

Our Week as Redeemer Church

11-18-2020

Our Week as Redeemer Church: News, Updates, & Resources

Each Wednesday, check your email for the latest Redeemer news and upcoming events. You're always welcome to share these resources and invite friends and family to any of our virtual gatherings! For the time being, our large group interactions as a congregation will continue to be on Zoom, a conferencing tool. You can use Zoom from a computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can also dial in from any phone without requiring any internet connection.

LAST SUNDAY

On Sunday we continued our message series, *The Kingdom Come Near*. Jesus told his disciples that he was about to be “delivered into the hands of men,” predicting his arrest and execution. *Immediately after hearing that their Lord was going to suffer*, his disciples started arguing about which of them would be the greatest. Jesus responded to them by standing next to a small child (a person without much perceived economic or social value in that context) and taught the disciples a lesson about status: “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”

[Click here to see a recording of last Sunday's service.](#)

Next Faithful Step

The antidote to seeking after status is to simply be yourself. Here are some things that can help you do that:

- Remind yourself of your value to God in Scripture, prayer, and worship.
- Serve others secretly.
- Praise and encourage other people.
- Strive to grow, “unshowily.”
- Remember that you are loved.
- Remember Jesus!

THIS SUNDAY: WORSHIP AT 10AM

We'll gather from our homes for an interactive worship experience. We'll celebrate holy communion together, trusting in Christ's presence. Before worship, gather your own communion elements. Whatever you have on hand is fine—just a bite of something to eat and

sip of something to drink. If you're interested in joining us, please email peter@redeemerchicago.com.

Here are lyrics for the songs we'll sing together this Sunday (they'll be shown on your screen, as well):

[Unstoppable God](#)
[O Jesus, I Have Promised](#)

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

This Christmas we are helping to provide presents for Kids Above All (formerly known as ChildServ). If you'd like to participate, you'll be provided with a specific child's name and a gift list (the suggested cost is around \$40). Gifts should be purchased new. If you'd like to sign up or have any questions, contact karen@redeemerchicago.com or see the (soon-to-be-updated) Needs Request in your email.

PROVIDE HOMEWORK HELP FOR A REFUGEE NEIGHBOR

Online school is in session, but refugee kids are falling behind. Remote learning is harder for kids who are still learning English. Over 65 refugee kids in Chicago and DuPage County are waiting for help with homework and practicing their English. By working with Exodus World Service and a child in your area, you can help them succeed in school! Here's how it works:

- *What:* We'll introduce you to a refugee family whose child needs homework help
- *Where:* You'll connect via video chat or socially distanced outside
- *How often:* Just one hour per week
- *How long:* Three months

You'll receive training and support from EWS along the way. Become a *New Neighbor for Youth* volunteer and you'll make a huge difference for a refugee kid's future and for their family.

[Sign up or get more info here.](#)

NEW! YOGA & DEVOTION, MONDAYS, 8:30PM

Please join us for a nighttime yoga practice and devotion on Monday evenings. Dress comfortably and follow the 15-30-minute video sent out each week. After you are nice and relaxed, join us on Zoom for a short devotional and prayer. We hope this will be a nice way to start your workweek and end your day. All are welcome. If interested in participating, please email office@redeemerchicago.com.

SHARE YOUR GRATITUDE AND ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

We're working on a small project that we hope will be an encouragement as we reach the end of this challenging year. If you'd like to be a part of this, take a minute to submit a short (1-3

sentences) answer to the question, “What’s something that you’re grateful for in your walk with the Lord in the past year?” (Your answer may be shared with the congregation, so please note if you’d like to remain anonymous.) [Click here to participate.](#)

REDEEMER BOOK CLUB: MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 6:30PM

All are welcome to participate in a discussion of [Moby Dick](#), by Herman Melville. Please contact Linda Gonzales (cpd5137@yahoo.com) if you have any questions or if you’d like to participate.

(P.S. Book Lovers: Linda has an eight-volume set of *The Kent Family Chronicles*, by John Jakes, to give away. Contact her at the email address above if you’re interested.)

WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

If you would like to participate in a white elephant gift exchange, please drop off an unusual and unique gift (between five and ten dollars in value), wrapped without a to/from card. There is a collection box on the front porch of the parsonage (818 S Clifton Ave, Park Ridge), and gifts can be dropped off between 9am and 9pm, through December 11. The evening of December 19, we will have time to pick up a different gift from the one you dropped off (alternate times can also be arranged). And then on Sunday, December 20, we will unwrap our gifts for all to see on Zoom following virtual coffee hour.

NO ONLINE GUIDED PRAYER TONIGHT

Due to scheduling conflicts for our leaders, we will not gather this evening for guided prayer. Instead, you are invited to participate in a practice of the Daily Examen on your own.

[Click here for a recording of *The Examen: Your Daily Prayer* with Fr. James Martin.](#) (This is also available as a podcast.)

Please join us next week on Zoom at 7pm for our usual guided prayer gathering. Email rachel@redeemerchicago.com with questions or if you might like to help facilitate our prayer time.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDIES

Connect with others and study God’s word. These are drop-in Bible studies. No preparation is needed. If interested in participating, please email peter@redeemerchicago.com.

- Tuesdays, 12:00-12:30pm on Zoom
- Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm on Zoom

SHARE YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS WITH REDEEMER'S PRAYER TEAM

We have a faithful team continually praying for our congregation. To share your prayer requests or to be added to the team, please email redeemerprayerteam@gmail.com. (Do you have updates on your recent prayer requests? Please send a quick email to let our team know!)

PRACTICE A QUIET TIME WITH DEVOTIONS ON THE DAILY TEXTS

A short devotional is available first thing each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning. These reflections are based on [the Daily Texts](#), a resource we have been using as a community for many years. Whether the Daily Texts are part of your routine or not, these brief devotions offer space for us to meditate together on God's Word throughout our week. [Simply bookmark this page](#) to participate three times a week.

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS CLASS, TUESDAYS, 7PM

One of the things that emerged from our recent brainstorming was an interest in a theology class that will help us to grow in our understanding of the Christian faith. Our new Theological Foundations class will meet for the first time on Tuesday, November 24, from 7:00-8:30pm, on Zoom. We're reading a great little book called [An Introduction to Christian Theology](#), and we'll take plenty of time for questions and discussion. It's not too late to join in the fun. If you're interested in participating, email peter@redeemerchicago.com.