

Our Week as Redeemer Church

01-12-2022

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

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Due to the high level of COVID-19 cases in our area, we will be worshipping online-only on January 16 and 23, at 10:00am, on Zoom. (There will be no in-person worship services either of these Sundays.) As followers of Jesus who believe in the power of prayer, let's continue to hold our communities in prayer, especially those people at increased risk for serious illness and medical workers being pushed to the point of exhaustion. Let's also pray for wisdom for our leaders who are tasked with making difficult, complicated decisions each day.

As we remain physically separate over the next couple of weeks, this weekly email will be your best source to learn how Redeemer's upcoming events are being impacted by the latest surge of COVID-19. You're always welcome to share these resources and invite friends and family to any of our virtual gatherings.

LAST SUNDAY

On Sunday we continued our new message series, *Something New*. Being able to repent of the wrong things we've done is central to healthy relationships with God and other people. However, true repentance is more than just acknowledgment of a wrong committed—it leads to a visible change in attitudes and behavior. Even when we get the confessing part right, we can fall short when it comes to living differently. At Jesus' baptism he stepped into the Jordan River not to repent of his own sin (Jesus himself was sinless), but to repent of our sin. By confessing for us, God's Holy Spirit was unleashed, and through our *own* baptisms, God is remaking us into Jesus' likeness as we experience true repentance marked by living differently.

[Click here](#) for a recording of last Sunday's worship gathering.

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

How would remembering your baptism help you to live differently today?

THIS SUNDAY: ONLINE WORSHIP AT 10:00AM

Join us at 10:00am as we 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 (a bite of something to eat and a sip of something to drink), which we'll take together. Prior to worship, at 9:30am, children up through age 11 are invited to log on for virtual Sunday School (our Junior High and High School Youth Group will not be meeting

this week). After worship, all will be invited to stick around for a virtual coffee hour. If you're interested in joining, please contact [Pastor Peter](#) for information.

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

[Jesus Come! For We Invite You](#)

[Lead Me To The Cross](#)

[Take My Life](#)

ONLINE GUIDED PRAYER: THIS WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

For the time being, we will return to our online guided prayer format in place of in-person Centering Prayer. Simply find a meditative space at home and drop in to peacefully connect with God and others in the middle of our week. Email rachel@redeemerparkridge.com with questions.

CARE PACKS FOR NEIGHBORS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

We're collecting items to put together care packs for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. We're especially in need of tuna/chicken cracker packs, nail clippers, small tissue packages, hand warmers, and \$10-\$15 food gift cards. For a full list of items to donate [click here](#). Items can be brought to church on a Sunday morning when we have in-person worship or by arranging a time to drop them off at the parsonage by contacting [Pastor Dan](#).

FREE COPIES OF *TORN* AVAILABLE FOR BOOK DISCUSSION, STARTING FEBRUARY 13

So that as many people as possible feel comfortable participating, we're pushing back our discussion of the book *Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays-vs.-Christians Debate*, by Justin Lee. **Our new plan is to discuss the book on February 13, 20, and 27, at 9:45am.** Lee founded a nonprofit, interdenominational organization called the Gay Christian Network, and he writes about creating constructive conversations on controversial issues. *Torn* is an accessible, thoughtful, and generous memoir that helps faithful Christians approach questions that have often been painful and divisive within the Church. We really hope that many in our congregation will be a part of these conversations, whatever their experiences, thoughts, or feelings on these questions may be. If you'd like to participate in our upcoming book discussion and the cost of the book is creating a barrier, **please fill out [this form](#) and a free copy will be sent to your home.** Please do not hesitate to accept this offer. (Or there are [links to buy the book here](#).) Get a book and start reading! We'll be discussing the book as a whole at each discussion, so please have the whole book read by February 13 to participate. Questions? Email [Pastor Peter](#) or [Pastor Dan](#).

BIBLE STUDY: EVERY OTHER THURSDAY, 7:30PM

Connect with others and study God's word, every other Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm, on Zoom (next meeting January 20). We're working our way through the book of Matthew. No preparation is needed; just join when you can. If you're interested in joining, please contact [Pastor Peter](#) for information.

NEW WOMEN'S GROUP STUDY BEGINS JANUARY 13

Our women's connection group meets every other Thursday, from 7-8pm, on Zoom. Starting January 13, our Thursday evening women's group will be studying the Lord's Prayer together using a book called *Book of Faith Lenten Journey: 40 Days with the Lord's Prayer*, by Henry F. French. All women are welcome to participate! Questions? [Email Deacon Karen](#).

MEN'S GROUP: THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 7:00PM - ZOOM ONLY

Due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in our area, the Redeemer men's group is meeting this Thursday, from 7:00-8:30pm via Zoom. Once case numbers in our area return to lower levels we'll resume our hybrid format of meeting in person in the sanctuary along with those participating via Zoom.

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

Everyone is welcome to participate in Redeemer's book club. The next meeting will be Monday, February 7, at 6:30pm, **on Zoom**. We'll discuss [We Were Never Here, by Andrea Bartz](#). Please contact [Linda Gonzales](#) 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 redeemerprayerteam@gmail.com. (Do you have updates on your recent prayer requests? Please send a quick email to let our team know!)