

Our Week as Redeemer Church

07-28-2021

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

Many of our meetings and events continue to be available on Zoom. You can use Zoom from a computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can also dial in from any phone without requiring an internet connection.

LAST SUNDAY

On Sunday, we looked at how a prayer written by the Apostle Paul (in Ephesians, chapter 3) follows a format used by those in Scripture with the strongest connection to God. We can grow a deeper connection with and understanding of God by following this format: (1) Address God as Father, (2) remember what God has done for you and others in the past, (3) ask God directly for what is needed, (4) expect God to respond in alignment with God's character, and (5) pray through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

GOING DEEPER

Think about what you believe *really* matters in life (e.g., joy, connection with others, greater empathy), and pray that you would experience those things using the format outlined above.

(Note: The model of prayer outlined in Pastor Dan's message can be found in Scot McKnight's book *To You All Hearts Are Open: Revitalizing the Church's Pattern of Asking God*.)

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We're continuing to hold both our 8:30am and 11am Sunday worship services in person. Both vaccinated and unvaccinated people are welcome. Masks are required for unvaccinated people age 2 and older. We'll continue to listen to the guidance from government agencies and adjust as needed going forward if vaccination rates stagnate and COVID cases continue to rise. Please contact [Pastor Peter](#) or [Pastor Dan](#) with any questions. (**Note for parents of young kids:** Beginning Sunday we will again be providing childcare during worship and our childcare attendants will be double-masked at all times. Unfortunately, at this time we cannot guarantee the vaccination status of our childcare attendants.)

BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

During July and August we're collecting back-to-school supplies for children in kindergarten through high school in support of the Kids Above All Back to School Backpack Drive. [Click here to see a list of needed supplies](#). Please bring your donations to Redeemer on Sunday mornings, or to Third Place Chicago on August 21 between 10am and 2pm. Questions? [Contact Deacon Karen](#).

WELCOME TO AMERICA PACK UPDATE

We're putting our faith into action by extending hospitality to a refugee family arriving in our country. Exodus World Service, a Christian organization that helps churches to welcome and befriend refugees, is helping Redeemer put together a welcome pack for a newly arriving family. **We've been matched with a family that will be arriving in Chicago on August 19, so if you've been waiting for a chance to participate, now's the time.** (We expect to get details about the family in the next couple of days.) [Click here for a list of items that are needed and instructions for dropoff/delivery, and to sign up to participate.](#) Questions? Email [Pastor Peter](#).

FAITH IN ACTION WEEKEND IS COMING, AUGUST 28-30

While we continued participating together in service activities during the pandemic, one of the things we had to put on hold was our annual Faith in Action Weekend. Mark your calendars for August 28-30. We'll cancel worship that weekend as we hold a scaled-back Faith in Action Weekend with four different opportunities to serve our neighbors. Sign up before or after worship on Sunday. If you have questions before then, [contact Sara in the church office](#).

BABY SCHWICH CELEBRATION, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 2-4PM OPEN HOUSE

Come to the Redeemer Church sanctuary and lawn as we celebrate the parents-to-be, Pastor Peter and Jade, and the upcoming arrival of their baby girl. Come anytime between 2pm and 4pm for some refreshments and fellowship. Unlike a shower, we won't be setting aside time for gift opening—the family simply asks for your presence, rather than gifts. There will also be a keepsake book to sign, where we can all give the gifts of affirmation and encouragement.

Any questions? Please reach out to Sara Trivedi (setrivedi@gmail.com).

REDEEMER BOOK CLUB: MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 6:30PM

Everyone is welcome to participate in Redeemer's book club. The next meeting will be Monday, August 2, at 6:30pm, at Redeemer Church. We'll discuss [A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail, by Bill Bryson](#). Please contact [Linda Gonzales](#) with any questions.

ONGOING GROUPS, RESOURCES, & OPPORTUNITIES

SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN'S RETREAT, OCTOBER 8-9

The Redeemer Women's Retreat will be October 8-9 (those wanting a little extra time away are welcome to stay until Sunday, October 10). As usual, we'll hold the retreat at the Portiuncula Center for Prayer in Frankfort, Illinois.

CENTERING PRAYER: WEDNESDAYS, 7PM

Meet in the Redeemer Church sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7pm for 20 minutes of silent centering prayer. Everyone is welcome! Explanation and instructions are provided. It's a peaceful way to re-center yourself on God in the middle of the week. Please plan to wear a mask if you're not fully vaccinated.

BIBLE STUDIES: EVERY TUESDAY & EVERY OTHER THURSDAY

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

- Every Tuesday, 12:00-12:30pm, on Zoom
- Every other Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm, on Zoom (**next meeting August 5**)

WOMEN'S GROUP: EVERY OTHER THURSDAY, 7PM

A women's connection group meets every other Thursday, from 7-8pm, on Zoom. Our next meeting will be this Thursday, July 29. All women are welcome to participate. For more information, contact Shannon Latko (shannonlatko1117@gmail.com) or Karen Katamay (karen@redeemerchicago.com).

MEN'S GROUP: EVERY OTHER THURSDAY, 7PM

The Redeemer Men's Group meets every other Thursday evening. Our next meeting will be this Thursday, July 29, at 7pm. If you haven't participated previously, there's no better time to start. We gather in a hybrid format with some guys gathering in person in the church sanctuary along with those who would like to participate from home via Zoom. Contact Joe Duea (duea1rep@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

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 redemerprayerteam@gmail.com. (Do you have updates on your recent prayer requests? Please send a quick email to let our team know!)

NEED FINANCIAL ADVICE?

Joe Duea, a member of Redeemer and financial planner with PrairieView Wealth Partners (an office of Thrivent Advisor Network), is available every Friday at Third Place Chicago (4651 N Milwaukee Ave), from 9am to 1pm. Stop by if you need any financial guidance or have any financial questions.