

# Redeemer Happenings



## February 2026

### Mercy and our mess

During Sunday school, my patience with three-year-old Peter was wearing thin. He was unhappy, unkind to the other kids, and absolutely refused to be content, even when we offered him the most coveted toys. My pity turned to annoyance. If he stubbornly persisted in being difficult, then fine, I'd send him back to his parents and he would miss out on all the fun.

Too often I find my compassion has conditions. If someone ignores my advice or refuses my help, then they don't deserve it anymore. Fortunately, God doesn't act that way toward us. The prophet Jonah experienced His great mercy after a time of stubborn disobedience when God commanded him to travel and preach to Nineveh (Jonah 1:2). Defiantly choosing the opposite direction, Jonah was caught in a terrible storm, set adrift at sea, and then swallowed by a great fish—a self-made disaster (vv. 4, 15-17). When Jonah finally “prayed to the Lord his God” (2:1), God was still listening to him, ready to forgive His reluctant prophet. Jonah was delivered from the fish and graciously given a second chance to go to Nineveh (3:1).

In little Peter's case, a trip to the playground consoled him—a brilliant idea by a helper with more patience than I had shown. How beautiful is mercy that continually seeks us out, even in the middle of our own mess.

*By Karen Pimpo, Our Daily Bread*



"What child Is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping..." could be heard in the Redeemer rafters all through advent and Christmas Eve. Love came down that night for all of us... To be loved and to love!

We were reminded of the ultimate gift that was given to us all. A child born to a traveling young couple with many pondering nights, unforeseen challenges, insights from friends and protected by a guiding light.

The month of February celebrates Families and Love. It's a short wintery month that needs warmth and reflections. A time in the long year set aside to enjoy the people you admire the most.

So, you may wonder why I bring us back to Christmas Eve for the month of February. Well, Christmas Eve this year made me think of our family when each of our children were born. Each different, each special, each bringing joy to a "younger couple" with new dreams. Each time, we pondered how the pages in each of these new chapters would be revealed. But there was a one thing in common, that is, that all three came into this world to be loved and to love.

Family can include a spectrum of connections from relatives, adopted members, or close friends. Family can be extended. Family can be chosen. But, again the goal of a family is to be loved and to love.

We are all part of different families. They may consist of a work family, a sports family, a school family, and a church family. So, this month take the time to talk with your family; walk with your family; listen to your family; play with your family; pray for your family and be there for your family.

God came into this world to show us love, so that through that gift, we can reflect that love...

So, to a struggling family member; maybe a hug and a listening ear. To a lost friend; a phone call. To a neighbour in need; a quick visit or a shoveled walk. For a co-worker; a friendly smile or tell them: "great job", or an unhoused person on the street; an increased donation for a hot meal or a place to stay. For they all came into this same world for a purpose. They were all children born to be loved and to love. So, just maybe we may be the one to show that love.

John 3:17 For God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him... that's Family and Love

We really don't know at the time of our child's birth what dreams lie ahead for He/Him, They/Them, She/Her. But what we do know is that they will need our love and that we will need theirs. For they came into this world to be loved and to love.

Happy Family Day

Go in Peace and know that you are loved...



THE  
MUSTARD  
SEED

Plan to join us  
THIS Sunday – Feb.1

Krista-Dawn Kimsey, from Saskatoon's The Mustard Seed, joins us in Worship at 10:00 and for our intergenerational GIFT gathering **with a lite LUNCH** following the service.

ALL AGES are invited to COME and HEAR and LEARN about THE MUSTARD SEED's mission here in Saskatoon....

*Building Community, Growing HOPE, Supporting Change through caring for individuals experiencing HOMELESSNESS IN OUR CITY.*

**How might YOU & I and WE, at Redeemer, join them in their mission here in Saskatoon?**

**Watch for possibilities coming soon!**



## Father Vachon Book & Breakfast donation



Redeemer is again partnering with **Father Vachon** school for an educational experience. The school is having a "**Book & Breakfast**" event on Wednesday, February 11th at 8 am. We would love volunteers to come early that day to assist with the distribution of the breakfast for the PreK-Grade 2 students. We need help to have a breakfast event. If you could, prayerfully discern, contribute to the breakfast, it would be so appreciated.

Typically we serve juice boxes, fruit (grapes, mandarin oranges, apples, bananas, canta-loupe, etc.) and muffins for the 100+ students who show up for this event. If you have the time and could spare the effort, we would love to have about 10 dozen kids friendly muffins for this event (they love chocolate chip, blueberry, carrot, etc. but are not as keen on bran, etc.). If you want to buy fruit, muffins &/or juice boxes, you can leave them in the clear bin at the front of the church.

**We'd like all donations by Feb. 8th** please. If you would rather donate monetarily, Charlene Neumeyer can receive fund at [jneum100@sasktel.net](mailto:jneum100@sasktel.net) , but unfortunately, there is no tax deduction for this donation.

This community program offering a continental breakfast and reading to students before school helps to boost literacy and learning. It is a warm, personal experience, for educational support, that the students REALLY appreciate and benefit from experiencing.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated support of this event!

God bless!

## FINANCIAL UPDATE



"There was a surplus of \$8,747.08 for the month of December 2025 and a surplus of \$25,685.47 for the year to the end of December 2025, before the fund accounts revenues and expenses. The general fund/envelope giving for December 2025 was \$38,682.60 and for the year to the end of December 2025 it was \$281,772.20. The general fund giving for 2025 was approximately \$6,800.00 more than what was budgeted for the year. Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to Redeemer's operations.

The final reviewed financial statements for 2025 and the 2026 budget should be available by the beginning of March 2026 and will be available for your review before the 2026 annual general meeting.

An offering plate is located at the top of the stairs in the sanctuary for you to drop off your donation as you enter or exit the church service. In addition, the following options are available for you to make a donation to Redeemer Lutheran Church:

1. Mail or drop off a cheque at the church  
You can mail a cheque directly to the church office.  
Mailing address: [812 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 2V2](mailto:812.Preston.Avenue.Saskatoon.Sask.S7H.2V2). You can also drop off a cheque in the mailbox at the front of the church or in the church office.
2. Interac E-transfer using online banking  
We are setup for automatic deposit. If you use online banking, you may make a payment to Redeemer Lutheran Church by:
  - i. Logging into your personal banking account, add Redeemer Lutheran Church as a recipient using the email address [redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net](mailto:redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net)
  - ii. Enter the desired amount and click send. Instructions on how to send and receive an e-transfer are found on Interac's website:  
<https://www.interac.ca/en/consumers/products/interac-e-transfer/>
3. Monthly PAD donation

You may request to sign up for a monthly Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) donation. This option allows you to automatically make your donation monthly by allowing the church to debit your account for your donation. Forms are available next to the offering plate in the sanctuary or please contact the church office if you would like to take advantage of this giving option.

Please note that you may also donate marketable securities to the church. This will allow you to eliminate any capital gains taxes and allow you a tax donation credit at the same time. Please contact the church office for details on making a donation of marketable securities to the church.

Ron Litzenberger"



Rebekah Circle Bible study will be held on  
**Tuesday, February 17 @ 7:00 pm.**  
**In the Fireside Lounge.**  
Charlene is our leader



### **Men's prayer breakfast**

**Saturday, February 21 at 8am**  
**Smitty's in Market Mall**

**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME**



Saskatchewan Synod  
ELCIC

**Please Save the Date**  
and inform your congregants  
that **Good Shepherd is hosting Bishop Ali on**  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
in shared discussion and learning about

**“Being a Welcoming Church”**  
**@ 1 pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.**

All are welcome as this is an opportunity for us  
all to learn about how to have successful  
outreach in our communities.

# Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Office hours

Monday to Thursday 9am-12pm & 1-4  
(Friday afternoon office is closed)

A Community of  
Life & Love,  
Hope & Healing



We're on the web!  
[redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca)



Join Us On



If you are unable to worship with us in person, join us each week at 9:50 am on YouTube by clicking this link:

[Redeemer Lutheran Saskatoon - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/c/RedeemerLutheranSaskatoon)

**This link is also available on the homepage of our website**

**[redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca) at any time.**

You can also go to this same link at any time afterwards to view the service if you are unable to join at 10am. We encourage you to hit 'subscribe' on our YouTube page, so that all future worship services will be highlighted for you. If you have any questions or need assistance in connecting to our YouTube site, just give us a call and we will be glad to help you out.

## **The benefits of Stephen Ministry**

**Stephen Ministry** is a church-based, lay caregiving program that equips trained volunteers (Stephen Ministers) to provide one-to-one Christian care to people going through difficult seasons. Its benefits are wide-ranging—for individuals, churches, and the wider community.

### **Benefits for Care Receivers**

- **Consistent, confidential support** during crises such as grief, illness, divorce, job loss, or loneliness
- **Christ-centered care** that integrates faith, prayer, and Scripture with emotional support
- **Long-term companionship**, not just short-term help

**Reduced isolation**, knowing someone walks alongside them regularly

### **Benefits for Stephen Ministers (Caregivers)**

- **High-quality training** in listening, empathy, boundaries, and spiritual care
- **Personal spiritual growth** and deeper faith maturity
- **Meaningful service**, using gifts to care for others in tangible ways

**Ongoing supervision and support**, preventing burnout

### **Benefits for Pastors and Church Leaders**

- **Shared care responsibilities**, allowing pastors to focus on preaching, teaching, and leadership
- **Stronger pastoral care system** without overextending clergy

**Confidence that members are well cared for**, even in complex or long-term situations

### **Benefits for the Congregation**

- **A culture of care**, compassion, and mutual support
- **Stronger relationships and trust** within the church community
- **Practical expression of Christian love**, not just words

**Effective outreach**, as care often extends beyond church members

### **Benefits for the Community**

- **Accessible emotional and spiritual care** at no cost
- **A visible witness of Christ's love** through compassionate presence

**Support during life's hardest moments**, when people are most vulnerable

In short, Stephen Ministry strengthens the church's ability to live out Galatians 6:2—<sup>EOP</sup>“*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*”





Saskatchewan Synod  
ELCIC

Join Us at this year's Winter Youth  
Retreat:



# CAMP BUTT-FREEZE



All youth aged 12-17 are invited to join their friends and favourite youth leaders from across the province for an offline weekend filled with snow and grace! Pastor Ron Shumba will be speaking on the role of sacraments in the lives of young people.

**Youth do not need to be part of a youth group to attend!**



**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1, 2026**

Outdoor & Indoor Activities    Wide Games

Worship & Music    Campfires & Cocoa

To Register: [HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/250645994740264](https://form.jotform.com/250645994740264)