



## REDEEMER CHURCH

A COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR THE CITY  
**Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—Aug 3, 2025

*“A Wounded Family in The Hands of a Wonder-Working God”*  
—Genesis 37

### Reflection Quote

“Although Genesis 37 appears to be purely secular, centering on the human drama of brother against brother, something greater is taking place. This chapter points out that God uses man’s sinful ways and deceitfulness to bring about his own good purposes. All events, in heaven above or on the earth beneath, unfold according to His will.”  
—John D. Currid

### Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

#### \* Call to Worship

*Romans 8:28-32*

Rev. Zack Owens

Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

### Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Rev. Zack Owens

#### Assurance of Pardon

*1 John 4:10*

Rev. Zack Owens

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

#### \* Song of Preparation

*“Gospel Medley”*

○ the blood of Jesus,  
○ the blood of Jesus,  
○ the blood of Jesus,  
It washes white as snow.

○ the cross of Jesus,  
○ the cross of Jesus,  
○ the cross of Jesus, His death brings life to me.

○ the love of Jesus,  
○ the love of Jesus,  
○ the love of Jesus,  
He freely gives to me.

○ the blood of Jesus,  
○ the blood of Jesus,  
○ the blood of Jesus, It washes white as snow.

*Refrain: There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder working pow'r  
in the blood of the Lamb;  
There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder working pow'r  
in the precious blood of the Lamb.*

In The name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, we have the victory,  
In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, Satan will have to flee!  
Oooh tell me who can stand before us,  
when we call on that great name,  
Jesus, Jesus, Precious Jesus,  
we have the victory! Repeat.

**\* Song of Praise**

*"Grace Like Rain"*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
was blind but now I see, so clearly!

*Chorus: Hallelujah, grace like rain falls down on me,  
Hallelujah, all my stains are washed away, they're washed away.*

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed. *Chorus*

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing Your praise than when we first begun. *Chorus*

**Pastoral Prayer**

Dr. Barry McCay, Ruling Elder

**Worship in Giving**

Dr. Barry McCay

*\*\*Please find the Connect Pad on your pew at this time to sign in and pass it down the row.\*\**

*Visitors: If you would like to be contacted by the church, please include your email address  
Thank you to those giving online.*

**Congregational Song**

*"Worthy is The Lamb"*

Thank you for the cross, Lord.  
Thank you for the price You paid.  
Bearing all my sin and shame,  
in love you came,  
And gave amazing grace.

Thank you for this love, Lord.  
Thank you for the nail pierced hands.  
Washed me in Your cleansing flow,  
now all I know,  
Is your forgiveness and embrace

*Chorus: Worthy is the Lamb Seated on the throne  
Crown You now with many crowns,  
You reign victorious*

High and lifted up, Jesus Son of God  
The Treasure of Heaven crucified,  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb!

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

**Sermon Text**

Genesis 37  
Pew Bible p. 36

**Sermon Title**

"A Wounded Family in The Hands of a Wonder-Working God"

**\* Hymn of Faith**

*"In Christ Alone"*

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Till on the cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

**Communion**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr., and the Elders

**Communion Music**

**\* Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

**\* Departing Song**

*"In Christ Alone"*

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;  
'till He returns, or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**Prayer Intercessor Team**

Dr. Barry McCay & Mrs. Ellen McCay (8:00am)  
Mr. Ellis Tucker & Mrs. Shirley Tucker (11:00am)

**\*Please Stand.**

**(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)**

## **SERMON NOTES**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—August 3, 2025

*“A Wounded Family in The Hands of a Wonder-Working God”*  
—Genesis 37

### **Sermon Points**

1. The crises in the first family
2. The hidden choreography of God
3. Our present confidence in Christ

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday)

**Connect Pad:** Please find the Connect Pad on your pew and sign in. This helps us keep track of Members and Visitors alike.



### More Information:

On the QR Code you'll find links to announcements and online giving.

### \*\*\* PRAYER REQUESTS/UPDATES \*\*\*

- Sally Ann Jones and Family: Home from the hospital after respiratory issues.
- Kathryn Wilson and Family: Rejoicing in the birth of Paul Henry Wilson. Kathryn is still recovering from West Nile Virus.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.
- Tu & Caroline Combs: As Caroline undergoes treatment for stage 4 breast cancer.

### Births

*Paul Henry Wilson, Covenant son of Amile & Kathryn Wilson, 7.19.25*

See QR Code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for updates and Take Them a Meal.

### \*\*\* SEEKING TO SERVE \*\*\*

#### Serve in The Nursery

We are in need of additional volunteers to care for our littles in the nursery during the 11:00am service. Reach out to Velma Warner at [vwarner@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:vwarner@redeemerjackson.com) to learn more and to serve.

#### Community Garden Workday, Aug 9

Join Hope Exchange as we care for the veggies, vines, and fruit trees in the Art + Soil Community Garden. The garden is a space for community and collaboration, for creation care and soul care, and for learning and networking. Help with regular maintenance: weeding, fertilizing, pruning and harvesting. We'll also prepare new beds and plant new veggies. All ages and skill levels are welcome—join us from 8:00-11:00am! See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) to sign up.

#### Serve at Upside Down, Starting Aug 21

Upside Down meets Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm (Aug 20–Sept 24, Oct 15–Nov 19) for children in K4 through 5th grade. It runs like VBS every week, with Bible and catechism memory, singing, playing, eating, and building relationships. It's also an opportunity for evangelism, as many of the kids come from outside our church. Would you prayerfully consider serving this fall? Reach out to Jajuan McNeil at [mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com) to join the fun!

### \*\*\* CALLED TO CONNECT \*\*\*

#### Join the Redeemer Choir

Love to sing in the car? Play an instrument? Or just want to be part of something joyful? The Choir is looking for you! No auditions, no pressure—just making music together for God's glory. We rehearse on Tuesdays at 7:00pm, reach out to Meg Mills at [meg-ger.lsu@gmail.com](mailto:meg-ger.lsu@gmail.com) or Akida Mosby at [akidamosby@yahoo.com](mailto:akidamosby@yahoo.com) for more information.

### **Church-Wide Fellowship Brunch, Aug 3**

Join us TODAY for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour! We'll enjoy food and fellowship, then spend the last 15-20 minutes hearing updates on being a wise and welcoming church, and our vision for future. Be sure and pick up your littles from the nursery before coming to brunch, we want everyone, including our diligent nursery workers, to be able to join us!

### **Work Life Class via Hope Exchange Begins, Aug 20**

Looking to land a GOOD job? Join Work Life—a class for people who: 1) are ready to get hired or promoted; 2) want to improve their relationships and overcome obstacles; 3) would benefit from a supportive community as they pursue goals and develop gifts. We're kicking off the fall semester on Wednesday, Aug 20 at 6:00pm at 630 Wellington Rd. behind the church, join us!

### **Redeemer Young Adults Picnic at The Rez, Aug 21 Join the Redeemer Choir**

We want YOU to join RYA on Thursday, Aug 21 from 5:30-7:00pm as we host our fall kick off event at Old Trace Park before we launch into our fall series on Spiritual Formation! We will be picnic style while enjoying fellowship and games together. Bring something yummy to share, and a blanket or chair! Contact Chael Williams at [chaelwilliams99@gmail.com](mailto:chaelwilliams99@gmail.com) for more info and to join the RYA GroupMe.

### **Redeemer Women's Meet & Greet, Aug 23**

Redeemer women ages 18 and older, join us for a time of fellowship and enjoyment in the Youth Room. This will be an opportunity to connect with other women in the church and learn more about Women's Ministry in the life of Redeemer! Light refreshments will be served. No childcare available. See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information and to sign up.

### **Save The Date: Redeemer's Annual Fish Fry, Oct 8**

Mark your calendars for Redeemer's annual Neighborhood Fish Fry! We invite the entire Broadmoor and Fondren North neighborhoods to the church grounds for a free meal, joyful vibes, and practical connections. More information coming soon!

### **\*\*\* NEWS TO NOTE \*\*\***

### **Jermaine Van Buren's Ordination Service, Aug 17, 6:00pm**

Pending satisfactory completion of the ordination process next week, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr., our former intern, will be ordained on Aug 17 at 6:00pm. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall with light hors d'oeuvres.

### **Brandon Slay Serving as Director of AV Ministries**

A few months ago, Brandon Slay stepped into the part-time role of Director of AV Ministries at Redeemer, and we're so thankful for his leadership! He also works full-time as Director of Technology at Christ Covenant School. With over 20 years of AV experience and a deep love for the church, Brandon brings a steady hand and a servant's heart to all things tech. We're grateful for all he does — be sure to thank him when you see him behind the soundboard!



## **A Welcoming & Wise Church**

This year, we've experienced both beautiful moments of welcome and challenging situations in our gatherings. We've seen more neighbors come through our doors—some carrying deep burdens, and others simply searching for hope. At times, this has stirred uncertainty or concern. As your church staff and leaders, we've been listening, praying, and discerning how to walk forward with both compassion and care.

In the coming months, we'll share some thoughtful guidance on how Redeemer can continue to be both welcoming and wise—a church where everyone is met with the kindness of Christ, and where we thoughtfully oversee the well-being of our community. For those who may feel uneasy, know that our deacons and trained security leaders are faithfully present each Sunday, ready to respond with care and discretion.

Whether you're new to Redeemer or have been here for years, we hope this encourages you. And we invite you to reflect—How might Christ be shaping your heart to extend welcome with wisdom, and love without fear?

We will discuss more today during our Fellowship Brunch. Feel free to reach out with questions to Jerome Douglas at [jdouglas@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:jdouglas@redeemerjackson.com).

## **Zack's Back!**

Zack Owens has returned from Sabbatical and is back in the church office. Welcome back, Zack!

## **Fall Sermon Series, Genesis 37-50**

Genesis 37–50 tells the story of Jacob and his sons, with special attention given to Joseph. But Joseph is not the ultimate savior—God is. This "first family" is marked and marred by rivalry, sin, deceit, and crises of epic proportions. Yet God shows up with surprising grace. And that is good news for us. Across these chapters, we will witness God's faithful hand shaping His people and fulfilling His promises in ways they never expected. At the heart of it all is the story of the dysfunction-overcoming, crises-averting, providence-working, people-transforming, promise-keeping God, who is worthy of our trust and worship. Join us as we explore how God's work in and through this "first family" draws our hearts to trust Jesus more deeply.

## **Accepting Applications for the Director of Music Ministry**

Our search is underway for a Director of Music Ministry. This is a salaried, part-time position (targeting 25-30 hours/week) with potential to grow into full-time role. We are accepting applications through **Aug 17**. Know someone who might be interested? See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.



## **Fall Adult Sunday School** **9:45-10:35am**

**2025 Fall Sunday School Block 1**  
**begins Aug 10 and concludes Sept 28.**

### ***Habits of the Household***

**Teachers:** Brian Gault and Chad Berry

**Location:** Sanctuary

Based on Justin Whitmel Earley's *Habits of the Household*, this class explores how everyday family routines can be transformed into intentional practices of spiritual formation.

Over seven weeks, we examine key habits—waking, mealtimes, discipline, screen time, family devotions, work, and bedtime—considering how each can shape both parents and children in the way of Christ. Participants will reflect on their own household rhythms, engage in group discussion, and be challenged to implement small but meaningful changes rooted in grace.

Each session pairs practical ideas with biblical wisdom, aiming to cultivate habits that form hearts, not just behaviors. This class is ideal for parents, caregivers, and anyone seeking to integrate faith into the ordinary moments of family life.

### ***In Pursuit of Biblical Creativity***

**Teacher:** Andy Sauerwein

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

Romans 12 compels us to “offer our bodies as living sacrifices” in the pursuit of God’s good purpose, rather than being “conformed to the pattern of this world.” Genesis 1 calls us to participate as stewards by imitating God’s creative demonstration, “putting things into good order.”

In this class, we will seek to inhabit a framework for navigating this pursuit of “good order.” We will consider our roles as explorers, makers, and participants in God’s eternal purpose as he forms (and re-forms) our affections to resonate with his desires. Through our “creative activity,” we can “taste and see that the Lord is good” by imaginatively pursuing beauty, goodness, and truth in every area of our lives, doing all that we do “as unto the Lord.”

### ***The Book of Acts***

**Teachers:** Josh Anderson, Joshua Coleman,  
Ian Deffenbaugh, Chael Williams

**Location:** Room 109

The book of Acts is the story of the ascent of Jesus Christ, the descent of the Spirit, and the dawn of the church. Through studying Acts, God’s people see firsthand how God formed and sustained a new people under the administration of the new covenant. There is much in this book to teach us about the Holy Spirit, church life, living amidst persecution, unity in diversity, and ultimately about Christ Himself. In this class we will explore the biblical - theological categories of Acts and hope to mine the riches of the wisdom of this book for living faithfully under King Jesus in our own context.

# **Fall Children & Youth Sunday School**

**2025 Fall C&Y Sunday School  
begins Aug 10 and concludes Nov 30.**

## **Youth (6th-12th): Christian Friendship**

**High School Teachers:** Wilson Jamison, Ian Deffenbaugh,  
Anna Lois Callen, Cadden Christie

**Middle School Teachers:** Wilson Jamison, Rob Vickery, Lane Morgan & Team

**Location:** Youth Room

"Why is friendship hard?" "Why is it necessary?" "What does it take to be a good friend?" "How does belonging to Jesus shape our friendships?" This fall in Sunday school, Redeemer Youth will explore Christian Friendship using Ed Welch's *Side by Side*. Together, we'll see that humans are made for friendship—that it is rooted in God Himself, broken by sin, and redeemed in Jesus. We'll also learn practical skills for building and sustaining Christ-centered friendships.

## **Children's (K4-5th): Investigating God's Word**

This fall, RedeemerKids is continuing through "Investigating God's Word." All classes K4-5th

**K4:** Room 208

**Teachers:**

Rachel Harbarger, Amanda McGuffey

**2nd:** Room 207

**Teachers:**

Gene Everitt, KK Harrington

**K5:** Room 209

**Teachers:**

Beth Clarke, Sarah Love Crawford

**3rd:** Room 206

**Teachers:**

Christa Williams, Page Callen,  
Andrea Burks

**1st:** Room 210

**Teachers:**

Krisan Parish, Claire Graves,  
Emmaline Smith

**4th:** Room 202

**Teachers:**

Angela Simpkins, Samuel Bolen,

chapter by chapter through

**5th:** Room 204

**Teachers:**

Haley Arndt, Liz Callen,  
Tyler Espinoza

Grade will be working  
Matthew chapters 1-14.

## **Nursery (2-3):**

### **Exploring God's Word Through the Old Testament**

This fall, our Nursery Sunday School will focus on teaching our young children the biblical foundation of God's creation and the early family of faith by covering key stories from the Book of Genesis, highlighting the life of Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob, and Joseph and how they fit into God's plan of salvation.

**\*\*\* Redeemer Kids \*\*\***  
**K4-5th Grade**

**Celebrating Our Time at Lake Forest Ranch**

Two weeks ago, 14 RedeemerKids had a blast at Lake Forest Ranch Camp! We enjoyed time outside, fellowship, worship, and learning about God's word. Thanks to Jajuan, Joya, Zack (or Lake Forest Frank, as he was known this week) and Kristen for shepherding our kids this week.



**Upside Down Returns Aug 20**

Upside down is our weekly offering for our elementary aged students. We play games, eat, sing, and learn about God's word! Come join us on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm.

**\*\*\* Redeemer Youth \*\*\***  
**6th-12th Grade**

**Rooted Kickoff, Aug 10**

High Schoolers, we are kicking off the school year with a pool party at the Norman's home in Jackson (address will be in Redeemer Youth GroupMe) from 5:30 -7:00pm. We'd love to see you there! If you plan to come, please let Stephanie know at [sgreer@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:sgreer@redeemerjackson.com) so we can get a headcount for food.

**Crossroads Kickoff, Aug 13**

Middle Schoolers, we are going to kick off the school year with some friendly competition. Come on out to the Youth Room from 6:00-7:30pm to catch up with your friends and leaders and play some games! Please let Stephanie at [sgreer@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:sgreer@redeemerjackson.com) know if you plan to come so we can get a headcount for food.

**Youth Girls Bible Study**

This fall, our youth girls will be doing a Bible Study on "Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament". If you're in 6th-12th grade, come join us for this time of fellowship, study, and prayer. We will be alternating between weeks with all girls 6th-12th grade and high school only weeks. Our first meeting, August 19, will be for 6th-12th grade. Check the GroupMe for meeting reminders and the location.

**Crossroads Returns Aug 20**

If you are in 6th-8th grade, come on out to Crossroads! Crossroads is our weekly youth group gathering where we eat dinner, play games, hear a lesson from the Bible and discuss it in small groups. We meet in the Youth room from 6:00-7:30pm. We have a blast and would love to see you there!

**High School Office Hours, Aug 21**

High Schoolers, come join Wilson and Stephanie for Office Hours on selected Thursdays this semester. This will be a casual chance to connect, catch up, and pray together. Our first meeting will be on August 21 from 4:00-5:00pm; check the GroupMe for announcements about other meeting dates and our meeting location!

## THIS WEEK

### Deacon on Call Week of Aug 3

Blaise King, 601.951.8116

### Sunday, Aug 3

8:00am Worship Service

Livestream Available

9:45am Church-wide Fellowship Brunch

11:00am Worship Service

### Monday, Aug 4

6:00pm Session & Diaconate Meetings

### Tuesday, Aug 5

7:00pm Choir Practice

### Wednesday, Aug 6

### Thursday, Aug 7

### Friday, Aug 8

### Saturday, Aug 9

8:00am Community Garden Workday

8:30am Men's Basketball

### Sunday, Aug 10

8:00am Worship Service

Livestream Available

9:45am Fall Sunday School Begins

11:00am Worship Service

5:30pm Rooted Kickoff Pool Party

## STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor

Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship

Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care

Wilson Jamison, Asst Pastor of Youth Ministry

Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director

Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry

Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant

Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions

Katie Drake, Director of Women's Ministry

Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator

Corrie Keplinger, Coordinator of Communications

& Operations, Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Tina Collier, Administrative Assistant

Josh Anderson, Intern

Joshua Coleman, Intern

Ian Deffenbaugh, Intern

Markese Lee, Intern

Chael Williams, Intern

Interim Music Ministry Team:

Joyce Hamme, Arthur Phillips, Meg Mills, Akida Mosby

## RULING ELDERS

Karl Arndt

Grant Callen

Tu Combs

Gene Dent

Baskin Jones

Scott Marshall

Barry McCay

Kelle Menogan, Sr.

Marculis Mosby

CL Pearce

Herb Sanders

Andy Sauerwein

William Stackler

Rob Vickery

Trey Watkins

## DEACONS

Grafton Bragg

Philip Carter

Preston Denley

Davidson Forester

Jon Fults

David Garner

Jake Garner

Clayton Gressett

Reid Haygood

Detrick Johnson

Blaise King

Jonathan Lancaster

Cody McCain

Lane Morgan

Greg Ross

Jaimar Scott

Seth Shannon

Jonathan Shull

Jeremy Smith

Ellis Tucker

Johnston Walker

Tamarco White

## COMING UP:

Aug 13: Crossroads Kickoff Game Night

Aug 17: Growth Groups Begin

Aug 20: Upside Down Begins

Aug 20: Crossroads Begins

Aug 21: RYA Hangout at Reservoir

Aug 24: Rooted Begins

Sept 4: RYA Spiritual Formation Dinner & Discussion

Sept 7: Church-Wide Prayer Brunch

Sept 28: College Sunday



[redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](https://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday)