

Redeemer Life

September 2024



Elders



The Elder's Corner

Welcome to the Elder's Corner. This month we will be discussing the topic of Life Groups. Let's get started by asking some direct questions.

1. What exactly is a Life Group?

Redeemer OPC's Life Groups exist to magnify our God and mature believers in Christlikeness through meeting on a regular basis, fellowshiping with one another, studying the Word, living life together, praying for each other and serving and caring for one another. Life Groups are the friends you grow, laugh, and serve with. Life Groups gather at church, in people's homes, coffee shops and other places where people love to hang out together.

2. Why Should I be in a Life Group?

First, we weren't created to go through life alone. In Scripture we find consistent encouragement to gather with other followers of Jesus:

- Jesus promises us in Matthew for "where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them".
- Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians "to encourage one another and build one another up" and in Galatians "to bear one another's burdens".
- Proverbs, instructs us to get advice from others and walk through life with wise people so we can sharpen each other.

Second, your Life Group will be there to support you through difficult seasons and celebrate your most joyful occasions. Joining and being involved in a Life Group positions these friends in your life so that they are there when life happens.

Finally, you have a calling to speak truth and encouragement into others. God will use your Life Group to impact you, but He will also use you to impact your Life Group.

3. What do you actually do in a life Group?

Every Life Group is unique, so each one will look a little bit different. Some discuss Sunday's sermon message or go through Bible studies, others listen to podcasts together, some serve together in the community (Food Pantry) and some discuss weighty theological books. With this church, it appears that a meal is usually part of the fellowship-not a requirement-but there certainly are a lot of good chefs at Redeemer.



RedeemerAda



@redeemeropc



(616) 682-0800



8605 E Fulton, Ada, MI 49301

Two things you will find in every Life Group are relationships and conversations that help you grow spiritually and personally.

4. How often do they meet?

Most Life Groups meet once a month while some meet twice a month, but it is entirely up to the group on how often you would like to meet.

5. What do I do with my kids while I'm at Life Group?

Different groups navigate this in different ways. Others have the kids watch a movie or [Bible App for Kids video](#) while the adults meet. Some include the kids in everything they do as a group. If you need to join a group that has space for children, make sure you check the box on the Life Group Interest Form that references kids.

6. Do I need to sign up for a Life Group for a designated time period?

There is no sign up for a specific time period. Once you have been part of a Life Group, we would encourage you to consider taking a pause after a year and consider joining a new group. This would allow you to meet new friends and develop new relationships. We understand that this would not work for everyone, but it would create a healthier Life Group model.

7. What demographics make up the Life Group's?

Many Life Groups are diverse in age groups and life stages and many groups have similar aged individuals in them. There's no "one size that fits all". Just like the diversity of life.

8. Is it okay to "shop around" for a Life Group?

Absolutely! It's understandable to want to find people you feel comfortable opening up to and developing friendships with. That being said, if you've joined a Life Group and aren't sure if it's the right fit for you, don't give up. **Keep in mind that there's no such thing as a perfect Life Group, because there are no perfect people.** Remember to have grace and patience during the process. If it's clear that this group isn't the best fit for you, though, give another group a try.

9. Is it awkward to show up at a stranger's house and talk about my life?

It can be a little awkward to meet any new group of people. Here's what we promise, though: if you will make a conscious decision to embrace the initial awkwardness and keep showing up, something amazing will happen. Over time, your Life Group will start to feel less like a group of strangers and more like people you've known your whole life. Yes, it's a place where you can find friends. Push through those little moments of weirdness as you get to know each other.

10. What do I do if I would like to become a leader of a Life Group?

If you are currently part of a Life Group start off by talking with your Life Group leader about co-leading your current Life Group. We would encourage you to start off by co-leading a group but if you have previous leadership skills and are ready to start leading your own group, please fill out the Life Group Interest Form and check that you would like to lead a Life Group. All Life Group leaders need to be approved by session.

11. I'm a leader but I want to become a better leader-do you have training materials that can assist me in this goal?

We are very encouraged that you want to improve your leadership skills and we are working on a training program, along with a few other initiatives. Until we have that in place, we would encourage you to discuss with other experienced Life Group leaders what they do for effective leadership in their life groups.

12. What is the first step in joining a Life Group or considering moving to a new Life Group?

The first step in joining or considering moving to a new Life Group is filling out our Life Group Interest Form.

1. These forms are either in the church mailbox (below the session mailbox) or you can get to the form by scanning the code below.
2. Go to our website: <https://www.redeemeropc.org/life-groups>.
3. Email Kirk Harmon @ harmonk3@comcast.net with questions.

Redeemer Church is growing, and we thank the Lord for that! With growth come challenges; and one of the challenges is the need to develop a long-term plan for Life Groups that can evolve and address growth. We have several people that are looking to join a Life Group and anticipate that the need will continue to grow.

1. Be open to **adding additional people** to your Life Group **and/or**
2. Consider **creating a new group** out of your existing group.

We understand that the second option could be very difficult with the number of friendships that have been established over the last year or two. Another way to think of this is to recognize the new friendships that you will be gaining.

An **additional initiative** that we would like you to consider is **identifying a co-leader(s) within your Life Group**. This would create a path to develop future Life Group leaders. There are currently a few groups in place that do have co-leaders.

As we experience continued growth, we need to update our model, add new groups, and expand existing groups to accommodate the additional interest.

In summary, if you are part of a Life Group, thank you for contributing to the community of Redeemer Church and if not, please consider it-we would love to get to know you better.





Spotlight – Ministry for Moms



We all carry many titles in life– wife, sister, friend, niece, etc. But out of all of those titles, “mama” is one of the most precious to me. The label of “mom” is not something we earn, are entitled to, or even deserve, but rather are simply gifted by God. The first time I saw those two pink lines in 2019 my world was changed. At that very moment, I added another title to my belt–“mother.” Being a mother is not only a gift but a privilege. These tiny, screeching, wrinkly, little humans belong not to us, but to God, and He alone has entrusted us on earth to care for his children. What an honor to be tasked with! Because of this, we cannot parent alone. We need full reliance on God for rearing His children and seeking to show them the ropes, especially in an ever-increasing secular society. It is only once our mindset of parenting has shifted to one of humility and utter submission and thankfulness that we can begin to see the fruits of our labors.

All of that being said, being a mom is a challenge. From the moment that babe is placed on your chest, the adoption papers are signed, they walk down the aisle, or even walk away from the faith, there is nothing easy about being a parent. Yes, God has gifted so many of us with loving husbands and even grandparents to help shoulder the load, but sometimes it takes the ear of another mom to fully grasp your circumstance. This is why community, especially within the church, is vital. One of Satan’s favorite times to talk to us is at 2 am when you’re warming up that bottle or later in the day when your coffee has gone cold, the dishes are piled up, and you hope your missing kids are hidden amongst all the dirty laundry. You feel depressed even though you think you should feel joyous to be snuggling this sweet newborn. You are not alone. Are you worried about how you are going to broach some of those conversations with your teenager? You are not alone. Now that you are approaching the “empty nester” stage, do you fear your marriage might fall apart as you and your husband have nothing in common anymore? You are not alone.

So let’s get real with each other and dive deep. Let’s address those “elephant in the room” topics like mental health, discipline & parenting, infertility & child loss, marriage & sex, and so much more. Let’s encourage one another and bear one another’s burdens because we are all in this together. Join us in the nursery for a casual “come and go” time of fellowship, topical studies, prayer partners, and testimonials during the Sunday School hour (11:00-11:40) on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th (5th) Sundays of each month. This Ministry 4 Moms class is for moms of ALL ages and stages in life. We can’t wait to see you on September 8!

“She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.” [Prov. 31:26]

Questions? Contact: Andrea Groenendyk, Kate Thornton, Cassie Baker, Ashley Amtsbuechler

— SEPTEMBER, 28, 2024 —

10 AM - NOON

A Bright Hope for Tomorrow

Encouraging Women who have experienced or walked alongside someone experiencing Pregnancy Loss, Infant Loss, Infertility or Abortion.

Please join us for an encouraging time together and a special brunch featuring supportive messages from guest speakers Nancy Kingma, RN and Michelle Alvarez as they share testimonies of God's faithfulness through their unique seasons of grief.

Please invite friends to this event; we would like it to be an encouragement to both Redeemer women and others in our community.

Register here using the QR code

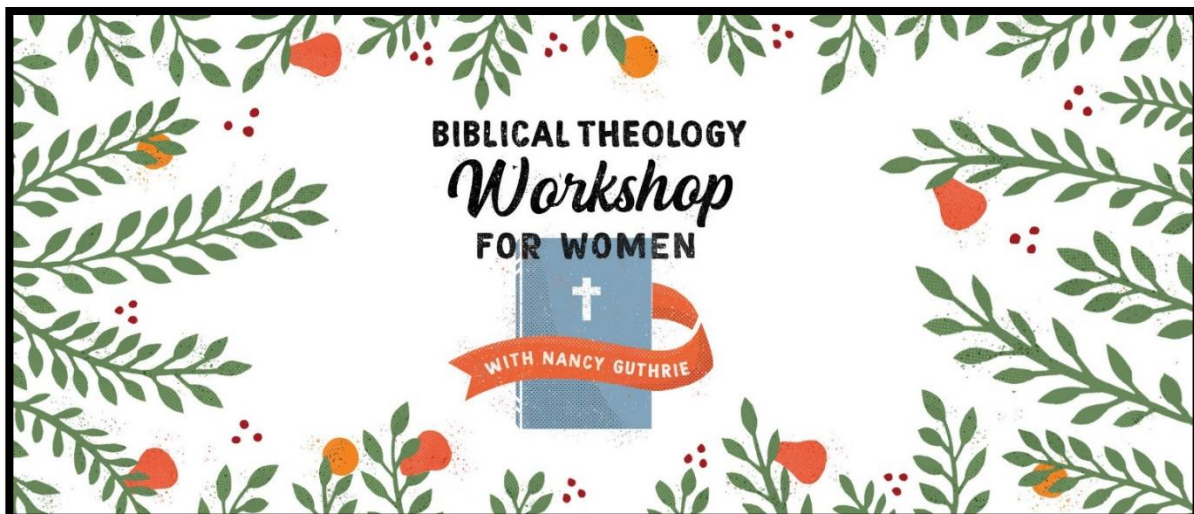


Redeemer OPC
8605 Fulton Street, Ada, MI 49301

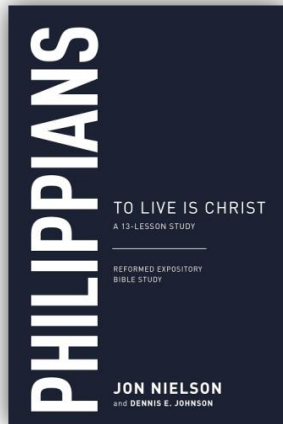
Conference Opportunity

Nancy Guthrie conference at Byron Center CRC on November 2. Early bird registration ends Aug 31!

<https://www.signupforms.com/registrations/38348>



FALL 2024 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES



Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study - meets every Wednesday from 9:15 to 11 a.m. in the church youth room beginning September 11.

This fall will be seeking to know Christ better by exploring Paul's letter to the Philippians together. We will be using the study guide *Philippians: To Live is Christ* by Jon Nielson.

No childcare is available for this study. If you have any questions about this, please contact Carol Chupp at caroljean135@gmail.com.

The Wednesday MORNING registration form can be found at <https://ropc.breezechms.com/form/philippiansWMWBS>

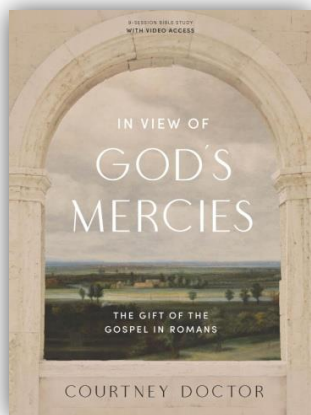


Wednesday Evening Women's Bible Study – begins September 11 and will meet twice a month in the youth room on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

We will be studying *Behold and Believe: A Bible Study on the "I Am" Statements of Jesus* by Courtney Doctor & Joanna Kimbrel.

If you would like more information about this group, please contact Karen Faber, faberkk@yahoo.com or Greta Entingh, gretaentingh@gmail.com

The Wednesday EVENING registration form can be found at: <https://ropc.breezechms.com/form/wedevening2024>



Thursday Morning GROW Groups – meet every Thursday, beginning September 19, from 9:15 to 11 a.m., starting in the church youth room.

This fall our groups will be looking closely at Romans through the study of *In View of God's Mercies* by Courtney Doctor.

Nursery is provided for children ages 0-2 and a Little Lambs program is provided for children age 3 through Kindergarten. Registration is now open; however, you can join at any time. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Hill carrieme2@gmail.com.

The Thursday GROW Group registration form can be found at <https://ropc.breezechms.com/form/Grow2024romans>



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

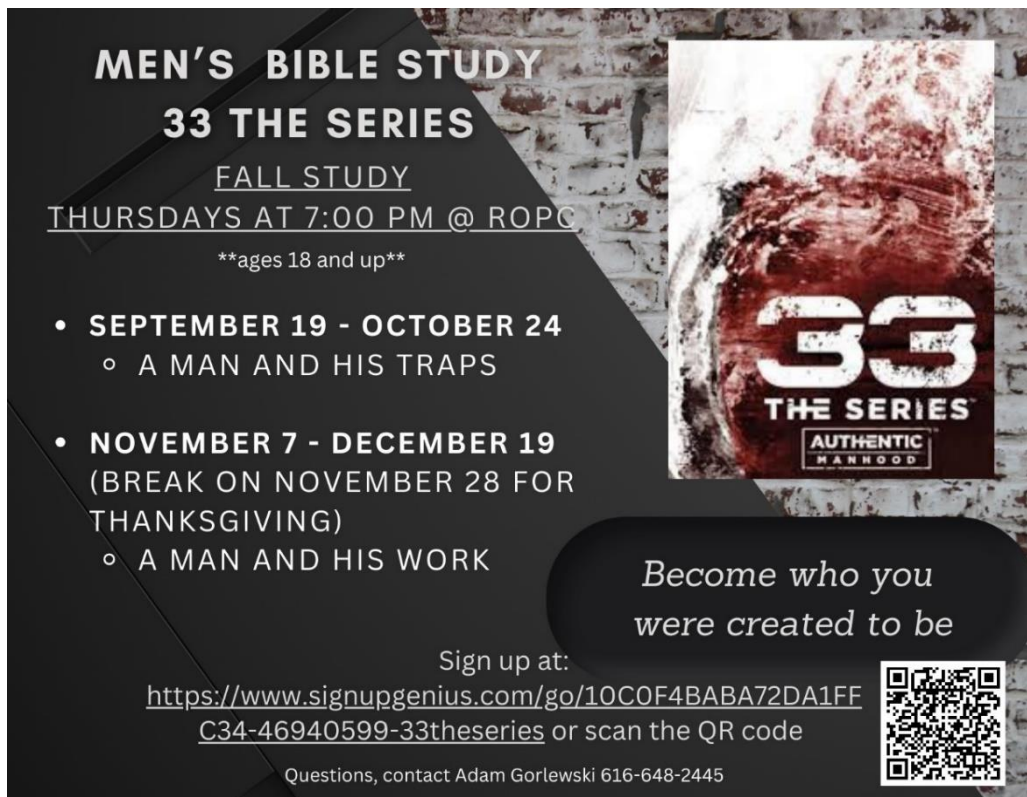
Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study

You are invited to our 2024-2025 Men's Bible Study season. This year we will be journeying through the book of Romans. This book is pivotal to the foundations of the Church of Jesus Christ. Because of time allotted, we will just be hitting the highlights, or 'Survey' the book of Romans. We will be meeting every Thursday morning @ 6:30am, starting Sept.19, 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.

Thursday Evening Men's Bible Study

The Men's Thursday evening Bible study will be at 7:00 pm from September 19-December 19 with a break on November 28 for Thanksgiving. Please see or text Adam Gorlewski for full details and to sign up – adamgorlewski33@gmail.com.




MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
33 THE SERIES
FALL STUDY
THURSDAYS AT 7:00 PM @ ROPC
ages 18 and up

- **SEPTEMBER 19 - OCTOBER 24**
 - A MAN AND HIS TRAPS
- **NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 19**
(BREAK ON NOVEMBER 28 FOR THANKSGIVING)
 - A MAN AND HIS WORK

Become who you were created to be

Sign up at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BABA72DA1FFC34-46940599-33theseries> or scan the QR code

Questions, contact Adam Gorlewski 616-648-2445



Announcements

The Lord's Supper

Will be celebrated during the morning worship service on Sunday, September 1, 2024. Prepare your hearts as we gather at the Lord's table. All items served are gluten free.

Labor Day Picnic

We will be enjoying our Labor Day picnic on Sunday, September 1, 2024, after the PM Worship Service.

Mission Update

On September 8 following the evening service, Caleb Nelson will provide a brief update for us on his future ministry work. Please plan to stay and hear from him!

Session Meeting

The Session is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Redeemer Open House

The next Redeemer Open House will be September 15, 2024, from 12:00 pm–3:00 pm at the home of the Schamp's. 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. All who wish to attend are asked to sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/RPCOHouse>. Join us for a great time of fellowship and lunch!

Redeemer Praise Service

We will have our Sunday Evening Service of Praise on September 15, 2024 – as we enjoy a special evening of Praise and Worship.

Redeemer Food and Fellowship Dinner

We will not have one in September due to enjoying the Labor Day Picnic as our fellowship meal this month.

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 6:30 p.m. Please join us for prayer in the Conference Room Every Wednesday. You can also join by using the following ZOOM link: <https://tinyurl.com/ROPCPrayer>. If you have questions regarding the prayer meeting, feel free to contact Kirk Harmon at 616-897-0654 or harmonk3@comcast.net.

Inquirer's Class

If you are interested in more information about or joining Redeemer, Pastor Jeff will be hosting an Inquirer class on the following dates during the Sunday School time: October 13, 20, 27 and November 10 and 17. Please email Jeanette at office@redeemer-opc.org if you plan on attending.

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 – Jess Helmus – Cobie Tenbrink

Prayer Opportunity

The Women's prayer team is offering the widows of Redeemer an opportunity to gather and support each other in prayer. If you are interested in joining, please contact Sharon Dykstra either by phone or e-mail.

Phone: 616 202 6150

E-mail: shrn.dykstra@gmail.com

From the Treasurer:

Redeemer Orthodox Presbyterian Church Treasurer's Report July 2024			
	Jul 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Total Income	68,484.58	68,908.67	-424.09
Expense			
Christian Education	883.89	3,725.00	-2,841.11
Church Life	2,100.57	2,618.33	-517.76
Evangelism and Discipling	70.74	604.17	-533.43
Music and Worship	977.99	1,216.67	-238.68
Office and Administration	3,990.21	5,494.51	-1,504.30
Pastoral Salary	9,081.86	16,137.67	-7,055.81
Pastoral Benefits	3,926.19	8,429.12	-4,502.93
Payroll	10,077.26	11,907.25	-1,829.99
Premises and Overhead	18,737.92	10,424.20	8,313.72
Denom and Presbytery Supj	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mission Ministry	4,500.00	4,125.00	375.00
Total Expense	54,346.63	64,681.92	-10,335.29
Net Ordinary Income	14,137.95	4,226.75	9,911.20

Giving toward the budget in July was \$424 under budget. Expenses for the period are under budget by \$10,335. At the end of July, we had a budget surplus of \$9,911.

Kids 5 years old–5th Grade – Find two hiding unicorns to win a prize!

Girl's Club and Boy's Club



6:00 – 7:15 PM. Dates:
September 11 and 25
October 9 and 23
November 6 and 20
December 4

Girl's Club: Girl's Club: We are excited to be starting up another great year of Girls 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.

Adopt-A-Friend! We are also excited to begin another year of our Adopt-A-Friend program in September! We are looking for women to pair up with our young ladies from 1st-5th grade at Redeemer. We will begin in September and end in May. This is a fantastic way for our young ladies and women to interact with and get to know each other!

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.



Youth Group



I 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.

Middle School Youth Group Fall Schedule

September	October	November
September 8 6:30 September 22 6:30	October 6 6:30 October 20 6:30	November 3 6:30 November 17 6:30
December	EVENTS	
December 1 6:30 December 15 6:30	September 14 - Kayaking - Time TBD October 19 - Dinner & Corn Maze - Time TBD November 23 - Lunch & Mall Madness - Time TBD	

Contact:
Kristen Gorlewski
616-648-4285
kristengorlewski@yahoo.com

Meal Sign Up:

Redeemer OPC High School Youth Group Schedule Fall 2024



Monthly Meetings:

High School Kickoff Event

- When: Saturday, September 14
- Where: Huizinga Home
- Time: 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Fall Extravaganza

- When: Saturday October 5
- Time: 1:00 – 3:30 pm
- Where: Meet at Redeemer church

Skating and Pizza Party

- When: Saturday, November 9
- Time: 3:00 – 6:00 pm
- Where: Meet at Redeemer church

Christmas Party

- When: Saturday, December 7
- Time: 9:00 am -12:00 pm
- Where: TBD



Sunday Night Meetups:

- September 15 & 29
- October 13 & 27
- November 10
- December 8

Following the PM Service at 6:15 - 8:00 in the Youth Room. Food and fun are provided!

Questions: Reach out!

- Marty and Keri Huizinga
- Adam and Arielle Suwyn
- Katie Verwys
- Caleb Nelson





Galaxy S23 FE



Galaxy S23 FE



MISSION FOCUS:

WESTMINSTER SEMINARY CALIFORNIA



Our Mission:

Westminister Seminary California (WSC) exists to glorify Christ, teach His Gospel, and serve His Church through graduate theological study. WSC is a Christian institution that offers instruction in biblical, theological, and ministerial disciplines to both men and women in order to help them develop intellectually and spiritually as leaders.

While its primary focus is to educate and prepare men for ordained pastoral ministry, especially in Presbyterian and Reformed denominations, WSC also provides theological education to women and men who wish to serve the broader Christian community and society at large so that the whole body of Christ may be enriched through the diverse gifts bestowed by God's Spirit.

Because "zeal without knowledge" and "knowledge without zeal" can only injure the church, WSC seeks to develop in its students a balance of scholarship and Christ-like piety where the proper cultivation of the mind increases the devotion of the heart. In this way, the Seminary strives to be an academic community whose scholarly pursuits ultimately seek to glorify Christ, promote His Gospel, and serve His Church.

- WSC remains the only fully (and dually) accredited Reformed seminary in the Western United States. WSC has almost 1,300 graduates who are serving as pastors, church planters, missionaries, teachers, scholars, counselors and leaders worldwide.
- WSC receives nearly 60% of its funding from individual Christians and local churches, with no direct funding from the government or specific denominations.
- WSC students have come from 6 of the world's 7 continents to prepare to proclaim Christ and His Gospel to the ends of the earth.



WSC's Standards of Education

- WSC is **Confessionally Reformed**: Each of our faculty members are committed to the Reformed doctrines and practice. Our students come from a variety of geographical, theological, and church backgrounds. The unity of our faculty and diversity of our student body ensures an atmosphere of stimulating learning and discussion about theology and ministry.
- Our current faculty to student ratio: 1:9
- WSC is **committed to a face-to-face education** model, believing ministry preparation and academics are best done in relationship and community. Our low faculty to student ratio intentionally fosters personal interaction between our accomplished professors and WSC students. Our on-campus housing, affectionately called "The Westminster Village", enables mutual support, community life, friendships, and relational growth amongst students and their families. The Village is comprised of 9 residential buildings and 72 apartments with over 200 residents living in the Village.
- WSC has a **purposeful curriculum** that reflects John Calvin's practices in Geneva, and the Old Princeton Seminary model. WSC emphasizes the study of the original Biblical languages, Hebrew and Greek, so that students are equipped with tools to understand and interpret the Word of God faithfully. The curriculum and

coursework are coordinated to work together and complement coursework from each department and discipline. Classroom learning is supplemented by and applied in ministry internships.

- WSC believes that high academic standards and carefully designed curriculum best serve the Church and our students. The heart of the WSC educational experience is our outstanding and accomplished faculty. WSC's **rigorous academic standards and education** give graduates the skills to excel and to leave well-prepared for numerous endeavors. WSC alumni have been accepted into prestigious academic programs around the world.
- WSC is **church focused** and engaged in serving churches through learning resources, events, partnerships, internships, scholarships, graduate placement, and more. Generous scholarship packages and affordable housing from WSC serve churches by minimizing financial constraints upon future leaders.



Learn More

Website

www.wscal.edu

Phone

760-480-8474

Email

info@wscal.edu

Confessionally Reformed. Committed. Purposeful. Church Focused.

From the Session



Dear Redeemer family,

Session held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 6. We kicked off reviewing some new member applications. Hearing the ways God has worked in His people's lives is definitely one of the best parts of being on session, and we rejoice to welcome more of God's children into this particular body of the church.

We heard a proposal from Chris Thurow for a new ministry to a local nursing home. We pray this will be another way God's gospel goes forth and are thankful for Chris and all those who will be involved with this work.

Next, updates were presented on work being done to revise the Connect Cards throughout the building, as well as refreshing LIFE groups and plugging new visitors and members in.

Filling open positions is a large portion of what session is concerned with right now. We heard a good report on a candidate for the Youth Leader position and agreed to meet with him. After this, we discussed what the search committee should look like. We came to an agreement that the committee should include three elders and three members of the congregation. By the time you read, more information available on how this will work will either have been made available or will be close to being ready. Please continue to pray for the men who will fill these roles (and their families!), as well as for the search committees and session as they seek to act wisely.

Our attendance figures for July are below.

	AM	PM
July 7, 2024	302	168
July 14, 2024	295	181
July 21, 2024	315	177
July 28, 2024	355	168

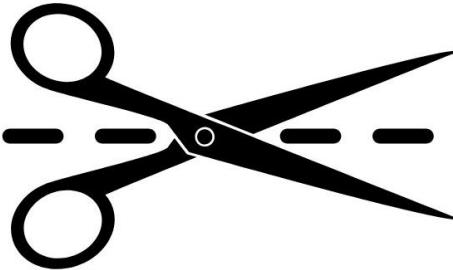
On behalf of session,

Mark Jurries, clerk

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 August, we were blessed to serve 24 families through the food pantry ministry. So many of the families that came this month continue to have tremendous needs. Being able to help them with food and prayer was a wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love with them. **This month we found that many of our families were very interested in extra coupons that were donated and set out on a table! So, if you have extra coupons you receive and won't be using, please put them in the FOOD PANTRY mail slot at the far right end of the mailboxes in the lobby and we will be sure to make them available to attendees.**

As kids head back to school and need lunches, this month the food focus is; Peanut Butter and Jelly. Perishable Fruits and Veggies and/or bread, milk, eggs, fruit, vegetables, meat and cheese are also VERY welcome in the few days before the 14th. Please make sure perishable items are marked "food pantry" and placed in the fridge in the church kitchen. 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 September 14th 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.

Redeemer Library



Proverbs 9:9-10 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Training Hearts, Teaching Minds and Comforting Hearts, Teaching Minds by Starr Meade, reviewed by Denise Amtsbuechler

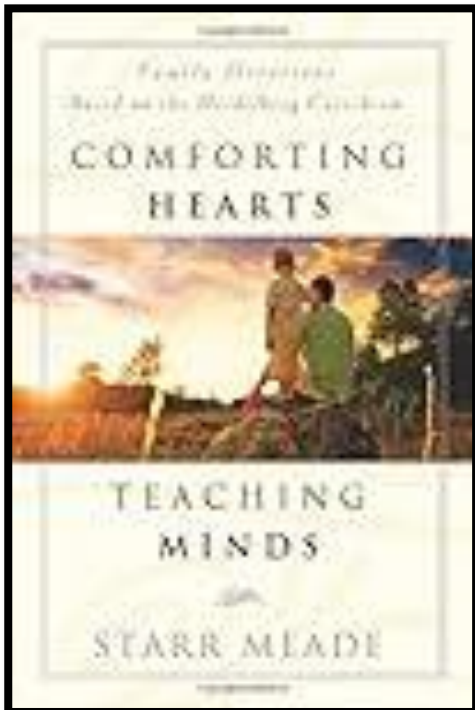
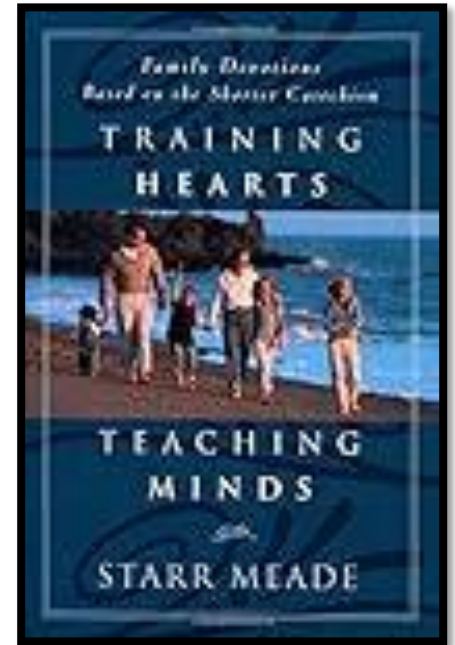
One of the most important and sobering callings God gives to parents is to pass on the faith to their children. Churches recognize this and come alongside parents in many ways to support and assist them in fulfilling this calling. From the promises made by the congregation at a child's baptism, to the offering of Sunday school classes, VBS programs, and youth group activities, churches rightly take the task of training children in the faith very seriously. And throughout church history one of the tools for instructing children in the faith has been the use of catechisms. A catechism is an instruction guide of the foundational doctrines of the faith using a question-and-answer format.

Recently the use of catechisms has diminished somewhat. Some people may be unfamiliar with them; others may feel intimidated or unsure of how to use a catechism with their child.

Starr Meade offers help to parents who would like to use catechisms in their discipleship efforts with their children by writing two family devotion books. The first is *Training Hearts, Teaching Minds*. It is based on the Westminster Shorter Catechism. And the second, *Comforting Hearts, Teaching Minds* is based on the Heidelberg Catechism.

Both of these books take a portion of the catechism each week and, over the course of six days (Monday through Saturday), examines and explains what is being taught in that section. This is accomplished via short daily readings and a daily scripture passage.

For families that would like to make use of this time-tested method of passing on a solid foundational understanding of the Christian faith, I would highly recommend checking out these books.



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

September 1

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

September 8

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

September 15

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

September 22

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

September 29

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

September:

Elder On Call

Kirk Harmon

Deacon of the Month

Brian Bangma

Jon Byker

Mission Prayer Schedule

September 1

ICCD

Prayer Leader: Jon Byker

September 8

Young Life Costa Rica

Prayer Leader: Alec DeLange

September 15

OPC Worldwide Outreach

Prayer Leader: Will Groenendyk

September 22

EXALTA Health

Prayer Leader: Joel Miedema

September 29

Reach the Forgotten

Prayer Leader: Jeff Rosendall

Greeter Schedule

September 1

AM: Dave & Evie Schaafsma

PM: Cherry Scaturro

September 8

AM: Dick & Janet Schamp

PM: Adam & Lindsay

Meyerdirk

September 15

AM: Todd & Mandy Shaarda

PM: Mike & Barb Stapleton

September 22

AM: David & Diane Stockreef

PM: Josi Stevens

September 29

AM: Ron & Sue Streekstra

PM: Duke & Karen Suwyn



Happy Birthday to You!!

Ethan	Shaarda	September 03
Tiberius	Amtsbuechler	September 05
Sydney	Bangma	September 07
Josennette	Stevens	September 08
Alyssa	Cronk	September 09
Carter	Paauw	September 09
Melanie	Thornton	September 11
Karen	Faber	September 12
Adam	Gorlewski	September 13
Megan	Herweyer	September 13
Scott	Deppe	September 14
Paul	Dykema	September 15
Rachel	Pierce	September 16
Ellen	Whaley	September 16
Caleb	Nelson	September 18
Sue	Streekstra	September 18
Cassandra	Baker	September 20
Derek	Blok	September 20
Delmar	Meulenberg	September 21
Ally	Stapleton	September 21
Catherine	Stapleton	September 21
Jonas	Chupp	September 23
Andrew	Thornton	September 25
Christina	VanAllen	September 28
Cherryl	Scaturro	September 29
Nellie	denDulk	September 30
Haddon	Seal	September 30

