

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Newsletter from Redeemer - August 2022

VBS 2022: CELEBRATE!

We've waited all year! **Vacation Bible School is here!** August 1-5, 9 a.m. to noon, for rising K-5th grades. Registration is closed

Our theme this year is **"CELEBRATE!"** Why **"CELEBRATE?"** Here's our thought: Holidays replay decisive religious events, reminding us of God's marvelous works. But some of our holidays are so obscured by the world that children aren't even sure of their real meaning. Often, it feels like our culture has forgotten that the word "holiday" actually comes from the phrase "holy day."

So this summer, we are learning **the history and Christian significance of these holidays - Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints, and Thanksgiving - and will still be involved in outreach projects every day of the week and have fun!** And we will **CELEBRATE!** It is our prayer that every VBS participant will grow in faith and in their understanding of God's call to remember our "holy days," and love others. Special thanks to all our VBS volunteers, especially **Tiffany Echols**, our 2022 VBS Chair, and to **Maranda Kles**, who will serve as 2023 VBS Chair.

But that's not all! On **Sunday, August 7** at our 9 a.m. service, we invite you to attend our **VBS Celebration Sunday** – which includes all of us wearing our VBS tie-dye t-shirts to church, bringing our backpacks with us for our annual **"Blessing of the Backpacks,"** and our **"Sundaes on Sunday"** after church, with glimpses of the entire VBS week. The children will participate during the service, and it is always an glorious culmination of our week.



NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

Sunday School 2022-23 launches on Sunday, August 14. Parents and children remain in the church at the close of the 9 a.m. mass for information about the year ahead. Then, everyone will have a chance to meet their teachers in Gillespie Hall, and learn about Redeemer offers to children, youth, and adults at Redeemer at Get Plugged In: Redeemer's 2022 Ministries Fair.



Sunday School takes place every Sunday of the academic year, from 10 - 10:40 a.m. First class: August 21. All classrooms are located on the second floor of the Robinson Center, a secure, controlled-entry building. Redeemer is blessed with sixty-three remarkable teachers and leaders who are dedicated to helping partner with families to form the faith foundation of our children and youth, ages 2 through 12th grade. Thank you to each of them!

PARENTS IN PRAYER

Sarasota County schools head back into session for the 2022-23 year on Wednesday, August 10. Parochial and private schools start during the same time frame. Fr. Wilson invites parents, guardians and friends to join him at the 10 a.m.

mass in the Chapel on the 10th as we cover our schools in prayer, praying for all students, all educators, all support staff, and for the buildings in which learning takes place.

As the school year begins, join with others in praying for our children, their classmates & their teachers

Parents in Prayer

10 a.m. mass
August 10

CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS BACK

Children's Choir returns in August! Redeemer's world-class choir for ages K-5th rehearses Wednesdays from 5:10-5:45 p.m. For info, contact Sam Nelson, SamNelson@RedeemerSarasota.org.

Children's Choir is Back

CHOIR

Wednesdays
5:10-5:45 p.m.

The Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday, August 7
9 a.m. mass

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

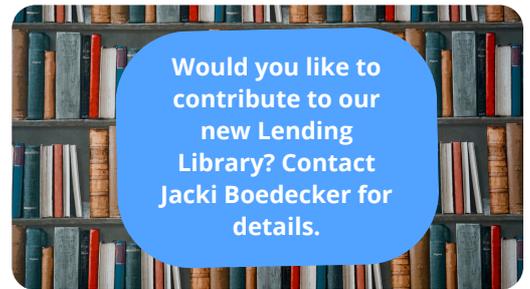
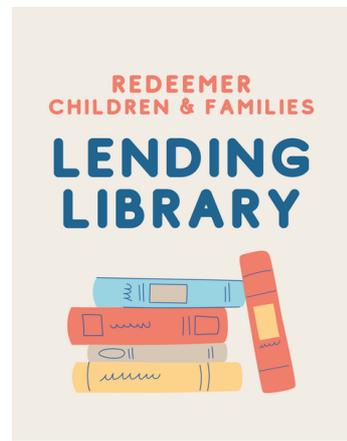
Our Annual Blessing of the Backpacks takes place on Sunday, August 7th, during the 9 a.m. mass. Bring your backpack (empty, please) for a special blessing as the new school year begins.

REDEEMER'S NEW LENDING LIBRARY FOR CHILDREN

Redeemer is thrilled to offer families and children a curated selection of books in its new **Lending Library**, located in the reception area of the 2nd floor of the Robinson Center. Please feel free to browse, make your selection, and enjoy at home.

While most have been chosen just with our little ones in mind, there are some titles for parents as well. Special thanks to all the families who contributed to this welcomed new addition.

Please don't forget to bring books back the following Sunday so that others might enjoy them!



LOGOS 2022: STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

We are already looking forward to **LOGOS 2022**, which launches **Wednesday, August 17** with our **Parent/Child Info Night**, 5:45-6:30 p.m.

LOGOS (Greek for "The Word") is **Redeemer's Wednesday night programming** for children, grades **K-5th**, and includes **Bible study, Choir, Art, and a Family-Style Dinner mixed with lots of fun**, with a goal of "connecting our Sundays," as we model our faith being part of our daily lives. **LOGOS runs Wednesdays, from 5-6:30 p.m.**

This year's theme is **"Strong and Courageous,"** and we will look at heroic men and women in the Bible who faced great challenges with strength and courage through their faith in God.

This year's LOGOS chair is **Melissa Long**. Tuition for this fourteen-week program is \$50. Limited scholarships are available. Parental participation is a registration requirement, and there are many ways to be involved that will work with your family's schedule. **Register at RedeemerSarasota.org/Children.**



COMING UP IN AUGUST

Our Nurseries are open for all children ages six weeks to those who are not yet four years old. Nurseries are located on the 2nd floor of the Robinson Center. **Children's Chapel** is during the 9 a.m. mass.

August 1-5

- **Vacation Bible School**, 9 a.m. - noon. Pre-registration was required, and is now closed. Grades K-5

August 7

- **VBS Celebration Sunday**, 9 a.m. mass
- **Blessing of the Backpacks**, 9 a.m. mass
- **Sundaes on Sunday**, after the 9 a.m. mass, Gillespie Hall

August 10

- **Parents in Prayer** - Join other back-to school parents for the 10 a.m. weekday mass as a new school year begins

August 14

- **Rally Back to Sunday School**, following the 9 a.m. mass in the church
- **"Get Plugged In!" Redeemer's 2022 Annual Ministries Fair**, 10:15 a.m. Gillespie Hall

August 17

- **Children's Choir**, 5:10-5:45 p.m.
- **LOGOS Parent-Child Dinner**, 5:45 - 6:30 p.m., Gillespie Hall

August 21

- **Sunday School begins**, 10-10:40 a.m., for grades VPK-12th grade. Note: All classrooms are located on the second floor of the Robinson Center, which has limited access.

August 24

- **Children's Choir**, 5:10-5:45 p.m.
- **LOGOS, 5-6:30 p.m.**, beginning in church, Parent pickup in Gillespie Hall

August 28

- **Sunday School**, 10-10:40 a.m., for grades VPK-12th grade. Note: All classrooms are located on the second floor of the Robinson Center, which has secure access.

August 31

- **Children's Choir, 5:10-5:45 p.m.**
- **LOGOS, 5-6:30 p.m.**, beginning in church, Parent pickup in Gillespie Hall

OF NOTE:

Christmas Break Camp: A Redeemer event, this takes place at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center in Ellenton. Grades 3-8. **December 27-30**. For more information, contact Youth Minister Jackie Overton at JOverton@RedeemerSarasota.org.

For more information about Children and Families at Redeemer, contact Jacki Boedecker, jboedecker@RedeemerSarasota.org.

