-makers at ELCA World Hunger to use these funds in the best way possible.

**MAKE AN IMPACT FOR GOD'S MISSION:** Everything we do at Redeemer is made possible by the generous financial gifts of our members, regular attenders, and visitors. If you would like to give electronically, simply go to [redeemerchicago.com](http://redeemerchicago.com) and click the "Donate" button. Or you can scan the QR code, which will take you to Redeemer's secure electronic giving page. There you can select one-time or recurring direct deposit gifts. And you may now set up, review, and change recurring direct deposit gifts directly through Redeemer's secure electronic giving page. Press the "Create Profile" button on the giving page and follow directions to set up your profile. When you've signed in to your profile, you can change, start, and stop recurring gifts without the need to submit any paper form!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Please note: Locations are given for your planning purposes.

Everyone is welcome at everything anywhere!

<i>Today</i>	8:30am 9:30am 9:45am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:30am	Traditional Worship (PR) Portage Park Preview Worship (4419 W. Montrose, Chicago) Sunday School (PR, Family Room) Youth Group & Adult Classes (PR, gym) Contemporary Worship (North Ave) Contemporary Worship (PR) Sunday School, Youth Group, Adult Classes (North Ave)
Tuesday	7:00pm	VST (PR)
Thursday	6:00pm	Youth Group (PR)
Next Sunday	8:30am 9:45am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:30am 12:15pm	Traditional Worship (PR) Sunday School (PR, Family Room) Youth Group & Adult Classes (PR, gym) Contemporary Worship (North Ave) Contemporary Worship (PR) Sunday School, Youth Group, Adult Classes (North Ave) Church De-decorating (PR)