



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—August 30, 2026

“When People are Big and the Gospel is Small”

Galatians 2:11-14

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Missions Moment

Ms. Esther Abraham & Ms. Arianna Abraham

* Call to Worship

Psalm 98

Mr. Chael Williams

Director of Youth Ministry

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Mr. Chael Williams

Assurance of Pardon

Proverbs 28:13

Mr. Chael Williams

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

* Song of Preparation

“Again I Say Rejoice”

*Come bless the Lord, come bless the Lord, draw near to worship Christ the Lord!
And bless His name, His Holy name, declaring He is good! Repeat as directed.
O that men would praise Him, O that men would praise Him!*

Chorus: *Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, and again I say
Rejoice in the Lord always,
and again I say, and again I say...repeat as directed
Rejoice!*

*O that men would praise His name,
praise His name to the ends of the earth...repeat as directed.
O that men would praise Him,
o that men would praise Him! **Chorus***

* Song of Praise

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand”

*On Jordan’s stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan’s fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.*

Chorus: *I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound) I am bound for promised land,
I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound) I am bound for promised land.*

*All o’er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
where God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away. **Chorus***

*No chilling winds nor poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore;
sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more. **Chorus***

*When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?
when shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest? **Chorus***

New Testament Scripture Reading *Selected Passages, Acts 10&11* Mr. Chael Williams

Now there was a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man and one who feared God with all his house, who gave gifts for the needy generously to the people and always prayed to God...Peter went up on the housetop to pray at about noon. He became hungry and desired to eat, but while they were preparing, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and a certain container descending to him, like a great sheet let down by four corners on the earth, in which were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the sky. A voice came to him, "Rise, Peter, kill and eat!" But Peter said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." A voice came to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed, you must not call unclean." This was done three times, and immediately the thing was received up into heaven...On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends. When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man." As he talked with him, he went in and found many gathered together. He said to them, "You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean. Therefore I also came without complaint when I was sent for."...Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I perceive that God doesn't show favoritism; but in every nation he who fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him."...While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the word. They of the circumcision who believed were amazed, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was also poured out on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in other languages and magnifying God. Then Peter answered, "Can anyone forbid these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just like us." He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days. Now the apostles and the brothers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. When Peter had come up to Jerusalem, those who were of the circumcision contended with him, saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!"..."As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, even as on us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave to them the same gift as us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, that I could withstand God?" When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life!"

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Karl Arndt
Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

****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.*

*This is the moment where everything turns.
Didn't think I would see it, was hard to believe
Heaven crashes to earth.
I've read the stories of all that You've done
Parted the sea and set captives free, never thought I'd be one.*

*I am a living, breathing, walking, testimony.
I am the living proof of what the Lord has done.
May call it crazy but they can't take away my story
'Cause I am a living breathing walking testimony*

*They said I wouldn't make it, that I should give up.
But they didn't know that the God that I serve
is more than enough.*

*He can move mountains, He can make broken beautiful.
I never run out of hope when I run to the God of miracles.*

*Look what the Lord has done, look what the Lord has done.
Oh the enemy did what he could, but the Lord He has used it for good.
Look what the Lord has done, look what the Lord has done.
When the thief tried to steal and destroy, The Lord gave me an anthem of joy
'Cause I am a living breathing walking testimony*

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Sermon Text

Galatians 2:11-14
Pew Bible p. 1155

Sermon Title

"When People are Big and the Gospel is Small"

*** Song of Faith**

"Leaning on The Everlasting Arms"

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Refrain: *Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. Refrain*

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

*** Departing Song**

"Leaning on The Everlasting Arms"

*What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms.
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. Refrain.*

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Karl Arndt & Mrs. Haley Arndt (8:00am)
Dr. Andy Sauerwein & Mrs. Quita Sauerwein (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

Sermon Points

- I. The Call to Live in Step with God's Eternal Plan
- II. The Collapse, the Contagion, and the Cause
- III. The Gospel Confrontation That Straightens and Strengthens Our Walk

Big idea:

Being free and staying free are two different things. Christ has saved us and freed us from the entire Jewish system in order to belong. He has also made us a diverse and united family. But the fear of people can pull us back into old ways of living. And when we are tempted and fail, the same gospel that saved us meets us there and brings us back into step with the truth of the gospel.

Sermon Questions

- **Open Reflection**—In your own words, what stood out to you when the passage was read?
- **Enjoying God**—What particular aspect of the sermon helped you to enjoy God (Father, Son, and Spirit) more deeply?
- What aspect of the gospel stood out to you in the sermon?
- How would you summarize this sermon to another believer?
- How was your understanding of the passage sharpened, clarified, or changed as you heard the word preached?
- What are practical action steps that you can take this week as we consider how to apply this to our lives?
- Where do you see struggles and/or victories in your life over doctrine and practice from today's passage and sermon?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 ***

- Finn Roberson: As he recovers from surgery and is treated for severe sleep apnea.
- Sheila Nasekos: Healing and recovery from internal bleeding.
- Donald Dorsey: In the hospital with vascular issues.
- Myah Lane: As she waits for a treatment plan for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.

See QR Code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for updates and Take Them a Meal.

*** SEEKING TO SERVE ***

Serve at The Community Fish Fry, Oct 7, 5:00-8:00pm

Mark your calendars for a day of fun, food, and fellowship with our neighbors! We'll enjoy free fried fish, music, games, kids' activities, and a resource fair for families. This is a church-wide effort, and it will take all of us serving together to welcome our neighbors well. We're praying for **100 people** to step in and make this possible, can you help? Sign up to volunteer through the QR code. For more information, reach out to Jerome Douglas at jdouglas@redeemerjackson.com.

Families Count Kickoff Meet & Greet, Oct 7, 5:00-8:00pm

This Fall, Redeemer is offering a 7-week parenting class on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30pm for families navigating challenging seasons and working with CPS, taught by Mar-ray and TK Harris. This opportunity allows the church to offer holistic care to families referred, so that children may remain in their parents care or reunify with them permanently. We're kicking off with a meet & greet during the annual Fish Fry. During the semester, volunteers are needed to assist with transportation to and/or from class, help set up the room before class, and to eat with the participants as mentors from 5:30-6:00pm. If you're interested in serving these families, reach out to Jennifer Remington at jenremington2@gmail.com.

Upside Down is SO back, Wednesdays at 6:00pm

This year at Upside Down our theme is "Be courageous because you are God's beloved." We are studying Joshua and will be walking through the gospel of John in the spring. Upside Down is a great place to disciple the next generation while you connect with others in the church. Contact Jajuan at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com for more information on how to become apart of the #OrangeSockCrew.

Volunteers Needed for Children's Church, Sign-Up by Sept 2

We want to restart children's church on Sept 20 for our K4 and K5 members. In order to teach our children about covenant theology on first and third Sundays, we need 10 people to help to disciple some of our youngest members. Please contact Jajuan McNeil at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com by Sept 2 to let him know that you want to be a part of this leadership group.

Community Garden Workday, Sept 12, 8:00-11:00am

Whether you're an experienced gardener or just want to put your hands in the dirt and learn, join us as we tend the community garden space. Each work day includes maintenance, bed prep, planting, harvesting, and special projects. There is wholesome work for all ages and even a kids play area for the littlest ones! We'll have a potluck at the end, bring a side, drink, or dessert to share. Sign up through the QR code.

***** CALLED TO CONNECT *****

Women's Bible Studies Fall 2026

Join the women of Redeemer as we study the book of Romans this year! This is a place where relationships are formed around prayer & time in the Word. Groups meet throughout the week and at different times of the day with the hope of accommodating as many schedules as possible. You can join us at any time—these are open groups! View all of the groups and times on the women's ministry page and reach out to the group's contact for more information.

Redeemer Music Collective, Aug 30, 4:30-6:00pm

Join us tonight in the sanctuary for the first Redeemer Music Collective, a relaxed gathering for musicians and vocalists of all ages and experience levels to connect, learn, and make music together. Register through the QR code to receive the songs, chord charts, and event details. Contact Candace Robins at crobins@redeemerjackson.com for more information.

Church-Wide Prayer Brunch, Sept 6, 9:45-10:35am

Join us for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour! We'll enjoy food and fellowship and spend the last ten minutes in prayer. 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!

GriefShare Begins Sept 14, 6:00-7:30pm

GriefShare serves our church and community as a place of rest for the weary. Please reach out if you'd like a place to grieve the loss of someone you love, grow in community with other believers, and look into God's Word for hope and healing. GriefShare meets in the second church office at 644 Wellington Rd behind the main building on Monday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm, from Sept 14-Dec 14. Scan the QR code for more information or reach out to Quita Sauerwein at quitasauerwein@gmail.com.

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

Upside Down, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

Upside Down is our midweek discipleship time for kids k4-5th grade. It's like VBS for our kids once a week! This fall we will be studying the book of Joshua. Drop off in the Fellowship Hall, dinner provided.

Raising Kids in a Digital World Discussion, Sept 16, 6:00pm-7:00pm

This fall, RedeemerKids and Congregational Care are teaming up to discuss how we teach our children to engage with technology with wisdom. During these hour long conversations, Pastor Zack Owens and Director of AV Ministries Brandon Slay will give parents practical tools to equip parents to steward their children's relationship with technology. We will host the same conversation again on Sept 30 at 12:00pm.

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

Register for Middle School Encounter Retreat, Nov 13-15

Encounter is a presbytery-wide retreat with other churches in the area. Our speaker this year will be Jeff Jordan, Assistant Pastor at Madison Heights church. *Registration is open Sept 1—Oct 10 (Please note the registration date is closing sooner than previously communicated).* The retreat is at Twin Lakes Camp in Florence, MS but we will provide transportation to and from Redeemer Church. We'd love for you to join us! Trip Cost: \$130. Register through the QR code. or questions or more information, contact Stephanie Greer at sgreer@redeemerjackson.com for more information.

Crossroads, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

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 have a blast and would love to see you there!

Rooted, Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm

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. See you there!

Redeemer Youth Merch: Order by Sept 15!

Get ready for the fall and show your Redeemer Youth spirit in our new merch! Ordering closes on Sept 15, and you'll get your new swag in time for our fall retreats! Order through the QR code.



REDEEMER MISSIONS COMMITTEE PRESENTS

MISSION TRIP 2027

MAY 28 - JUNE 7, 2027



Gatineau,

★ QUEBEC, CANADA ★

SERVING ALONGSIDE

Grace
GATINEAU



LOVE THEIR PEOPLE

Encouraging and serving the church and their community.



SERVE TOGETHER

Helping meet practical needs through projects and service.



REACH THEIR NEIGHBORS

Building relationships and sharing the hope of Jesus.



INFO SESSIONS

SEPT 17 + 24
6:00 - 7:00PM

VIRTUAL

SIGN UP FOR AN INFO SESSION



WWW.REDEEMERJACKSON.COM

Fall Sunday School Adult Classes Block 1

9:45-10:35am

Aug 9—Sept 27

Redemption Accomplished, WCF 8-15

Location: Fellowship Hall

Teacher: Brian Gault

This fall, our Sunday School class will explore Chapters 8–15 of the Westminster Confession of Faith, tracing the heart of the gospel and the saving work of Christ. Over seven weeks we will consider how God rescues sinners through the person and work of Jesus and applies that redemption to His people by the Holy Spirit.

Topics include Christ the Mediator, human will and sin, effectual calling, justification, adoption, sanctification, saving faith, and repentance. Together these chapters present a beautiful picture of God's grace—from Christ accomplishing salvation to the Spirit bringing that salvation to life in believers. Whether you are new to the Confession or familiar with it already, this class will help deepen your understanding of the gospel and strengthen your confidence in the saving grace of Christ.

The Righteousness of God: Romans 1-5

Location: Room 109

Teachers: Josh Anderson, Joshua Coleman, Markese Lee,
Jonny Parker, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

In this Sunday School class, we aim to use Romans 1-5 to paint a clear picture of the unrighteousness of man, the righteousness of God, and the way in which this righteousness is imputed to those who believe in Christ. In these five chapters, Paul gives arguably the clearest exposition in the Bible of how we sinners are made righteous by the death and resurrection of Christ. We hope that after this class, all who attend will leave with a clearer understanding of the righteousness we have in Christ, the divine indicative that serves as a foundation for all divine imperatives.

Redeeming the Time: Parenting as Spiritual Formation

Location: Sanctuary

Teachers: Zack & Kristen Owens, Marray & TK Harris

In this class, we hope to focus less on behavior and discipline and more on the formation of our children—heart, mind, soul, and strength. Connecting the dots between Ephesians 5:15-16 and 6:1-4, we will explore how children spend their time and how parents spend time with their children (technology, play, sports, reading, spiritual discipleship at home and at church).

Fall Children & Youth Sunday School

9:45-10:35am

Aug 9—Nov 29

Youth (6th-12th): Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion

High School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer, Jerome Douglas, Katie Drake, Rob Vickery, Mary Kathryn Evans, Cadden Christie

Middle School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer, Jerome Douglas, Katie Drake, Lane Morgan, Goodness Adegbola, Oliver Hammond, Jake Garner

Location: Youth Room

This fall Redeemer Youth Sunday School will be working through *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* by Rebecca McLaughlin. From the back of the book:

"Christianity is the most widespread global belief system, and promises to remain so well into the future. But for many educated westerners, biblical Christianity is a dangerous idea—challenging some of their deepest beliefs. Channeling state-of-the-art research, personal stories, and careful biblical study, *Confronting Christianity* explores 12 questions that keep many of us from considering faith in Christ. Look more closely, McLaughlin argues, and the reality of suffering, the complexity of sexuality, the desire for diversity, the success of science, and other seeming roadblocks to faith become signposts. Jesus becomes not a relic from the ancient world, but our modern world's best hope."

Children's (K4-5th): Exodus

K4- Room 209/211 - Teachers: Amanda McGuffey, Rachel Harbarger

K5- Room 208 - Teachers: Beth Clarke, Sarah Love Crawford, Rebekah Kettleman

1st Grade-Room 210 - Teachers: Claire Graves, Krisan Parish

2nd Grade-Room 207 - Teachers: Gene Everitt, KK Harrington, Rebecca Walker

3rd Grade - Room 205/206 - Teachers: Andrea Burkes, Page Callen, Christa Williams

4th Grade - Room 204 - Teachers: Latanya Frances, Alleen McClain, Sonya White

5th Grade - Teachers: Haley Arndt, Tyler Espinoza

This Fall, RedeemerKids will start to study the book of Exodus during the Sunday School hour. We will be using OneStory's curriculum to study God's word chapter by chapter.

Nursery (2's & 3's): God's Faithfulness to His Promises

Teachers: Olivia Akins, Chad Akins, Alexis Doty, Akida Mosby

Location: Nursery Wing

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.

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of Aug 30

Reid Haygood, 769.233.3203

Sunday, Aug 30

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
4:30pm Redeemer Music Collective
5:30pm Rooted

Monday, Aug 31

Tuesday, Sept 1

7:00pm Choir Practice

Wednesday, Sept 2

6:00pm Crossroads
6:00pm Upside Down
6:00pm Women's Bible Study
6:00pm Officer Training
6:00pm Hope & Relationships Class

Thursday, Sept 3

12:00pm Women's Bible Study

Friday, Sept 4

Saturday, Sept 5

8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, Sept 6

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Church-Wide Prayer Brunch
11:00am Worship Service
5:30pm Rooted
Various Sunday Growth Groups

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, Director of Youth Ministry
Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director
Katie Drake, Director of Women's Ministry
Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator
Ellie Craven, Director of Music Ministry
Candace Robins, Assistant Director of Music Ministry
Brandon Slay, Director of AV Ministries
Andre Warner, Audio/Visual Assistant
Coralie Keplinger, Coordinator of Communications
& Operations, Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Mary Sanders, Administrative Assistant
Josh Anderson, Intern
Joshua Coleman, Intern
Oliver Hammond, Intern
Markese Lee, Intern

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

*Sabbatical

COMING UP:

Sept 7: Church Office Closed
Sept 8: Session Meeting
Sept 12: Community Garden Workday
Sept 16: Raising Kids in A Digital World
Sept 20: Men's Gathering Begins
Sept 22: Community Garden Workday
Sept 27: High School Picnic in Laurel Park
Sept 30: Fathers & Brothers & Sons Dodgeball
Sept 30: Raising Kids in A Digital World Discussion
Oct 1: 31 Days of Giving Food Drive Begins
Oct 5: Session & Diaconate Meetings



redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday