

Vol. XXV No. 3. Redeemer Church and Helping Hands Christian Learning Center, Lansing, Michigan

Annual Ice Cream Social

Redeemer Church 2727 W. Holmes Rd., Lansing, Mi. 882-8000

Saturday, August 22nd, 2026, 3:00 till 6:00pm



Cream and Food.

There will also be FREE Fun games &

Come join your friends and neighbors for Redeemer Church's annual Ice Cream Social. This is an opportunity to share in some FREE Ice

prizes for the kids, and LIVE music for both young and old. Also enjoy crafts, an inflatable obstacle course, and our Raffle which includes community prizes that can be won.

COME SHARE IN THE FUN.
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

**See you on August
22nd at 3pm**

Save the Date...

Taco Dinner

Thursday, September 17, 2026

6:00-7:30pm

Includes: Tacos, Beans, Rice, Guacamole, Drinks, Ice Cream.

All you can eat.

Suggested Cost: Adults \$10/Seniors \$9/ (age 60 and older) Children \$5 (age 10 and under).

Take Out is Available.

All are invited to attend. Bring your family, friends and neighbors.



God's Helping Hands

Redeemer Church, E.L.C.A. “...your helping hands”

A Congregation of the *NorthWest Lower Michigan
Synod of Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

2727 W. Holmes Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911
517-882-8000 (church voice)
517-882-8622 (child care voice)
517-882-2063 (fax for both)
517-980-6250 (emergency #)
www.redeemerlansing.com
www.hhclearningcenter.com
E-Mail: janhite@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Worship begins at 10:00am

**Holy Communion is Celebrated Every Sunday and Open
To all of God's Children*

Sunday Luncheon follows worship @ 11:15am
(1,3,5 Sunday)

Wed. Adult Enrichment Hour, Wed. @ 7:00pm

Pre-School Worship Time, Thurs. 10:00am

Elem. Age Worship Time, Fri. 10:00am, (Summer)

CHURCH STAFF

Jan Hite, Pastor
Tom Jones, Minister of Music
Rachelle Williams, School Director
Danielle Greene, Violin
Caleb Crouch, Bass
Duane Leininger, Guitar
Sandra Walker, Council President
Vickie Crouch, Child Care President

Church Council meetings are open to all members.
**Their normal meeting time is the 3rd Sunday of
each month @ Noon.**

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center Board
meetings are open to all to all members, parents and
community members. **Their normal meeting time is
the 4th Thursday of each month @ 6:00pm**

Helping Hands Newsletter

is published monthly

Editors: Rachelle Williams and Pr. Jan Hite

*Deadline for the **Sept. 2026** edition is:

Aug. 25, 2026

*The editors reserve the right to make changes
to all items submitted.



Aug./Sept. BIRTHDAYS

Maria Gelespie	Aug. 04
April Wen	Aug. 10
Scott Erney	Aug. 24
Vickie Crouch	Aug. 26
Sarah Hopper	Sept. 04
Carnell Walker	Sept. 24

Aug./Sept. ANNIVERSARIES

Sandra & Carnell Walker	Aug. 15
Teri & Jeff Sand	Aug. 28
Howard & Cindy Vogt	Sept. 14
Bruce & Maria Gelespie	Sept. 28

We are sorry if we missed your special day. Please let the office know of your date by calling 882-8000 or emailing, janhite@sbcglobal.net or by dropping your name and Birth date or Anniversary date in the offering plate. **Thank You!**

**A BIG
THANK YOU
TO A
PRIVATE DONOR
FOR...
OUR NEW KITCHEN.**

We were in desperate Need of an upgrade and a generous community friend provided our school/church with a beautiful new kitchen to feed our children every day. We are forever grateful to him. Thank you!!!



Please join us for these Upcoming Events

“Annual Ice Cream Social Set...”

Date: *Saturday, August 22, 3-6pm,*

Come join your friends and neighbors for the annual Ice Cream Social at Redeemer Church.

This is an opportunity to share in some Ice Cream, fun games & prizes for the kids and LIVE music for both young and Old.

Again we will have our great food available and our raffle. There also will be crafts, face painting, inflated rides and other interesting things for both youth and adults to enjoy.

Everything at this event is FREE to all!!



“Next Taco Dinner”...

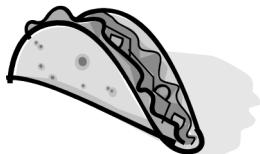
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\$10/Seniors \$9/ (age 60 and old-

er) Children \$5 (age 10 and un-

der). Take Out is Available. All are invited to attend. Bring your family, friends and neighbors.



“Mobile Food Pantry”...

Date: *Various Dates Throughout the Week, @ various times.*

Distribution of **FREE, fresh, non-perishable food items at:**

See: www.redeemerlansing.com

for weekly listing and locations.

Also you can look at the Lansing Food

Bank website. <https://greaterlansingfoodbank.org>

Who can participate?

- The disadvantaged and vulnerable.
- Senior citizens on fixed incomes.
- Families/individuals with limited/low income jobs.



ALL PARTICIPANTS DO NOT NEED TO HAVE AN I.D. TO PARTICIPATE. Participants should bring

a box or bag to carry food, one distribution per household. For more information, call the City of Lansing Human Relations and Community Services, 517-483-4347. Another person can come on your behalf.

****For More Info of Things Going On in Our Community Go To: www.517Living.com**

****Dealing with Grief??**

Visit hospiceoflansing.org **For Help!!**

South Lansing Farmers Market Thursdays 3-7pm

May 15 - October 23, 2025

5016 S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.

Corner of Jolly & S. MLK, *Parking Lot of Feeders Pet Supply



“Gun Buy-Back”...

Date: *Sat., October 3rd. TBA @ St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Dr., Lansing, Mi.*

“Helping Hands Learning Center”...

Currently has a few openings in: Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers. We are a non-discriminate center and accept all of God's children. Also we accept State Funding and other sources of financial help. Call the Center at: 517-882-8622. We include all food in our tuition, which is prepared by scratch by our licensed chef Serita and also we include all bedding. We have now been opened for 29 years within our community.

“Trunk & Treat”...

Date: *Sat. October 31 @ 6:00 pm,*

Put this date on your calendar. We have offered our community a safe way to enjoy Halloween for the last 20 years. We line up cars in our front parking lot and invite ALL to come and receive FREE candy on Halloween Eve. It is a FUN TIME for all. Please remember to join us on 10/31 at 6:00pm when the city whistle blows.

“Christian Services”...

Christian Services has been working for churches in the Greater Lansing Area since October 1981, helping them help their neighbors in need.

(517) 394-5411

Services include: personal needs, clothing, household items, infant needs, resource information and other needs.

If you are in need of assistance please call our help line. Our dedicated volunteers take the time to help each caller, so please be patient and try back again if you don't get through. Volunteers answer calls

Monday – Thursday 9 AM – 3 PM.

We cannot take request for assistance in person, on our administrative line or via email. Please call the help line with all requests.



Helping Hands Christian Learning Center

Our Mission: To provide nurturing care to God's children through our helping hands, offering a safe haven for holistic growth.

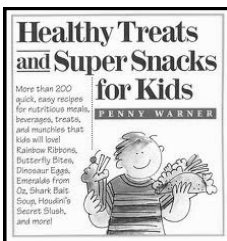
Healthy snacks for kids: 10 child-friendly tips

Healthy snacks for kids don't have to be dull. Consider 10 tips for quick-and-healthy snacks.

Snacking is a major pastime for many kids — and that's not necessarily bad. Nutritious snacking can help your child curb hunger throughout the day, as well as provide energy and important nutrients. Find out how to make healthy snacks for kids.

No. 1: Keep junk food out of the house

Your child won't clamor for cookies, candy bars or chips if you don't keep them on hand. Set a good example by choosing healthy snacks yourself.



No. 2: Go for the grain

Whole-grain foods — such as whole-grain pretzels or tortillas and high-fiber, whole-grain cereals — provide energy with some staying power.

No. 3: Mix and match

Serve baby carrots or other raw veggies with fat-free ranch dressing or hummus. Dip graham cracker sticks or fresh fruit in fat-free yogurt. Spread peanut butter on celery, apples or bananas.

No. 4: Broaden the menu

Offer out-of-the-usual fare, such as pineapple, cranberries, red or yellow peppers, mangoes, tangelos or roasted soy nuts.

No. 5: Revisit breakfast

Serve breakfast foods — such as scrambled eggs and whole-grain toast — as healthy snacks for kids in the afternoon.

No. 6: Sweeten it up

Healthy snacks for kids don't have to be bland. To satisfy your child's sweet tooth, offer fat-free pudding, frozen yogurt or frozen fruit bars. Make smoothies with skim milk, fat-free yogurt, and fresh or frozen fruit.

No. 7: Have fun

Use a cookie cutter to make shapes out of low-fat cheese slices, whole-grain bread or whole-grain tortillas. Make fruit kebabs or show your child how to eat diced fruit with chopsticks. Make a tower out of whole-grain crackers, spell words with pretzel sticks, or make funny faces on a plate using different types of fruit.

No. 8: Promote independence

Keep a selection of ready-to-eat veggies in the refrigerator. Leave fresh fruit in a bowl on the counter. Store low-sugar, whole-grain cereal and fruit canned or packaged in its own juice in an easily accessible cabinet.

No. 9: Don't be fooled by labeling gimmicks

Foods marketed as low-fat or fat-free can still be high in calories and sodium. Likewise, foods touted as cholesterol-free can still be high in fat, saturated fat and sugar. Check nutrition labels to find out the whole story.

No. 10: Designate a snacking zone

Restrict snacking to certain areas, such as the kitchen. You'll save your child countless calories from mindless munching in front of the TV. If your child needs to snack on the go, offer string cheese, yogurt sticks, cereal bars, a banana or other drip-free items.

Teaching your child to make healthy snack choices now will help set the stage for a lifetime of healthy eating.

Start today and help to make a major change in their future lifestyle forever.

What's Happening

August/Sept. 2026

- Aug. 17: Holly Parks Starts
- Aug. 22: Ice Cream Social 3-6pm
- Aug. 24: Before & Aft. Starts
- Aug. 26: Lansing Sch. Starts
- Sept. 02: Holly Park, Curr. Night
- Sept. 04: No School, All Schools
- Sept. 07: Labor Day, *HH Closed**
- Sept. 07: No School, All Schools
- Sept. 11: Patriot Day
- Sept. 17: Taco Dinner, 6pm
- Sept. 22: Fall Equinox
- Sept. 25: Lansing Sch. No Sch.

Dates to Remember

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center is an outreach ministry of Redeemer Church and has been servicing the community for 29 years. Here we offer love and quality care to God's children. Come in today to see what we have to offer you and your family.



Sunday Schedule

- Worship: 10:00am
- Lunch and Fellowship: 11:15am
- Adult Enrichment Class: Wed. 7:00pm

**We are a church of
this community
and ALL are
welcome.
Come as you are!**

Happy Birthday To You...

August

Giovanni J. August 07th
Ms. Katrina August 10th
Madisyn A. August 18th

September

Evelyn B. September 02nd
Syncere Ducrue F. September 03rd
Sirgio J. September 04th
Serenity K. September 06th
Oaklyn H. September 12th
Amiyah Ducrue F. September 16th
Cass W. September 21st
Kierys C. September 30th

Staff Anniversaries

Ms. Amy August 13th
Ms. Kristina August 27th
Ms. Kathy Sept. 09th



Joy in Early Childhood

"Children are egocentric—we all know that. They do not have to be told they are wonderful because they are born knowing they are. They are born with an inherent self that is intellectual, complete, an inherent self that can dance, sing, write poetry, and tell stories, and has a sense of delight and joy in all things. Inherently, children are born to take risks and grow to their optimum. Inherently, children have a sense of joy about learning, growing, and doing.

"Those of us working hard to ensure a childhood for so many children know that if we did not hear laughter, giggling, hoop-la, shouting, and cheering in our centers we couldn't go on. It is the joy of each child that keeps us doing what we do."



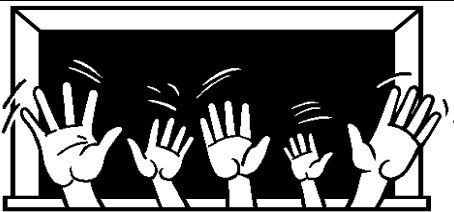
DO YOU WANT GREAT CARE FOR YOUR CHILD?

Before and After School Program

**HELPING HANDS
CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER**
**2727 W. Holmes Rd.,
Lansing**
**(517) 882-8622 for more
info**

7:00am till 6:00pm

- Includes breakfast and after-school snack
- Homework help, outdoor play, art projects, board games
- and much, much more
- Occasional field trips
- Bus trip provided to and from school
- Holiday Care, Break Care, Snow Day Care, Etc.



Choosing your child's Before & After School Program is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

Give your child a safe and fun haven to stay in touch with old friends and meet new ones. Children will enjoy a fun learning experience and you will enjoy peace of mind throughout your work day. Enroll them NOW!!

ALL elementary – age children are **Welcome!!**

Space Limited. Program is Open on HOLIDAY, BREAK DAYS, SNOW DAYS, & 1/2 SCHOOL DAYS. Beginning to Fill. Call Now!!!

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center

Includes: Before & After Care, Full-time Child Care, Pre-School, Kindergarten Readiness Program, Summer Program, Feeding Program. Call 517-882-8622 for more info

“SOCK IT TO ME”—SUNDAY

September 27, 2026

Collecting and Donating School Clothing

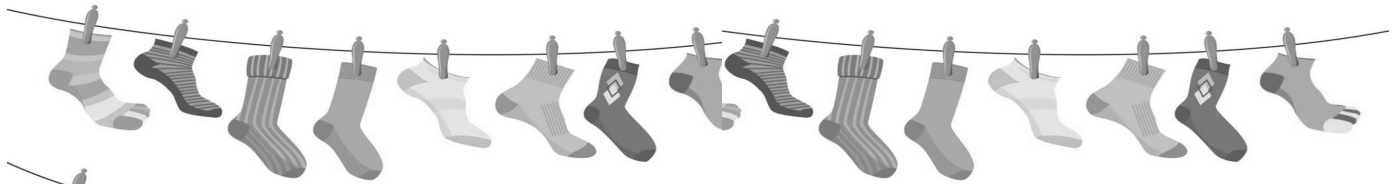
You can help children feel good about going back to school! Judson's Love Clothing Center serves over **900** children with clothing during August and September! Anyone who wants to donate has the opportunity to be a part of this great effort by collecting **new socks and underwear**. Judson depends on the entire Church Network/Community for all the clothing they give to families in need so please help in any way you can. On **Sunday, Sept. 27** we are asking ALL to bring new underwear and socks for children in need.

Our “high need” items are:

- ☐ Boys boxer briefs, sizes 4 through 20
- ☐ Men's boxer briefs, sizes 30 through 36
- ☐ Socks—all sizes for girls, boys, women & men—ankle & crew length.



***Please bring your donation to the church and drop them off in the entrance area in the box marked, “Sock it to Me.” Thank you for all your help!!!**



35 YEARS AND COUNTING...

On August 11, 2026 Pastor Jan was ordained for 35 years. She began her call at Redeemer Church on September 3, 1991 so she will also be celebrating her 35th Anniversary as our Pastor.

It is unusual for a pastor to be at a church for 35 years. We would like to celebrate her long-term call with us on **Sunday, September 20, 2026**.

Please join us for worship on the 20th at 10:00am, followed by a luncheon in the fellowship hall. We look forward to celebrating this time with Pastor Jan on 9/20.

Come celebrate this great day!!!



Patriot Day...

Why does everyone remember where they were when 9/11 happened? Yet we don't remember where we are when other things happen to us.

Extraordinary situations create extraordinary memories. People remember their first loves, the first time they tried their favorite foods, their greatest heartbreaks ... it's how mammals are wired, including us.

My parents knew where they were when they heard about Pearl Harbor and the Kennedy assassination. Their parents would remember the Stock Market Crash in 1929 and WWII. My older siblings remember the Kennedy assassination and I remember the Shuttle Disaster and 9/11.

There used to be a lot of teasing by those whose parents were Baby Boomers, who shared their story of...*“I walked uphill two miles in the snow both ways”* to get to and from school.

The Covid pandemic will be our children's story that they share with their kids: *“You don't know how lucky you are, we spent an entire year wearing masks and never leaving our houses!”*

If extraordinary things didn't make indelible impressions on our memory, the species wouldn't have survived. When X ate the green-striped, purple mushrooms, or tried to tame the baby bear or tiger kitty, he died, rather badly. If you didn't remember and relay those stories to the rest of the tribe, everyone would eventually die from poisoned mushrooms and mama tiger attacks.

We often ask God, *“why do such terrible things happen in our lives?”* OR *“why did you let this happen to them?”*

Maybe it is time for us to remember to thank God for all the blessings He has granted us.

On this Patriot's Day remember ALL WHO WERE LOST and thank God for all WHO SURVIVED. **Let us never forget 9/11.**

Spiritual Cleansing

There was a farmer who had a donkey. This donkey was the best working animal he had on his farm. One day the farmer was ready to go to the high pasture and he called for his donkey. He called and called, but the donkey never came.

The farmer began to worry that someone had stolen the donkey. He began to walk around the farm looking for the donkey. As he was moving toward the low pasture he saw a hole. He went over to the hole and looked down and saw that the donkey had fallen down into the hole. The farmer was so disappointed. He just sat down in despair, because that there was no way he could get the donkey out of the hole. He gave up on ideas and began to bury the donkey by shoveling dirt into the hole to cover the donkey.



He shoveled and shoveled. As he shoveled, the donkey began to pack the dirt the farmer was shoveling into the hole under his feet. By the time the farmer had filled the hole, the donkey had packed the dirt under him until he was able to climb out of the hole by using the dirt that was shoveled on top of him.

What Can We Learn From Even the “Donkeys” of Our Lives....

Don't give up. No matter how much “dirt” is thrown on top of you, just use it to climb up and out of any situation you may find yourself in. And if you do...you will be amazed at what you will end up making of the life God has given you!



GUN BUYBACK
\$\$FOR CASH\$\$
Saturday, October 3, 2026
Time To Be Announced
***Until Cash Runs Out**
****All Guns will be Destroyed**



At St. Michael's Episcopal Church
***Parking Lot**
6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

Guns will be received by Lansing Police & Ingham Co. Sheriff Depts.
Place unloaded guns in the trunk/rear of your car
\$100 for pistols, .22 caliber rifles, & shotguns
\$200 for all other rifles

Redeemer Church, E.L.C.A.

"...your Helping Hands"

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center

2727 West Holmes Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911
www.redeemerlansing.com

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 149
LANSING, MI

Your Helping Hands Place

**TIME-VALUED
MAIL**

*Please deliver by:
Aug. 19th*

**ICE CREAM
SOCIAL**

Sat. Aug.
22nd
3-6pm

What's Happening at Redeemer...

We invite you to visit us. **You are welcome here!** We are people of God who give ourselves freely and joyfully to God, to one another and to others. This community witnesses to a God who is active in the world. *We proclaim God's active love for all people:* poor and rich; people of all cultures and races; women, men, children, younger, older, single, married, divorced, widowed, those of all lifestyles, blended families, single-parent households, ... are welcome! You are invited to meet this community that seeks to reflect God's open and loving embrace.

***SUNDAY MORNINGS
Praise Time!***

Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

- ♦ Holy Communion is shared each week
- ♦ ALL are welcome
- ♦ Dress is casual
- ♦ Family Lunch and Fellowship follows

**ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO
JOIN US!! WE ARE A DIVERSE,
AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY.**

- ⇒ Loaves & Fishes, 8/15
- ⇒ Holly Park starts, 8/17
- ⇒ Lans. District/Holly Acad.
Start, 8/18
- ⇒ Ice Cream Social, 8/22,
3-6pm
- ⇒ HH Before/After School Program Starts,
8/24
- ⇒ Lansing Schools Starts 8/26
- ⇒ Labor Day, 9/07, *School & Church Offices Closed
- ⇒ New Adult Study Starts, 9/16
- ⇒ Next Taco Dinner, 9/17, 6-7:30pm
- ⇒ HHCLC Bd. Mtg. 9/24
- ⇒ Collect Underwear for Children, 9/27,
*Socks & Underwear, See Page 5
- ⇒ Gun Buy-Back, 10/3



**There is something for Everyone at
Redeemer & Helping Hands...
517-882-8000, 517-882-8622
Please Join Us!!!**

Join Us When You Can!!!