

Redeemer Life

April 2025



“Supportive Care Ministry: Looking at the Map”

As we step into the month of April by God’s grace, it is an opportunity for Carolyn and I to celebrate our one year anniversary of moving into the manse to share with you in the task of providing supportive care ministry! Thus, it’s time for us to pause and take a look at “the map”, thinking about the roads we have travelled, and wondering about what future roads may be ahead!

I would like to begin by saying that it truly has been a great joy to serve at Redeemer! As we visited various homes, we always received a very warm welcome! Travelling through the hills and valleys observing the picturesque beauty of the Michigan landscape served as a type of illustration of what we were learning during our visits. We heard about the highs and lows of individual spiritual journeys. We were blessed to hear the splendid testimonies of how God has been at work. It was interesting to discover how He has put this church family together, gathering us from a variety of congregations and denominations. Many, even most of us, do not have a long-standing connection with the OPC. A recurring theme was that people were drawn by the Lord to Redeemer because of what Redeemer represents. Namely, a strong and steadfast commitment to the authority of Scripture, the proclamation of Reformed doctrine, and the importance of worshipping God with

reverence, repentance, and rejoicing in His free grace!

From April through August, the emphasis was on these “get acquainted visits”. In September, God was placing before us another new road of adventure. He graciously enabled Redeemer’s participation in a ministry outreach that we are calling “The Luke 24 Journey”. It is fascinating to study that chapter of the Bible and notice how it testifies to the importance that God Himself places on spiritual care. On the greatest day in history—the day of our Savior’s resurrection victory—He spends a considerable amount of time walking alongside two hurting disciples who were struggling with all sorts of questions and their own deep feelings of loss. They needed to be brought to the conviction that there is real reason for hope! The power of sin and death has been defeated! And so it was that, near the end of that day, their eyes were opened!

All around us in these Michigan communities, we have neighbors who are nearing the end of their days on earth while living in a care center. Many have been Christians for several years. They need the encouragement of a fellow believer investing time to be with them, listening to their memories and their hurts. Others have not yet known what it



RedeemerAda



@redeemeropc



(616) 682-0800



8605 E Fulton, Ada, MI 49301

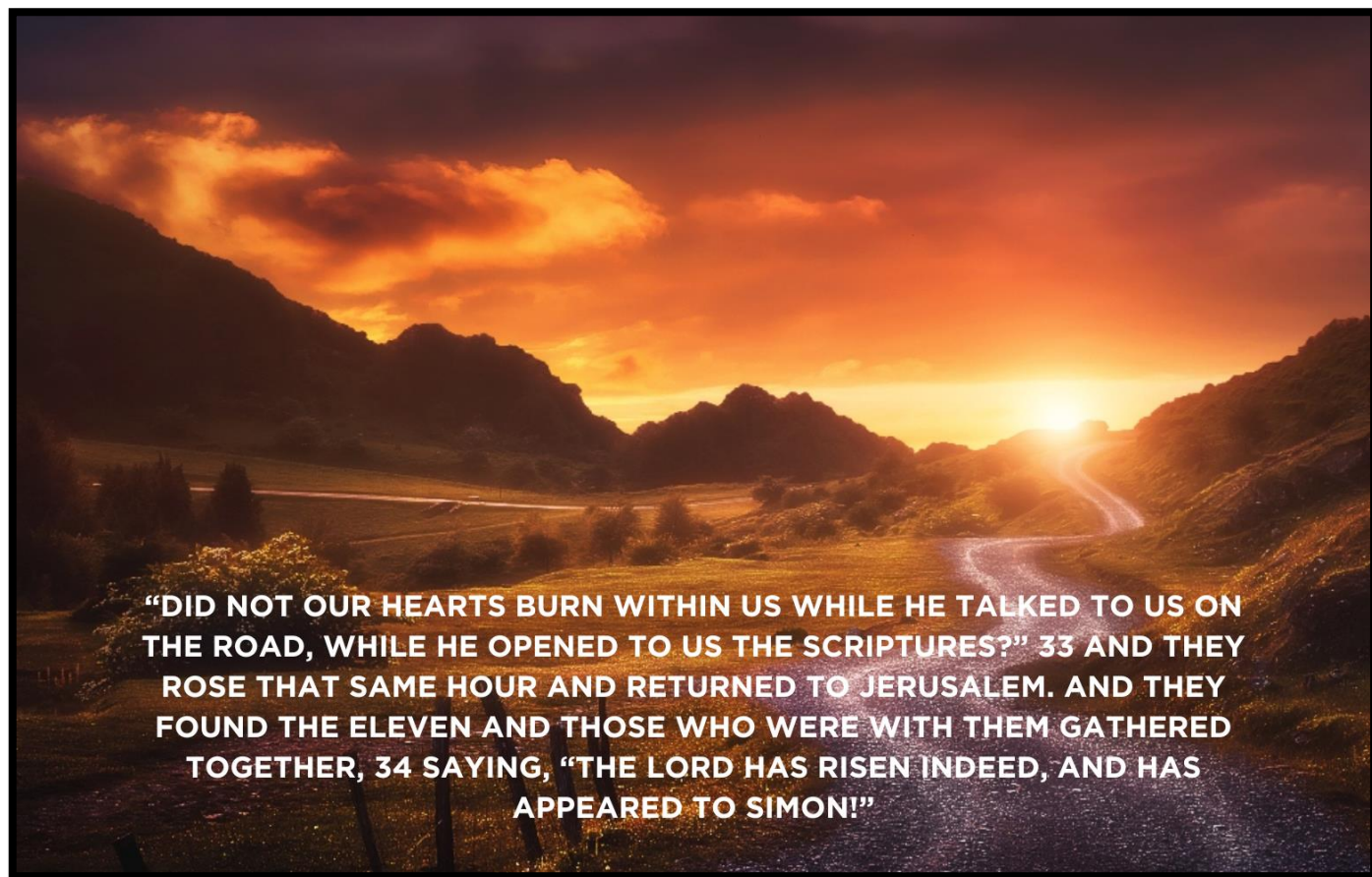
is to have their heart being gripped by the glorious truth: “Jesus died for me!”

“The Luke 24 Journey” is Redeemer’s implementation of “God Cares Ministry”. In 1994, God called Chaplain Bill Goodrich of Ohio to the task of equipping congregations to essentially “adopt” and provide spiritual care at a nearby nursing home. In amazing ways, God has opened doors for Redeemer to serve at MediLodge of Grand Rapids. This past autumn, following an introductory luncheon and three training sessions, a team was sent to MediLodge. Our mission is to bring the love of Jesus to residents and staff! TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

In 2025, what new roads are still to come? There is an intriguing possibility that would serve as a “second track” of the Luke 24 Journey. We would like to explore doing more work in the area of bereavement support in the congregation and the wider community. We ask you to please be in prayer about this, that we would have definite direction from our Lord about what He intends. Thank you so much, Redeemer family, for the support and encouragement that you have given to us!

Your brother in Christ,

Chris Thurow



Announcements

The Lord's Supper

Will be celebrated during the morning worship service on Sunday, April 6, 2025. Prepare your hearts as we gather at the Lord's table. All items served are gluten free.

Session Meeting

The Session is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Redeemer Open House

The next Redeemer Open House will be on April 20, 2025, from 12:00 pm-3:00 pm at the home of Jeff and Karen DeBoer. Visitors, new members, and guests are especially welcome and can sign up at any time as space permits. Current members are encouraged to sign up at least a week in advance. Sign up options will be sent out soon. Join us for a great time of fellowship and lunch!

Redeemer Praise Service and Food and Fellowship Dinner

We will not be having a Praise Service and Food and Fellowship Dinner in the month of April due to the Easter Holiday.

Three Opportunities for Prayer

- 1.) Redeemer Church has Spurgeon's version of the boiler room prayer meeting in Pastor Jeff's office every Sunday at 8:45 a.m.
- 2.) An Elder of Redeemer Church is available to pray with you at the front of the sanctuary near the ramp. Prayer requests could cover healing, wisdom, salvation for a dear friend or any situation or challenge that you need the Lord's help with. We are a praying church, and this is just one more way we can demonstrate our faith and reliance on our precious Lord. Any questions, please contact Kirk Harmon, harmonk3@comcast.net.
- 3.) Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. for the Winter Months. Please join us for prayer in the Conference Room Every Wednesday. If you have questions regarding the prayer meeting, feel free to contact Kirk Harmon at 616-897-0654 or harmonk3@comcast.net.

Women's Prayer Team

The Women's Prayer Team is available to pray with any woman at any time by request. We invite you to contact one of our members: Sharon Dykstra – Janet Schamp – Josi Stevens – Cobie Tenbrink



SPRING 2025 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday: The Lord of Psalm 23: Jesus Our Shepherd,
Our Companion, and Host by David Gibson.

9:30 am | Redeemer OPC

Wednesday: A Woman of Contentment by
Dee Brestin

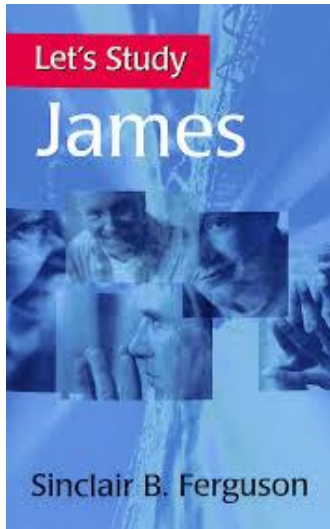
7:00 pm | Redeemer OPC (2nd and 4th Wednesday of month)

Thursday: Becoming a Woman whose God is Enough
by Cynthia Heald

9:30 am | Redeemer OPC | Childcare available

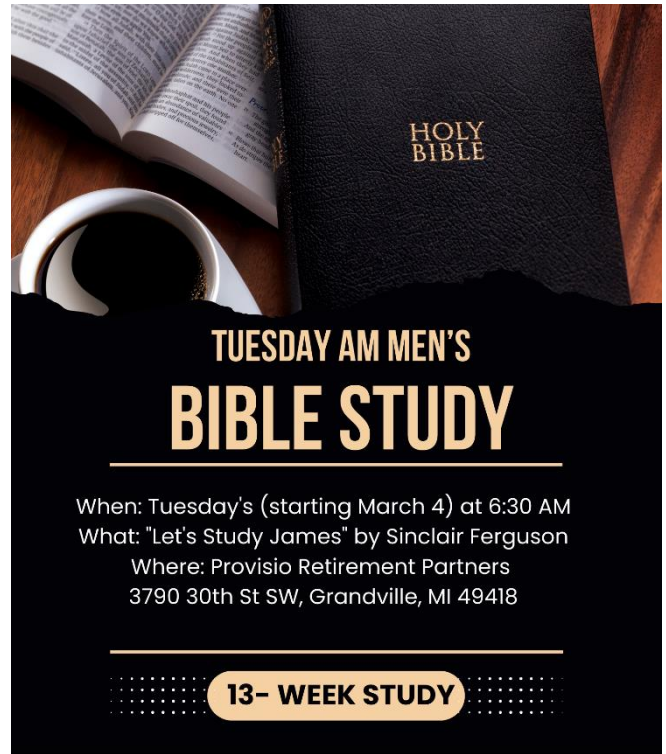
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study




When: Tuesday's at 6:30 AM
What: "Let's Study James" by Sinclair Ferguson
Where: Provisio Retirement Partners ; 3790 30th St SW, Grandville, MI 49418

This is once again a 13-week study which we started with our first meeting this morning (3/4). Once we are through this study we will break for the summer. Those interested can reach out to Alex Overbeek for more information - aoverbeek27@gmail.com.



When: Tuesday's (starting March 4) at 6:30 AM
What: "Let's Study James" by Sinclair Ferguson
Where: Provisio Retirement Partners
3790 30th St SW, Grandville, MI 49418

13- WEEK STUDY

 www.redeemer-opc.org

Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study

The men are studying Romans. It is not necessary that you have read or participated in the past, you all are welcome at any given time that works for your schedule. We meet every Thursday morning @ 6:30am, at the Gathering Place, a Restaurant at the corner of Thornapple River Rd se and Cascade Rd se. The restaurant has a breakfast special which helps to keep the cost low. We finish up at 7:30am to allow for job responsibilities.

We would enjoy your presence and fellowship. Please pray if God is calling you to attend.

If you have any questions, please call or text Steve Hill 616-286-2419 or shtroubleelectric@gmail.com.



VBS IS COMING!!



COMING SOON

Women's Ministry Summer Series:

How to Engage With the Post-Christian World

Save the dates!

Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30pm

May 20

May 27

June 3

June 10

June 17

June 24



Women's Ministry Summer Series

Men's Ministry Summer Events

MEN'S MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
16

Cookout at Phil
Hansen's

6:30PM



JUNE
14

Westsider's Cookout
- Jenison area

6:30PM



JULY
18

Golf Scramble at
Arrowhead Golf Club

Afternoon



Women's
Contentment
Conference
March 7 & 8, 2025

Maranatha Conference
and Retreat Center

"Not that I am speaking of being in need,
for I have learned in whatever situation I
am to be content. I know how to be
brought low, and I know how to abound.
In any and every circumstance, I have
learned the secret of facing plenty and
hunger, abundance and need. I can do all
things through him who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:11-13



Congratulations! Micah & Paige DeBoer –

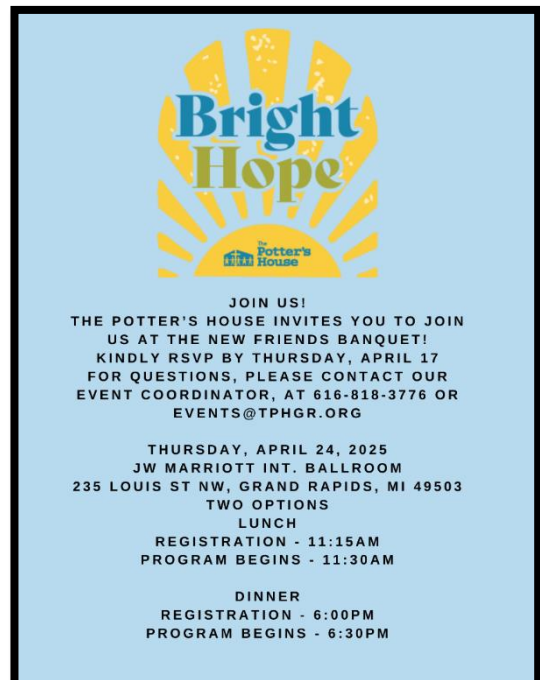
Married

March 1,

2025



April 24, 2025 – 2 opportunities to support local ministries – see bulletin board for details



Redeemer Mission Focus



Mike and Nina Schaafsma are missionaries in Italy (also the son and daughter in law of Redeemerites David and Evelyn Schaafsma). After interacting with Mike and Nina as a part of the Redeemer Missions team, I have learned something about them that I love and respect. They never miss a new opportunity to share the gospel and minister! Have fun reading one of the recent adventures from their newsletter!

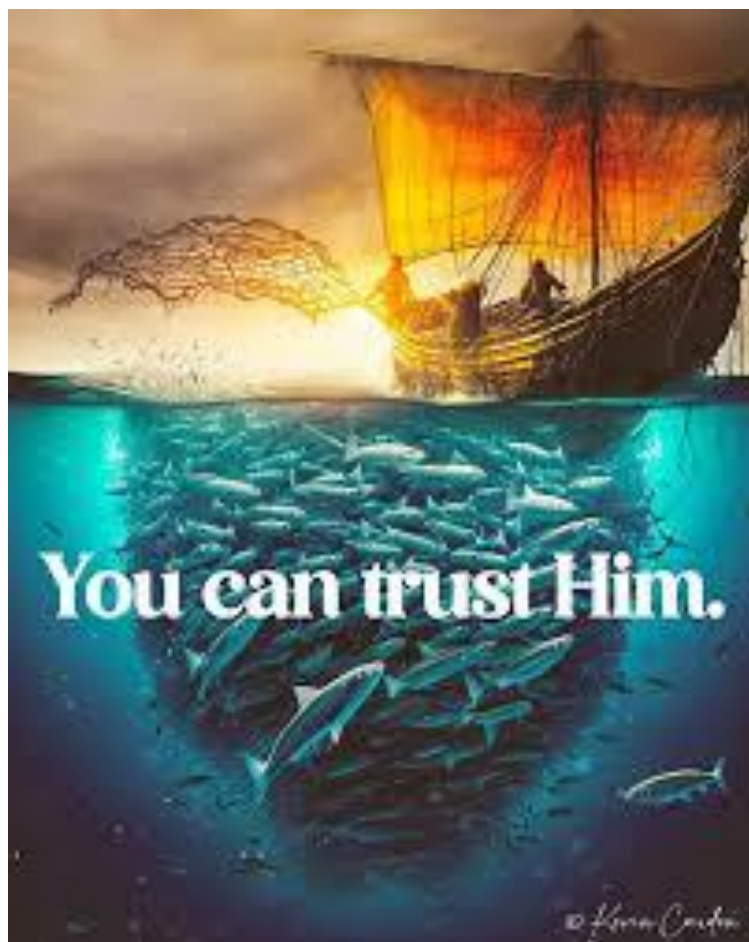
Sometimes the Lord gives us a really clear vision of what He is doing and what our next steps are. Other times we ask, “What now? What can we do to reach more people?” Such was

the case in December. Then one Sunday night our good friend Sal, who is the leader of a dynamic evangelistic mission, was in town and came to our church. We also had two interns from Virginia with us and we were planning out our schedule with them. Our friend Sal mentioned that “the BUS” was in our town waiting for repairs if we wanted to do something with it.

The REM Bus is a Bible book library, place to gather, sit, and study. The bus is driven around Italy to help churches set up an evangelism point in their city in public trafficked spots. In a flash Michael decided to seize the opportunity, and we agreed that a week later the bus would be set up by our commuter train station. As a team (Mike, Nina, and 4 others) sat down to brainstorm. It was fun, exciting, and a real blessing to see how the Lord gave us so many ideas. We decided we would write a “Commuters Chronicle” in five editions, with five different messages to be given out each day. Ayla made a great layout, and the team started writing, translating, and proofreading. We were unsure of what we would find when we went out at 6:45 Monday morning. IT WAS FREEZING!! But the fliers were going out by the hundreds and people were taking them happily. We worked all morning, drank some coffees, talked with the people that hang out at the bus stops. It was amazing to say, “Come in, I have a book for you!” and watch people stop and come right in.

As the week went on, repeat “customers” would happily take the next day’s flyer. One person said, “I read it, and I really liked what you said.” People said, “Thank you!” One believer from very far away said, “Bless you for what you are doing!” We shared tea, cookies, and offered a ride to someone that had a transportation problem. This truly felt like Jesus

words about fishing for people (Matthew 4)! Jesus has called us to fish with Him. If you are a true fisherman of fish, you love the sport, the water, and the hope of a good catch even on days when the catch is small or non-existent. We love fishing for people and pray that the Lord will use us to fill His nets with those that come to faith. Please pray for us as we prepare for another REM Bus visit in June. At that time, it will be nicer weather and for two weeks!



¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Matthew 4:19

Kids 5 years old–5th Grade – Find a hiding paint brush and complete the Scripture below to win a prize!

Girl's Club and Boy's Club

6:00 – 7:15 PM. Dates:

April 2 & 16



Girl's Club: Girl's Club: This year we will be studying the Fruits of the Spirit. Any young lady's 1st-5th grade are welcome to join and bring a friend! We would also love a couple more volunteers ages 16+ to join us!

Contact Jessica Boluyt (jdejonge35@yahoo.com) or Arielle Suwyn (ajsuwyn@gmail.com) with questions.

Boy's Club: We would love to have you join us! We know not everyone can attend every meeting, so feel free to come when able. If you are a dad, uncle, grandpa, etc., you are welcome to join, and we would encourage you to share your faith and passions with these young men. Contact: Marty Huizinga at martyhuiz@gmail.com.

⁶ He is not _____ but has _____. Remember how _____ told you, while he was still in _____, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of _____ and be crucified and on the _____ day rise." Luke 24:6 & 7



DERBY CAR PREP & RACING



GIRLS AND BOYS CLUB

March 5: Introduction, design, measurements, etc.
March 19: Cut to shape, add wheels, weights, and balance.
April 2: Design, painting, stickers, and initial testing
April 16: Pizza Party / Race Day

Family and friends are welcome to join us for Race Day!!



REDEEMER
Children's Ministry



Redeemer OPC

APRIL ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you teachers!

April marks the final month of Sunday school for this season! It has been such a joy to journey through Jesus' ministry with the children, watching them grow in their understanding of who He is and how He loves and transforms lives. This year, we've explored the many ways Jesus interacted with people - turning water to wine, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, calming storms, and teaching with wisdom and authority.

As we wrap up, we look forward to picking up where we left off in the fall, continuing to see how Jesus' life and teachings impacted so many during His time on earth - and how they still shape our lives today.

Sunday School would not be possible without our incredible teachers! They have poured their time, energy, and love into this ministry, faithfully guiding our children each week. Please take a moment this month to thank your child's teacher for their dedication - we are truly grateful for them!

Reminders

- Last day for our missions collection for CEDE Sports is **April 13**. Help us reach our goal of \$200!
- Thank your teachers!

April Schedule

- **April 6** - Town Hall Meeting - No Sunday School
- **April 13** - Easter Special Lesson
- **April 20** - EASTER - No Sunday School
- **April 27** - The Pharisee & the Tax Collector

Contact Info

Laurel DeLange
ldelange@redeemer-opc.org
(313) 605-2857

APRIL MEMORY VERSE

- 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.
- 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.
- 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.

Preschool Verse 6

Lower Elementary Verses 5-6

Upper Elementary Verses 5-7

Youth Group –

*1 Timothy 4:12 Let no one despise you for your youth,
but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.*

YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS



APRIL
11
6:30-8:30

Movie Night

at Redeemer
BOTH High School and Middle
School invited!

APRIL
20

High School Youth Group

APRIL
25-26

Middle School Cran Hill Retreat

APRIL
26
2:00-4:00

High School Scavenger Hunt/Road Rally

APRIL
27

Middle School Youth Group

Young Men's Retreat



Young Ladies Night



From the Session

Dear Redeemer Family,

Session held its stated monthly meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, March 11, at Redeemer OPC. We spent the first half of the meeting discussing the Second Commandment, Westminster Larger Catechism 109, and how to faithfully and lovingly apply at Redeemer. It was a long discussion, but by God's grace it was done in a spirit of love, with the decision ultimately being to not change any material.



We then moved to pulpit supply. As you know, Pastor Jeff has been preaching a lot lately, and we don't want him to burn out. Some members of session will be working on securing occasional pulpit supply to provide relief for the remainder of the year.

There were several other administrative things to work through. We received several standing reports. The logistics of having a joint Good Friday service are a bit much, so we'll be having our own service this year. We appointed an elder delegate to attend the April Presbytery meeting. Finally, we had some budget recommendations to work through. There will be time during the upcoming Town Hall meeting after AM worship on April 6 to ask questions about the budget.

After we'd worked through our agenda, we adjourned with prayer at 9:33 PM.

Our worship service attendance figures for February are below.

	AM	PM
February 2, 2025	285	135
February 9, 2025	297	151
February 16, 2025	296	158
February 23, 2025	277	159

On behalf of session,

Mark Jurries, clerk

**Please RSVP for accurate numbers for
seating and food!**

April 06,
2025

REDEEMER
OPC



Town Hall Meeting

Old Fashioned Church Picnic:



Fried Chicken

Baked Beans



Deviled Egg Potato Salad

Coleslaw

Biscuits w/ Butter/Honey

Lemonade

"Blue Ribbon" Pie Buffet

Redeemer Food Pantry

Matthew 25:35-40

35 For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'



In March, we were blessed to provide each of the 21 families that attended the Redeemer Food Pantry Outreach with an array of staple food items, toilet paper, a pork loin, milk, bread, eggs, potatoes, carrots, and onions. Most importantly we were able to extend the love of Christ and welcome them into our church with fellowship and prayer. Please prayerfully consider how you can be part of meeting the ONGOING needs in our community.

April's focus is Breakfast items of any kind like; cereal, oatmeal, granola bars or anything easy for families to give little ones headed off to school. Perishable items like milk, eggs, fruit, vegetables, and cheese are also VERY welcome in the few days before the 12th of April. Please make sure perishable items are marked "food pantry" and placed in the fridge or freezer in the church kitchen. You can always check in with the Hill's as the 12th gets closer to find out what items are missing or most needed. This is a great opportunity to get your family involved in serving! Thank you for enabling Redeemer to continue helping an even greater number of families with critical needs and giving to them in Jesus name.

Please consider dropping donations off at the Church THIS week or coordinating with the Hill's for pick-up or drop off of perishable items. Helpers are also needed to serve from 9:00-11:30 Saturday April 12th to set up, serve, and clean up. You will surely be blessed by serving through this outreach in Jesus name.

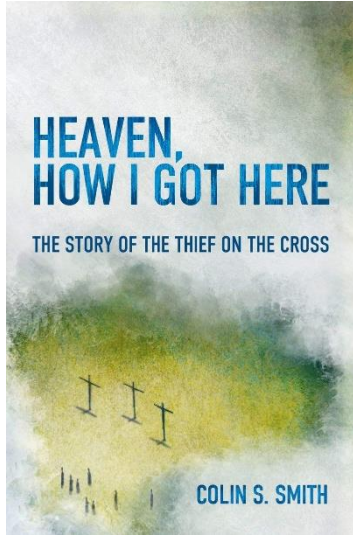
Please call Steve Hill for more information. (616) 286-2419.



**food pantry: April 12, 2025
10 - 11 AM**

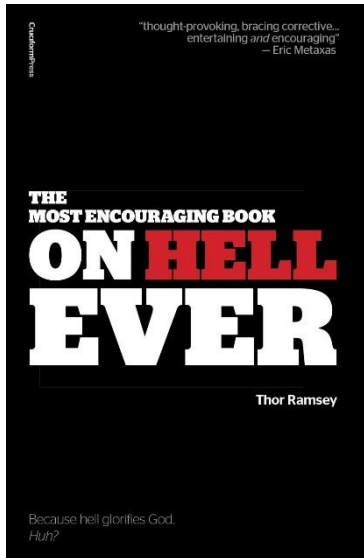


Redeemer Library



Heaven, How I Got Here: The Story of the Thief on the Cross by Colin S. Smith

The last-day conversion of the thief who was executed on a cross next to Jesus does not take up much space in the Bible, but there is much to be learned from it. This book gives a compelling version of the story told by the thief as he looks back on that day from heaven. It is less than 100 pages of large type, but expresses so much about the grace of God in salvation, what Jesus suffered for us, and the hope ever person has through him. You will enjoy reading it and may want to share it with a friend.



The Most Encouraging Book on Hell Ever by Thor Ramsey

This title may seem odd to you, but it accurately reflects the message of the book. With much disarming humor, the author presents how the Bible's teaching on hell helps us see the true nature of God. Ramsey claims any attempt to downplay hell to make God seem more attractive actually makes him useless and the gospel unnecessary. Hell can help answer the "problem of evil" question in a way that glorifies God's holiness and justice. Most importantly hell is part of the truth God has revealed about himself in the Bible. Near the end of the book Ramsey says, "In the cross of Jesus Christ, God's love and God's wrath embrace in a display of his holy nature before the entire universe, leaving angels in awe and demons dumbfounded." Many questions and objections are answered here in a relatable and encouraging way.

Reviewed by Carol Chupp

Servant Schedule

I Corinthians 12:12-13, 27

¹² There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so we are formed into one body...²⁷ You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.

Preaching Schedule

April 6

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Student Elisha Walker

April 13

AM: Student Elisha Walker

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

April 20

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

April 27

AM: Rev. Jonathan Cruse

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

Mission Prayer Schedule

April 6

Caleb Nelson

Prayer Leader: Duke Suwyn

April 13

Words of Hope

Prayer Leader: Nathan Wright

April 20

Great Lakes Hub Spokes

Prayer Leader: Jonathon Beeke

April 27

OPC STORM

Prayer Leader: Jon Byker

Greeter Schedule

April 6

AM: Michael & Sharon Glenn

PM: Amy & Will Gordon

April 13

AM: Jeff & Gloria Davis

PM: Will & Andrea Groenendyk

April 20

AM: Phil & Marissa Hansen

PM: Shane & Ann Hansen

April 27

AM: Kirk & Beth Harmon

PM: Joe & Jobi Hasse

April:

Elder On Call

Tyler VanRee

Deacon of the Month

Brian Bangma

John Sharp



Happy Birthday to You!!

Deborah	Benson	April 02
Taylor	Way	April 02
Russell	VanAllen	April 03
Katie	Newberg	April 03
Nikolas	Bredeweg	April 03
Caleb	DeLange	April 04
Theodore	Blok	April 04
Katie	VanDyke	April 04
Avery	Hilton	April 06
Michelle	Hilton	April 08
Isla	Beeke	April 09
Laura	Braam	April 10
Jonathan	Nelson	April 10
Carrie	Warren	April 10
Carrie	Hill	April 11
Jody	Horton	April 11
Ken	Van Otteren	April 12
Gail	Staal	April 13
Mary	Kamps	April 13
Nathan	Wright	April 13
Ava	Sanchez	April 13
William	Gordon	April 16
Kayli	Bredeweg	April 16
Levi	Glutting	April 17
Jonathan	Seal	April 17
Kiri	Beeke	April 24
Elizabeth	Miedema	April 24
Daniel	Hansen	April 24
Tiffany	Bangma	April 26
Brian	Bangma	April 27
Kristina	Willemsen	April 27
Charlie	Bont	April 29
Mary	Korhorn	April 29

