



## REDEEMER CHURCH

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Rev. Brian Sorgenfrei—February 1, 2026

*“The Life of the Party”*

—John 2:1-11

### Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

### \* Call to Worship

*Isaiah 55:1-3*

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

### Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

### Assurance of Pardon

*Romans 8:1*

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

### \* Song of Preparation

*“We’ve Come This Far by Faith”*

*Chorus:* We’ve come this far by faith, Leaning on the Lord,  
trusting in His holy Word, He’s never failed us yet.

Singin’ oh, oh, oh, can’t turn a-round,  
we’ve come this far by faith.

Don’t be discouraged With troubles in your life.  
He’ll bear your burdens, and move all misery and strife. Oh, oh, oh! *Chorus*

Just the other day, I heard a man say He didn’t believe in God’s Word,  
but I can truly say that God has made a way,  
and He’s never failed me yet. Oh, oh, oh! *Chorus*

### \* Song of Praise

*“Goodness of God”*

I love You Lord for Your mercy never fails me.  
All my days, I’ve been held in Your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up  
until I lay my head  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

*Chorus:* And all my life You have been faithful  
and all my life You have been so, so good!  
With every breath that I am able  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire.  
In the darkest night You are close like no other.  
I’ve known You as a Father, I’ve known You as a Friend,  
and I have lived in the goodness of God. *Chorus.*

'Cause Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me.  
With my life laid down I'm surrendered now,  
I give You everything  
'Cause Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me. *Repeat. Chorus.*

**Pastoral Prayer**

Mr. Rob Vickery  
Ruling Elder

**Worship in Giving**

Mr. Rob Vickery

*\*\*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.*

**Children's Church (Ages 4-5) 8:00am only**

Parents: After worship in giving, you are welcome to send your child (4-5) to children's church before the end of special music.

**Special Music**

*"I Trust in God"*

Redeemer Choir

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine.  
He's been my fourth man in the fire, time after time.  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood,  
and what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough.

*Chorus:* So I trust in God, my Savior,  
The One who will never fail.  
I trust in God, my Savior,  
The One who will never fail.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I know the Author of tomorrow has ordered my steps.  
So this is my story, this is my song:  
Praising my risen King and Savior all the day long. *Chorus*

I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered.  
I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered.  
I sought the Lord, and He heard, and He answered.

That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust in God my Savior. *Repeat as directed. Chorus*

**Prayer of Illumination**

Rev. Brian Sorgenfrei  
Associate Pastor, Christ Presbyterian, Oxford, MS

**Sermon Text**

John 2:1-11  
Pew Bible p. 1054

**Sermon Title**

*"The Life of The Party"*

**\* Communion Hymn**

*"Nothing But The Blood of Jesus"*

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Refrain:* Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my cleansing this my plea: nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain.*

Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain.*

**Communion**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr. and the Elders

**Communion Music**

*"Come to Me"*

*(Matthew 11:25, 28-29; 2 Corinthians 6:18; 1 John 3:1)*

*Kayla Asgaralli, Drew Hairston,  
Stan Wagnon, Bear Vickery*

Come to Me, all you who labor, Come to Me, and I will give you rest.  
Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened and you will find rest for your souls.

Come, My Child, learn my heart, for I am gentle and lowly.  
See how great My love for you, that I have called you My child.

**\* Benediction**

Rev. Brian Sorgenfrei

**\*Departing Song**

*"Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus"*

This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain.*

**Prayer Intercessor Team**

Mr. Dave Garner & Mrs. Tam Garner (8:00am)  
Mr. William Stackler & Mrs. Amy Stackler (11:00am)

**\*Please Stand.**

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

## **SERMON NOTES**

Rev. Brian Sorgenfrei—February 1, 2026

*“The Life of the Party”*

——John 2:1-11



***Guest Speaker: Brian Sorgenfrei***  
**Associate Pastor | Christ Presbyterian Church, Oxford, MS**

Brian was born and raised in Jackson, MS, and graduated from Ole Miss. After graduation, Brian worked for two years with RUF as an intern at Auburn University. He then married Liza and moved to Jackson to attend Reformed Theological Seminary. While in seminary, he worked with college students at First Presbyterian Church and Millsaps College.

Upon completing seminary, Brian was ordained and moved to Starkville, MS to work with RUF at Mississippi State University. After 13 years of serving as the RUF campus minister at MSU (8 yrs) and Ole Miss (5 yrs), Brian accepted a call in the summer of '22 to become an associate pastor at Christ Presbyterian Church in Oxford, MS. Brian and Liza have three children Shelby ('08), Annie ('10) and Clark ('13).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Myah Lane: As she undergoes treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.
- Tu & Caroline Combs: As Caroline undergoes treatment for stage 4 breast cancer.

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

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

### Church-Wide Anniversary Celebration Brunch, Feb 1

Join us TODAY for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour! We'll enjoy food and fellowship and praise the Lord for His kindness to Redeemer over 21 years. 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!

### The Soul of Shame Book Discussion, Feb 4 - Apr 22

Join Brian Gault (pastor) and Michelle Hitchcock (counselor) Wednesday nights (6:00-7:30) for a 10-week discussion of *The Soul of Shame* by Curt Thompson. Together we'll explore how shame shapes our stories, relationships, and spiritual lives—and how God invites us into healing, connection, and joy. Drawing from neuroscience, Scripture, and lived experience, Thompson offers a compassionate framework for understanding shame and practicing embodied hope within Christian community. Each week includes guided discussion and reflection in a safe, grace-filled space. Open to anyone seeking deeper emotional health, spiritual formation, and authentic community. Please RSVP to Brian Gault at [bgault@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:bgault@redeemerjackson.com) by Feb 1 to hold your spot in the discussion.

### RCA ArtShare, Feb 19

Join Redeemer Community Arts at our art "open mic night." It's an opportunity for anyone engaged in creative activity to share their pieces in a friendly and encouraging environment. This month we are meeting at the Red House in Jackson, 1252 Druid Hill Dr. All art forms welcome: visual art, writing, music, dance, drama, handiworks, etc. Light refreshments provided, all ages welcome! Contact Peter Davis at [peterdart@live.com](mailto:peterdart@live.com) for more information.

### Talking to Your Kids About Sex: A Biblical Approach, Feb 25 or Mar 4

One of the most important—and sometimes daunting—conversations you can have with your child is “the talk.” In this one-hour session, we'll offer practical tools and encouragement to help you approach this conversation with confidence and care, and to continue it as an ongoing, healthy dialogue over time. This same talk will be offered on Feb 25 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary, and again on Mar 4 at 12:00pm in the Church Office at 644 Wellington Rd. RSVP through the QR code.

### Reaching Our Neighbors Luncheon, Feb 28

To kick off Missions Month 2026, join us in the fellowship hall from 10:30am-1:00pm for a practical and inspiring session focused on local evangelism and building bridges within our community. Pastor Thabiti Anyabwile will share from his experience helping churches engage their neighborhoods with gospel intentionality. See the QR code to sign up.

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

**Join the Coffee Ministry Team**

Caffeination is brewing up joy every Sunday at Redeemer, and we need a few more hands on deck. If you love Java, people, and serving others, this is your cup of tea—or coffee. No barista skills required. See QR code to join the GroupMe for more info and to get on the rotation.

**Community Garden Workday, Feb 14**

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. Whether you're an experienced gardener or just want to put your hands in the dirt and learn, join us at 9:00am for our next spring workday at the garden, located at the corner of Robinhood and Londonderry. Questions or ideas? Contact Sylvia Leggette at [artandsoilgarden@gmail.com](mailto:artandsoilgarden@gmail.com).

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

**Jacques Jenkins Steps Down**

Jacques Jenkins, our drummer since 2017, will be stepping down on Feb 22. Jacques skill, dedication, and joy in using his gifts will be deeply missed. We wish God's richest blessings upon his life. We'll be seeking out someone new to fill this role in our music ministry. This is a paid position that includes both Sunday services and Tuesday evening rehearsals. If you're interested or know someone who is, please reach out to Coralie Keplinger at [ckeplinger@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:ckeplinger@redeemerjackson.com).

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

**The Redeemer's Ball, Feb 7, 4:30pm**

Mark your calendars for our annual Redeemer's Ball! This joyful event will be a wonderful opportunity for parents, guardians, and children to come together, share in community, and enjoy a night of dancing, music, and celebration. RSVP through the QR code.

**Upside Down**

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. See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.

**Save The Date: VBS, June 15-18**

The summer will be here in a flash, so go ahead and add "All Aboard!" Vacation Bible School to your calendar! For ages K4-5th grade.

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

**Registration NOW OPEN for Middle & High School RYM Conferences**

RYM is a Summer Conference with churches from around the country, July 3-7 (high school) and June 22-26 (middle school). We will get to spend time in God's Word, hang out with friends, and play games. To register or find more information, see the QR code. Registration is first come first serve and opens today, Feb 1.

**Crossroads**

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 on Wednesday nights. We have a blast and would love to see you there! See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.

**Rooted**

High Schoolers, we hope you will join us on Sunday nights for Rooted! At Rooted we eat dinner, worship, hear a lesson from God's Word and then discuss it in small groups. We meet in the Youth room from 5:30-7:00pm. See you there! See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.

## *Spring Adult Sunday School*

**9:45-10:35am**

**Spring Adult Sunday School Block 1**  
**begins Feb 8 and concludes Mar 29.**

### **Jackson Apologetics: Clear Answers for Complex Questions**

**Teachers:** Jerome Douglas, Karen Ellis, Esther Abraham

**Location:** Room 109

Want to grow in defending the faith? Join us as we engage the beliefs shaping our city and everyday conversations. We will explore sexuality, Christian nationalism, Islam, Jehovah's Witness, Hebrew Israelism, and deconstruction - drawing from Eric Mason's Urban Apologetics. Come grow in clarity and confidence as we learn to give Gospel answers with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15).

### ***The Song of Songs***

**Teacher:** Miles Van Pelt

**Location:** Sanctuary

The Song of Songs is perhaps the most neglected and misunderstood book in the Christian Bible, but we need to hear its message more than ever in our current cultural moment. The Song upholds the beauty of the marriage covenant as instituted by God in Genesis 2, while helping us to navigate the hardships, temptations, and brokenness of the post-fall Genesis 3 world we now inhabit. In this class, we will consider the topic of marriage and marital intimacy from the larger context of the Bible through the lens of Solomon's most famous song, the Song of Songs.

### ***Christian Growth: the Fruit of the Spirit***

**Teachers:** Zack Owens, Bentley Crawford, Andy Sauerwein

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). In scripture, a healthy life with God is often described in biological terms - whether as physical growth or botanical growth (a living faith is not truly living if it doesn't exhibit the characteristics of life: movement, breathing, and growth.)

In this class, we will explore each of the Fruit of the Spirit as a window into a biblical understanding of how and why we grow as Christians, exploring not only personal sanctification but also Intimacy (giving and receiving love), Identity (Connecting to others even through conflict), Imperfection (Dealing with sin and failure in ourselves and others), and Impulse Control (Holy Spirit empowered ability to feel and think instead of react).

**Spring Adult Sunday School**  
**9:45-10:35am**  
**Spring Children & Youth Sunday School**  
**begins Feb 8 and concludes May 31.**

**Youth (6th-12th): Truths That You Can Trust**

**High School Teachers:** Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer, Rob Vickery,  
Mary Katherine Evans, Cadden Christie

**Middle School Teachers:** Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer,  
Josh Anderson, Mary Katherine Evans, Lane Morgan

**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 spring, RedeemerKids is continuing through "Investigating God's Word."

**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

**5th: Room 204**

**Teachers:**

Haley Arndt, Liz Callen,  
Tyler Espinoza

**Nursery (2-3):**

**Exploring God's Word Through the New Testament**

This spring, our Nursery Sunday School classes will be looking at God's Son. Our focus will be on exploring the New Testament as we study the birth and early years of Jesus. Each lesson is designed to help children discover and understand these foundational stories from Scripture. In every lesson, the children are continually directed to Jesus and encouraged to recognize their need for Him.

## THIS WEEK

### Deacon on Call Week of Feb 1

Jonathan Shull, 601.874.3440

### Sunday, Feb 1

#### 21st Anniversary Service

8:00am Worship Service

8:00am Livestream Available

9:45am Church Wide Brunch:  
Anniversary Celebration

11:00am Worship Service

5:30pm Rooted

Registration for RYM Opens

### Monday, Feb 2

6:00pm Session & Diaconate Meetings

### Tuesday, Feb 3

7:00am Women's Bible Study

7:00pm Choir Practice

7:30pm Women's Bible Study

### Wednesday, Feb 4

9:00am Mom's Bible Study

6:00pm Upside Down

6:00pm Crossroads

6:00pm Women's Bible Study

6:00pm Faith & Finances via  
Hope Exchange

6:00pm *The Soul of Shame* Book  
Discussion Begins

### Thursday, Feb 5

12:00pm Women's Bible Study

### Friday, Feb 6

### Saturday, Feb 7

8:30am Men's Basketball

4:30pm The Redeemer's Ball

### Sunday, Feb 8

8:00am Worship Service

8:00am Livestream Available

9:45am Spring Sunday School  
Block 1 Begins

11:00am Worship Service

5:30pm Rooted

## STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor

Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship

Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care

Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions

Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry

Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant

Chael Williams, Interim Youth Director

Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director

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

Brandon Slay, Director of AV Ministries

Andre Warner, Audio/Visual Assistant

Josh Anderson, Intern

Joshua Coleman, Intern

Markese Lee, 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

John Hooker\*

Detrick Johnson

Blaise King

Cody McCain

Lane Morgan

Greg Ross

Jaimar Scott

Seth Shannon

Jonathan Shull

Jeremy Smith

Ellis Tucker

Johnston Walker

Tamarco White

\*Sabbatical

## COMING UP:

Feb 14: Community Garden Workday

Feb 25: Talking to Your Kids About Sex: A Biblical Approach

Feb 28: Reaching Our Neighbors Luncheon

March:

Mar 1: Missions Month Begins with Guest Speaker

Thabiti Anyabwile

Mar 1: High School Skate Night



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