

November 2026

THE MESSENGER

Monthly Newsletter of Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE: *(For all activities see redeemerfxbg.org/calendar)*

- Sun. Nov 1 All Saints Day
- Mon. Nov 2 Bible Study, No Preschool
- Tues. Nov 3 Women's Bible study, No Preschool
- Wed. Nov 4 Wednesday Morning Bible study & Potluck, Elders Meeting
- Thurs. Nov 5 Divorce Care, Women's Bible study, Small Group singers
- Fri. Nov 6 Kohathites
- Sat. Nov 7 All Thingz Academy Fall Festival, Council Budget meeting, Children's Chimes. KinGS meeting
- Mon. Nov 9 Bible study
- Tues. Nov 10 Ladies Night out
- Wed. Nov 11 Wednesday Morning Bible study, Cub Scouts, Council meeting
- Thrs. Nov 12 Dinner & Devotions, Confirmation, Divorce Care, Women's Bible study, Young Adult Small group, Small Group singers, Pastor Dave's Bible study
- Fri. Nov 13 ROMANS Youth Group meeting
- Sat. Nov 14 LWML, Children's Chimes
- Sun. Nov 15 ROMANS Bake sale
- Mon. Nov 16 Bible study
- Tues. Nov 17 Women's Bible study
- Wed. Nov 18 Wednesday Morning Bible study, Cub Scouts, Preschool Committee meeting
- Thurs. Nov 19 Divorce Care, Women's Bible study, Small Group singers, Mom's Night Out
- Fri. Nov 20 Preschool Thanksgiving Feast
- Sat. Nov 21 Men's Breakfast, Quilters, Children's Chimes, KinGS outing
- Mon. Nov 23 Prayer Shawl ministry, Bible study, Preschool Thanksgiving break begins
- Tues. Nov 24 Board of Education Meeting
- Wed. Nov 25 Wednesday Morning Bible study, Thanksgiving Eve services
- Sat. Nov 28 Men's Ministry Breakfast, Children's Chimes
- Mon. Nov 30 Bible study

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A WHISPER - PASTOR TUCKER WRIGHT

I think my becoming a pastor was due in part to what I will call an "experiential metaphor." I was in the depths of the sea, not unlike the prophet Jonah. I laugh as I am writing this because I have often called it my "Slow boat to Tarshish." You see, before I became a pastor, like the prophet Jonah, I ran from God's call and thankfully returned with a grateful heart to serve Him. I cannot count the number of times that I have heard people say, "I could never be a preacher", or "I can never evangelize other people." That may be true right now, in this context, but I know that we all have gifts and talents, and I have certainly seen that in this congregation. Some of you are wonderfully gifted working with children while others have a passion for ministering to the elderly. Some of you have that special way of encouraging disabled people while others reach out to the community at large. This makes me excited because that's how churches grow and that's how we lead people to Christ. The Holy Spirit enlivens people and we have good able-bodied people that can talk, write or walk the Gospel of the Lord to the world that needs it so much. You are truly the hands and feet of our Lord!

You may not have had a huge mountaintop experience; yours might not even be a foothill. You might not have been revived after drowning in a sea of despair, but perhaps something clicked and you realize you have a lot to offer. Maybe you've considered being a pastor (there are lots of scholarships available, just sayin'). Maybe you are a musician or a mechanic or a carpenter. Regardless of your station you can help, I know you're hungry, you're hungry for the Word, and so are other people.

Can you imagine the wonders God can perform through this gathering of people if we are all motivated by the great commission? You can help make disciples. Let us know what you need. If you're hungry, we will feed you the Word. If you need regular food, perhaps we can get you some food. But the point is we were created to be stewards and to tend creation. If there is a faint whisper or a deafening shout for you to serve, chase it. You won't regret it. If you are well nourished in Holy Scripture, it will be abounding and it will flow out of you.

Soon we'll see Christmas lights and I pray that you are lit up as well. Shine your light! There's something inside you that's pushing you and you might be resisting, but don't! Please, let it drive you. That's the "Ruach" as the ancient Hebrews called it. The "wind," the "Breath," the Spirit of the living God! It's the third person of The Trinity, The Whisper. Welcome to renewal, Welcome to a new day at Redeemer!

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THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Wednesday, November 25th at 12:30 PM and 7:00 PM

Let us gather in thankfulness, as we give praise for the blessings God has bestowed upon us.

Thank You, Redeemer!

We raised over $1,200 this year to support IMGN Life and their Choices Women's Center
(Not including any direct on-line donations we may have made using the QR Code)

Baby Bottle Campaign



IMGN life

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COMPLACENCY

Today I was in my basement exercising and I realized that I was exceedingly bored. My exercise routine had become monotonous, and I didn't quite understand it at first, but then I realized I was "complacent." Once I found myself on the topic of complacency, I started looking at potential dangers and I realized that we all are challenged with the battle of self-satisfaction. Merriam-Webster says that complacency is "the battle of self-satisfaction accompanied by unawareness of dangers or deficiencies." It can rob us of our drive to live this life to the fullest.

For me personally, the last five years have been comprised of me going from book to book, from test to test, and now I find myself going from task to task. We find ourselves staging our life from meeting to meeting and we can forget that God has created a beautiful world with many things to enjoy. I'm reminded of taking my kids to a new playground and to us, it may seem like a simple swing set, but a new swing set or a jungle gym seems to open up a whole new world for children. We need to recognize that world and embrace it!

Proverbs 1:32 warns that "The complacency of fools will destroy them." If ministry becomes mundane or if fellowship seems futile, we may need some help or direction that will point us to a new trajectory where we can maximize our gifts and talents to bless others. Regardless of whether you are home-bound or traveling the world, a new ministry experience can be a phone-call, a click of a mouse or a hand written letter away.

Susann spoke of the "Ripple effect" in her children's message and that could be the impact of your change. There may be an extended draw for others as you change your routine. If discipleship were against the law, would you be convicted? Joy is contagious so if you feel complacent, let's change that to excitement! You are a new creation, it is a new day with new possibilities!
Pastor Tucker Wright

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THANK YOU FROM YOUR PASTORAL STAFF

Dear Redeemer Family,

Thanks so much for the love you continue to show us and each other in the name of Jesus!

Your efforts to show your appreciation to us on this year's "Pastor Appreciation Day" really went above and beyond. Thank you for all the cards, notes of thanks, hugs, festive cakes, decorations, and gifts. We are so blessed to be called to serve this extraordinary family of faith in this time and place. Thank you for your faithfulness in all aspects of our Christian life, and may God bless each of you as we continue our journey together.

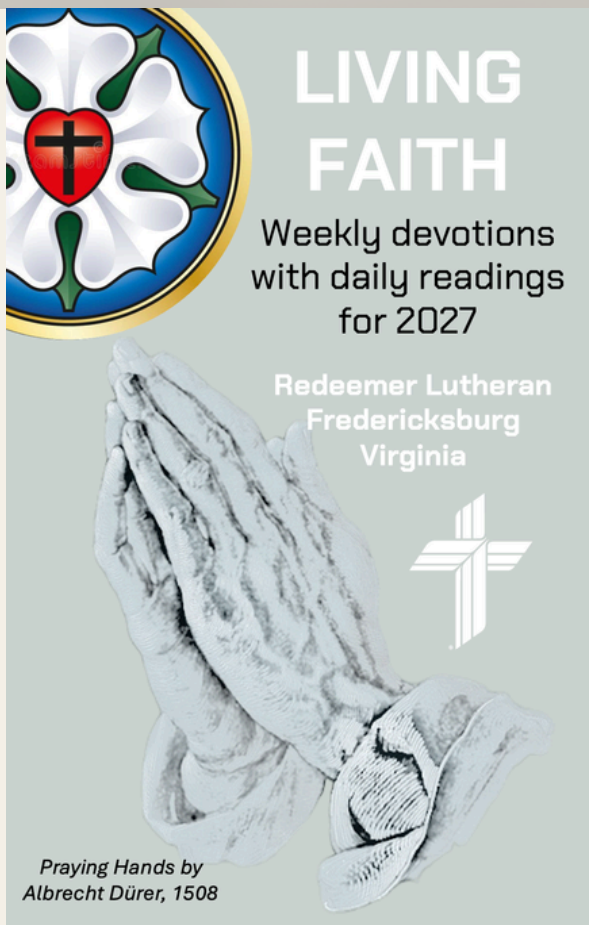
Pastor Tucker, Pastor David, Vicar Eric

Thank you to all who provided devotional messages for this project

DELIVERY TO SUBSCRIBERS IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15

A SECOND PRINTING IS PLANNED FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH, OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO DID SUBSCRIBE IN ADVANCE

Thank you to all in the congregation who have supported this effort and to THRIVENT for grants to cover the printing expenses



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"GIDDY-UP"

As I reflect on my call to serve this congregation, I keep returning to an experience I had in 2017—what Daniel Franks calls a "burning bush" moment. For me, it was a moment when God Almighty spoke clearly and directly. I knew He was speaking to me—and He knew I knew!

I understood God's call in two phases. First, I was to complete the steps to become a pastor while serving as a rostered Lay Deacon. I was to become not just any pastor, but the pastor who would guide Redeemer through the transition after Pastor Kassouf retired. Second, I was to serve churches in the SED that were without a pastor, for as long as I was physically and mentally able to answer His call. With this call came a reassuring message about my wife: "Don't worry... your wife already knows—giddy-up!" In full transparency, He may not have said "giddy-up" exactly.

God has made it clear to Marjorie and me that I have fulfilled the first phase of my call and am now called to enter its second phase. I will serve as a Supply Pastor and remain available to churches that do not have, and may not be able to afford, a full-time pastor. Over the past five years, Redeemer has welcomed Lead Pastor Tucker Wright, Director of Christian Education Susan Gehring, Vicar Eric Carlson, and organist Ethan Schwenzer.

Therefore, I have requested a peaceful release from my call as Redeemer's Administrative Pastor. I have already begun serving as a supply pastor. With Bishop Harmon's agreement and as the Lord leads, I may also consider calls to serve as an interim or vacancy pastor. Marjorie and I will continue our faith journey with trust and hope, believing that God will reveal His specific plan for us in time.

Marjorie and I carry 30 years of loving memories with us. Thank you for your tireless love, support, and prayers as I grew in my role as your servant-Pastor. We have been blessed and honored to stand with you, our brothers and sisters who love and serve the Lord.

Fredericksburg will remain our home base, and calendar permitting, you will see us at various church activities ... and yes, of course, Chilly.

May God bless you this day.

In His Grip, Pastor Dave Miner

Redeemer Lutheran Church Preschool

Thanksgiving



FOOD DRIVE

November 1 – 18th

All donations will support local children and families in need at Battlefield Elementary School





PRESCHOOL PAGE

Hello, Church Family!

October was a busy, exciting, and fun-filled month for our preschool students. We enjoyed several special activities that brought lots of smiles, wonderful learning opportunities, and lasting memories for the little ones.

Fire Prevention Week – October 4th – 10th

We were excited to welcome the Spotsylvania Fire Department for a special visit during Fire Prevention Week. Our children had the opportunity to meet firefighters from Fire House 4, explore the fire truck, and learn important lessons about fire safety. They discovered what to do – and what not to do – during a fire. It was a wonderful learning experience.

Our annual fall field trip took us to Round Hill Farm in Culpeper this year. We were excited to try something new and give our students a fun opportunity to explore, learn, and make special memories together.

The children were especially excited about the last week of October as we celebrated Storybook Character Day! On October 28, the children proudly showed off their costumes during a special parade through the church and were rewarded with candy for participating, making this a sweet and memorable way to celebrate the season.



Thank you to all who support this ministry--

Kerstin Saravia

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FROM THE DCE - SUSANN

If you're reading this on November 1st you have gained an extra hour. The clocks basically say we can spend that hour however we'd like, but let's be honest, sleep is looking pretty promising. Of course, you could also read a chapter or two of a book, play a game with the family, watch an extra TV show, bake the cake you've been saying you were going to bake, or clean that corner of the room that's been sitting there. There are so many things you could do with one extra hour.

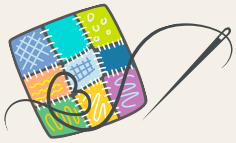
November 1st is also All Saints' Day, which gives this day a different kind of weight. We remember those who have died in the faith, and we give thanks for God's work in their lives. Their absence can still hurt, but our hope rests in Christ and the promise of the resurrection. So whether your extra hour is spent sleeping, drinking coffee, or caring for someone who needs you, I hope you can receive the day as it comes. We don't always get to choose how our time is spent, but God meets us in these ordinary moments. Now that you've gotten this far in my article, grab your cup of coffee, pull up a chair, and let me give you three more random facts about me:

- I grew up in Florida as a blond, beach-loving, always barefoot sassy teenager
- Baby Yoda will always be Baby Yoda
- I don't believe pineapple belongs on pizza

And since November is also the month of Thanksgiving, I hope we can pause to name the things we're grateful for, even the small ones. A cozy kitchen, a table full of family, a person who showed up when we needed them. I love cooking and eating Thanksgiving Dinner. I'm there for the gathering, the gratitude, the turkey and a good side dish. But just not the pumpkin pie. Gratitude has a way of getting us ready for Advent, because it reminds us that everything we have is a gift. And one more thing.

I love Advent! I love preparing for the birth of our Savior and the traditions that help us do it: the old traditions that return and the new ones we create. Maybe it's a short devotion we do together, or one we do on our own. Maybe we're building something with blocks, opening one package each day, or taking a link off an Advent chain. Maybe it's just opening the little windows to see what's underneath.
Advent is a season of waiting, even though we know the rest of the story every year I love hearing it and preparing my heart again for the joy of Christ's birth.

As we head toward Advent, I'm working on family Advent devotion boxes for Redeemer and our preschool families. Our portable children and family library is getting ready to roll out, and I'm planning a "Navigating the Bible" workshop to help children and parents explore God's Word together.
Whatever you do with your extra hour, I'm thankful to be walking into this season with you.
If you see me around Redeemer, come say hello. I have plenty of coffee in my office to share along with some creamer, and I'd love to hear how your family celebrates Advent.
And if you'd like to debate the whole topic of pineapple on pizza, I'm listening. I just probably won't change my mind.



QUILTING GROUP

Our Quilting group meets on the third Saturday of each month from **9 AM - 12 PM** (next:11/21). Please reach out to Anna Jennings for more information.



KINGS

November 7th at 6:00 pm
Meet at Church
November 21st at 12:00 pm
Meet at Church - Apple Picking

MENS MINISTRY BREAKFAST

WHEN: **4th Saturday** of the month at 7:30 AM
WHERE: Fellowship Hall. All men are welcome.
CONTACT: Dennis Gill or Brian Glusing

MENS BREAKFAST



When: **3rd Saturday** of each month (11/21) at 8 AM
Where: Jimmy the Greek on Lafayette Blvd.
All Men are Welcome. Women are welcome and sit at a seperate table in the dining room.
Contact: John Overbey

ROMANS YOUTH GROUP



When: Friday, **November 13th** at 6:00 pm
Where: Fellowship Hall

LADY'S NIGHT OUT

Contact: Linda Bye
When: **November 10th** at 5:30 pm
Where: BJ's Brewhouse

PANDA PANTRY



We are collecting food items for school children experiencing food insecurity.

Needed items are: small individual boxes of cereal, Nutri-grain bars, granola bars, pop tarts, oatmeal packets, fruit cups, mac and cheese cups, chef Boyardee cups, Nissan noodle cups, rice Krispy treats, peanut butter crackers, individual packages of cookies, chips, cheese-its, and pretzels; Capri sun juice packs, and Kool-Aid juice packs.

There is a collection box in the narthex for items brought to the church.
Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. --Outreach Committee

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

	Monthly Attendance Average	Attendance Average (YTD)	General Offering	General Offering (YTD thru MAY)
SEPT 2026	215	250	66,906	538,575
SEPT 2025	245	258	59,817	504,321
SEPT 2024	220	241	53,434	562,797

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