



ANNOUNCEMENTS
Redeemer North Avenue
December 3, 2017

UPCOMING MESSAGES: From November 19 all the way through June 2018, we're focusing together on the great story of God's love for us and the lengths God was willing to go to reach us with that love. We're reading *The Story*, a version of scripture that puts everything together into a continuous narrative that reads like a novel. This week, we'll read about Joseph and his brothers. When his brothers sold Joseph into slavery in Egypt, God used him to save the people of Egypt from famine but also to save his own family line, too.

Today	Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh
Dec. 10	Deliverance
Dec. 17	New Commands and a New Covenant
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve! (worship at 4:00pm)

GROW IN FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING: Join us Sunday mornings for discipleship opportunities for all ages. This is a time of intentional learning and growth, no matter where you're at on your faith journey. At 11:30am, adults gather in the sanctuary for study and conversation, youth group (grades 6-12) meets downstairs in the small-group room, and children gather downstairs for Sunday School. Come and join the conversation as we grow together!

THE STORY: Pick up your copy of *The Story* this morning! *The Story* for adults is available on the display table in the back of the sanctuary. Check your copy to see if you're one of the lucky few to find a golden ticket you can redeem for a special prize!

TIME TO DECK THE HALLS! Today, after our Sunday morning discipleship time, we'll decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Many hands make light work, so please plan to help out - even if you can help for only a short amount of time. Lunch will be provided.

PREVIEW WORSHIP: Today we're holding our monthly worship gathering at our new Portage Park location. Please pray for all those in the area who are in need of a church community to call home and for our ability to welcome them well!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, and Redeemer will have three worship opportunities. Celebrate the birth of our Savior at a 10:00am family service (with the band) at Park Ridge, a 4:00pm family service (with the band) at North Ave., or a 10:00pm candlelight service (traditional) at Park Ridge. Come to one, two, or all three!

NEWSLETTER: The winter edition of the Redeemer Review has been published online, with hard copies also available on the table by the coffee bar. If you didn't get yours online, please make sure we have your email address by emailing a note to redeemeroffice@comcast.net.

TIME AWAY for Pastor Matt: Pastor Matt will be out of the office November 27 through December 6. He will return to work on December 7. If you have a pastoral concern during that time, please contact Pastor Peter, Pastor Carol, or Pastor Fred.

INVITE A FRIEND TO A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM: We hope you and your friends will be part of our family Christmas celebration, A Night in Bethlehem, on Saturday, December 9, from 2-4pm at Redeemer Park Ridge.

During this open-house event, parents and kids will wander through the Bethlehem marketplace and discover what life was like when Jesus was born. Everyone will create unique keepsakes as they interact with local shopkeepers who share about the miracle of Jesus' birth.

An RSVP is not required, but letting us know you're coming helps our team prepare. Reply to the Night in Bethlehem event on our Facebook page and share it with anyone you'd like! Or take some of the flyers near the coffee bar to hand out to friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. After all, we have very good news to share!

Our wonderful team of volunteers is getting things ready, but we could always use more help. Whether you love to plan, build, create, imagine, act, communicate, assist, organize, welcome, or prepare – we have a job for you. Please contact Rachel Quest with questions (rachel@redeemerchicago.com).

ADVENT SPECIAL GIFTS: For the past few years, we've collected special contributions during Advent to provide "good gifts" to people in need around the world, helping them to achieve financial security. This is a great way to make a real difference in people's lives. Help us reach our goal of \$6,000. Just mark an envelope with "Advent gift" or give online by going to our website, clicking on the "donate" button, and entering an amount next to "Advent gift."

CHRISTMAS PARTY! Let's celebrate together! Our annual Redeemer Christmas party will be Friday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m. at Redeemer North Avenue. Come enjoy time together over delicious food, warm lattes, and festive carols. We'll have games and crafts for the kids, and we'll end the night with a classic Christmas movie. This is a great event for inviting a friend! You're welcome to bring a snack or dessert to share with the group, but feel free to just drop in. Questions? Speak with Pastor Matt (matt@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 or 224-392-1834.

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 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!

BE PART OF THE MUSIC! Christmas is coming, and choirs are rehearsing for the 10:00pm Christmas Eve service at Redeemer Park Ridge. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings on the balcony. Vocal Choir meets at 7:00pm and Bells at 8:00pm. Interested in singing and/or ringing? Show up Tuesday or get in touch with Rob Panknin at robandkids@yahoo.com with any questions.

FOOD DONATIONS: Thank you for your food donations for St. Cyprian's Food Pantry. Your contributions make a real difference in people’s lives. You can place your donations in the box in the coffee bar.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
Please note: Locations are given for your planning purposes. Everyone is welcome at everything anywhere!		
Today	8:30am 9:30am 9:45am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:30am 12:15pm	Traditional Worship (PR) Portage Park Preview Worship (4419 W. Montrose, Chicago) Sunday School (PR, Family Room) Youth Group & Adult Classes (PR, conf room and gym) Contemporary Worship (North Ave) Contemporary Worship (PR) Sunday School, Youth Group, Adult Classes (North Ave) Church Decorating (PR, North Ave)
Tuesday	11:00am 7:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Senior Luncheon Christmas Party (PR) Vision & Strategy Team (North Ave) Vocal Choir (PR, balcony) Bell Choir (PR, balcony)
Wednesday	6:30pm	Alpha
Thursday	6:00pm	Youth Group
Saturday	2:00-4:00pm	A Night in Bethlehem (PR)
Next Sunday	8:30am 9:45am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:30am	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)