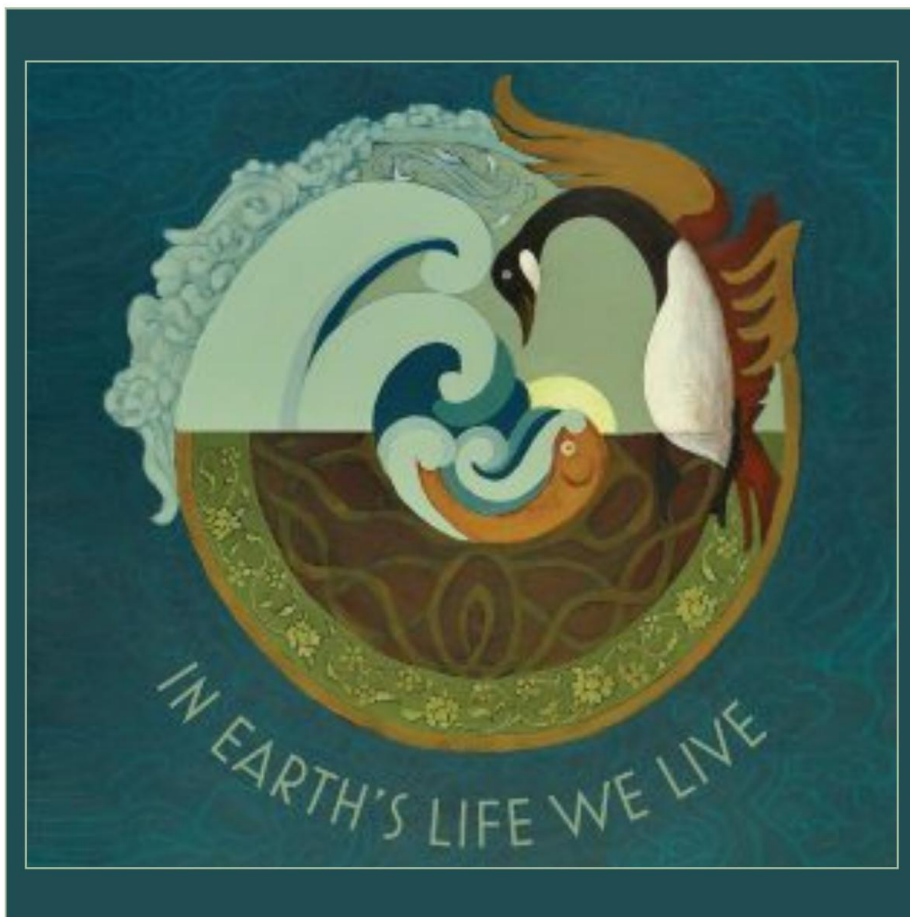


Season of Creation: *Abundant Waters*

Spiritual Communion

Sunday, September 6, 2026 at 9 AM



Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca



OUR VISION

Becoming the Body of Christ at the corner of Bloor & Avenue Road and beyond

Guided by commitment to our shared values, we seek to become the body of Christ, nurturing a lively faith, a persistent hope, and an ever-expanding love for God's world.

We seek to – open our doors and hearts, embracing all who seek a sacred space. We offer worship in many forms, touching the hearts of those yearning for spiritual connection, in-person or online.

We seek to – listen deeply, hearing the stories of Jesus and of one another with open minds and hearts. Through faithful questioning, reflection, and shared learning, we grow together in wisdom and grace.

We seek to – serve with generous hospitality, gathering at the table with our physical and spiritual hunger. We walk alongside one another with compassion in the seasons and conditions of life, sharing our needs and thanks.

We seek to – embody Jesus' teachings that all people are God's children, worthy of love, and that all of creation is interconnected. Where structures or attitudes threaten or diminish, we advocate for justice, peace, equity and ecological responsibility.

We seek to – reach out in-person and virtually to the world around us. We dare to love in word and action so that others see something of God in their midst.

OUR VALUES

Compassion: meeting every soul with tenderness and dignity

Openness: welcoming questions, embracing differences, and following the movement of the Spirit

Respect: honouring each person's unique story and gifts, and the inherent worth of all Creation

Inclusion: making room for all to enter, find a place, and participate fully

Stewardship: nurturing respect for our resources and partnerships for long-term vitality



*Christ has no body now but ours,
no hands, no feet on earth but ours.
Ours are the eyes with which he looks
compassionately on this world. Ours
are the feet with which he walks to do
good, Ours are the hands, with which
he blesses all the world.*

Teresa of Avila (Adapted)

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

Who We Are

We are followers of Jesus: children, young adults, families, and seniors who come from a variety of backgrounds. We are long-time members and newcomers; people of deep faith and those still searching; people shaped by many traditions—and sometimes seeking a deeper sense of faith and community. We are not limited by ability, age, economic status, ethnicity, gender identity, personal history or sexual orientation.

Where We Stand

Dwelling on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga of the Credit First Nation, Church of the Redeemer stands at the crossroads, physical and virtual—of neighbourhoods and nations, of government, education, arts, culture, and commerce—in the heart of Toronto.

From this place we seek to live into our identity as the body of Christ: living our faith, offering hope, and sharing love for God's world.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to <https://theredeemer.ca/post-17524>.

theredeemer.ca

[instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO)

[facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO)

Presider: Liska Stefko

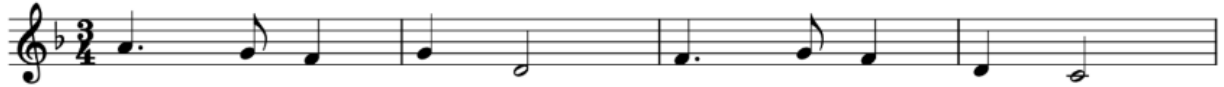
Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

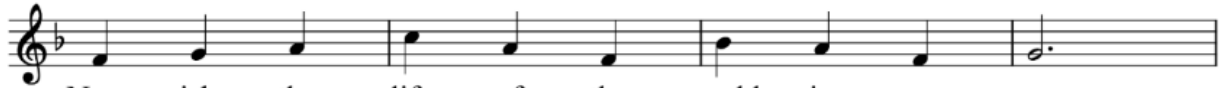


Your support of the ministries of the Church of the Redeemer allows us to be witnesses to God's love on our corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road. Donations can be made through the QR code. Thank you for your gift and for joining in worship today.

Opening Hymn: #805 (Gather) “Touch the Earth Lightly” *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



1. Touch the earth light - ly, Use the earth gen - tly,
2. We who en - dan - ger, Who cre - ate hun - ger,
3. Let there be green - ing, Birth from the burn - ing,
4. God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



Nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
A - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
Wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



Gift of great won - der, Ours to sur - ren - der,
We who would fos - ter Clouds of dis - as - ter—
Health in God's gar - den, Hope in God's chil - dren,
Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



Trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
Re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
Us - ing us gen - tly, and mak - ing us one.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020), © 1992, Hope Publishing Company. Tune: Tony E. Alonso (1980-), © 2007, GIA Publications, Inc.

✠ The Gathering of the Community

Liska Stefko

Priest: In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.
And God called them good.

All: **Come Holy Spirit and cleanse the waters.**

Priest: The prophet saw a river flowing from the Temple,
and wherever the river flowed, everything lived.

All: **Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the Earth.**

Priest: Jesus cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...
Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.”

All: **Come, Holy Spirit and heal your people.**

The Collect of the Day

Liska Stefko

Priest: All-loving God, you have so linked our lives one with another
that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives:
So guide us in our labor and leisure
that it may be for the common good of all Creation;
and, as we seek the proper share for all,
make us supportive of the rightful needs of all creatures
who live and love on this earth;
through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Henry Krol

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Genesis 28.10-17

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed



Hallelujah!

Sing to God a new song;

sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in their maker;

let the children of Zion be joyful in their king. **Refrain**

Let them praise God's name in the dance;

let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.

For God takes pleasure in all people

and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;

let them be joyful on their beds. **Refrain**

Let the praises of God be in their throat

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

To wreak vengeance on the nations

and punishment on the peoples. **Refrain**

To bind their rulers in chains

and their nobles with links of iron;

To inflict on them the judgement decreed;

this is glory for all faithful people.

Hallelujah! **Refrain**

Second Reading: "Breaths" (Birago Diop)

Henry Krol

Listen more often to things rather than beings.

Hear the fire's voice,

Hear the voice of water.

In the wind hear the sobbing of the trees,

It is our ancestors breathing.

The dead are not gone forever.
They are in the paling shadows,
And in the darkening shadows.
The dead are not beneath the ground,
They are in the rustling tree,
In the murmuring wood,
In the flowing water,
In the still water,
In the lonely place, in the crowd:
The dead are not dead.

Listen more often to things rather than beings.
Hear the fire's voice,
Hear the voice of water.
In the wind hear the sobbing of the trees.
It is the breathing of our ancestors,
Who are not gone, not beneath the ground,
Not dead.

The dead are not gone for ever.
They are in a woman's breast,
A child's crying, a glowing ember.
The dead are not beneath the earth,
They are in the flickering fire,
In the weeping plant, the groaning rock,
The wooded place, the home.
The dead are not dead.

Listen more often to things rather than beings.
Hear the fire's voice,
Hear the voice of water.
In the wind hear the sobbing of the trees.
It is the breath of our ancestors.

Sequence song: “Deeper Well” *(David Olney / Daniel Lanois / Emmylou Harris)*

The sun burned hot, it burned my eyes
Burned so hot I thought I'd died
Thought I'd died and gone to hell
Lookin' for the water from a deeper well

I went to the river but the river was dry
I fell to my knees an I looked to the sky
I looked to the sky and the spring rain fell
I saw the water from a deeper well

Well, looking for the water from a deeper well
Well, looking for the water from a deeper well

I was ready for love I was ready for the money
Ready for the blood and ready for the honey
Ready for the winning, ready for the bell
Looking for the water from a deeper well

I found some love and I found some money
Found that blood would drip from the honey
Found I had a thirst that I could not quell
Looking for the water from a deeper well

Well, looking for the water from a deeper well
Well, looking for the water from a deeper well

I rocked with the cradle and I rolled with the rage
I shook those walls and I rattled that cage
I took my trouble down a dead end trail
Reaching out a hand for a holier grail

Well, looking for the water from a deeper well
Well, looking for the water from a deeper well

The Gospel

Liska Stefko

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: He Shows Goodwill Tells the Good Story.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

A woman from High Place came to the well to draw water. Creator Sets Free saw the woman and said to her, “Would you give me some water to drink?” She found her voice and asked, “Why would you, a man from the tribes of Wrestles with Creator, ask me for a

drink, seeing that I am a woman from High Place?” She said this because the tribes of Wrestles with Creator have no dealings with the people from High Place. “If you only knew about Creator’s good gift,” he answered, “and who it is who asks you for a drink, you would ask him for living water and he would give it to you.” She said to him, “Honoured One, this watering hole is deep, and you have no way to draw out the water. Where will you get this living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Heel Grabber, who gave us this well and was first to drink from it with his children and animals?” “The ones who drink from this well will thirst again,” Creator Sets Free answered. “But the ones who drink the water I give will never thirst, for this water will become a river flowing from inside them, giving them the life of the world to come that never fades away, full of beauty and harmony.” “Honoured One, please give me this water,” she said to him, “so I will never thirst again or need to walk this long path to get a drink.”

The New Revised Standard Version of the New Testament uses the following terms: Samaria (High Place), Jesus (Creator Sets Free), Israel (Wrestles With Creator), Jacob (Heel Grabber)"

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

John 4.7-15

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Dan Norman

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People

Catherine Emerson

Leader: Let us pray to God our creator. Eternal God, we thank you for your light and your truth. We praise you for your care in creating a universe which proclaims your glory. Inspire us to worship you, the creator of all, and let your light shine upon our world.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: God of life:

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: We thank you for the beauty of the earth, for the diversity of land and sea, the mysteries of space, and for the resources of the earth.
Give us the will to cherish this planet
and to use its riches for the good and welfare of all.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: God of life:
All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We thank you for the warmth of the sun,
the light of the moon, the glory of the stars.
We praise you for the formations of clouds,
the radiance of dawn and sunset.
Save us from wasting or abusing the energy
on which all life depends.
Open our eyes to behold your beauty,
and our lips to praise your name.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: God of life:
All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We thank you for the teeming life of the seas and rivers,
and the flight of the birds.
Help us to protect the environment, to protect endangered species
and to preserve the variety of habitats
so that in honouring the delicate balance of nature
all life may flourish.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: God of life:
All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the human family.
We pray for the places where war and civil unrest
lead to death, destruction and displacement
and that our calls for peace may be heard.
We remember the unhoused, the refugee and the lonely
that we may offer shelter, welcome and sustenance.
Confirm us in the truth that every human being is
known and loved by you.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: God of life:
All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Creator of all, you have filled the world with beauty:
open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works;
that, rejoicing in your whole creation,
we may learn to serve you with gladness;
for the sake of him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

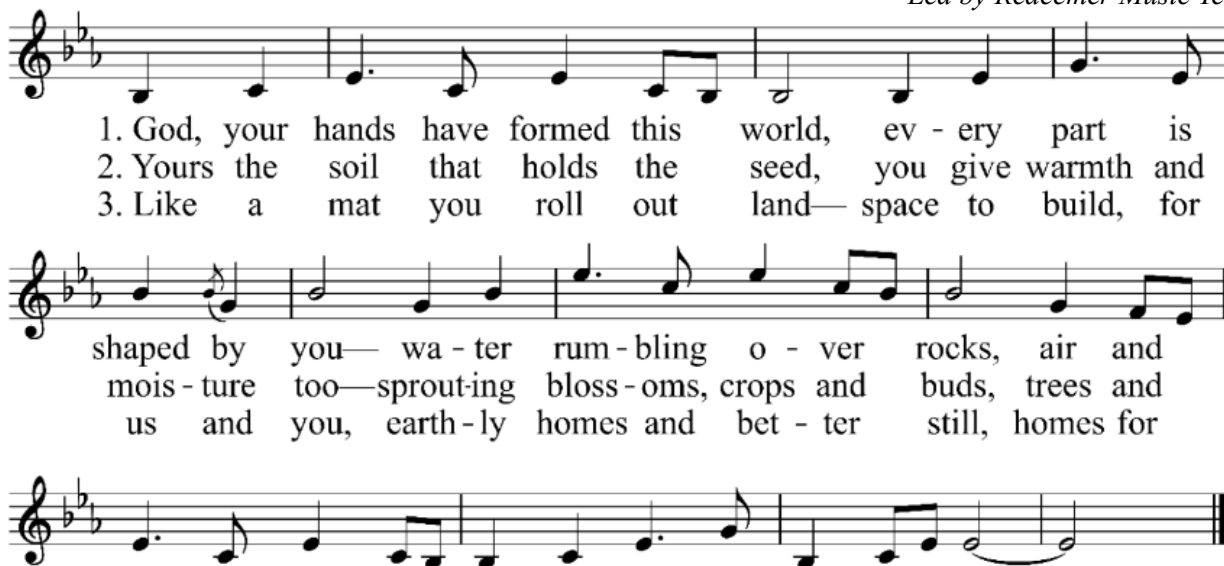
Liska Stefko

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: #93 (SANC) “God, Your Hands Have Formed This World”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. God, your hands have formed this world, ev - ery part is
2. Yours the soil that holds the seed, you give warmth and
3. Like a mat you roll out land—space to build, for

shaped by you—wa - ter rum - bling o - ver rocks, air and
mois - ture too—sprout - ing bloss - oms, crops and buds, trees and
us and you, earth - ly homes and bet - ter still, homes for

sun - light: each day's signs that you make all things new.
plants: the sea - son's signs that you make all things new.
Christ: the tru - est sign that you make all things new.

Text: Ramon and Salio Oliano; Eng. version James Minchin and Delbert Rice. Eng. version © James Minchin, Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music.
Music: GAYOM NI HIGAMI. Melody Ikalahan trad. (Philippines); arr. John L. Bell, 1991. Music arr. © 1991 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

The Lord's Prayer

Liska Stefko

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Giving and Receiving of Communion

Liska Stefko

Priest: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,
to receive Christ, in communion with the saints,
and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

*For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion
– not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste –
but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.*

*There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true
desire, lively faith, and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how.
You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:*

One: O Christ, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the
Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your
resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace,
Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you,
and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Doxology

Liska Stefko

Priest: Glory to God,

All: **whose power working in us can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.**

Concluding Hymn: “One Drop” (*Ketch Secor / Mike Harris / Jerry Pentecost*)

Led by Redeemer Music Team

It takes one drop to lift these many wa - ters, it takes
one drop to roll these ma-ny wa-ters a - way it takes one drop to
lift these many wa - ters 'fore we turn still wa-ters to roll - ing waves.

Dismissal

Liska Stefko

Priest: Tend the earth, care for God’s good Creation;
as you have received freely, so give freely.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

Unless stated otherwise, all liturgical texts are excerpted from the Book of Alternative Services © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved. Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from Anglican Liturgical Library.

Covenanting is from the Church in Wales. Collect of the Day: Episcopal Church Season of Creation – A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes 2025. First Reading: New Standard Version Updated Edition

Second Reading: Episcopal Church Season of Creation – A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes 2025.

Gospel Reading: First Nations Version: Church of England, Common Worship Creation (adapted)

Prayer over the Gifts: Feast of the Creator, Trial Use, Anglican Church of Canada

Eucharistic Prayer: Feast of the Creator, Trial Use, Anglican Church of Canada (Cedar + Salal, adapted)

Breaking of the Bread: Episcopal Church Season of Creation – A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes 2025.

Prayer after Communion: Feast of the Creator, Trial Use, Anglican Church of Canada

Dismissal: Episcopal Church Season of Creation – A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes 2025.

The cover image “Season of Creation” is by Dawn Lee.

All music, not in the public domain, is reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-707061.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday September 6 (Abundant Waters)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday September 9

12:00 PM – Mid-Week Eucharist (in the Church)

Sunday September 13 (Flowing Waters)

9:00 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

9:00 AM – Simple Gifts (in the Church)

10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER LEADERSHIP

Pastoral Staff

Incumbent: Steven Mackison
Associate Priest: Liska Stefko
Children, Youth & Family Minister: Lor Maroney
Honorary Assistants: Jim Boyles, Susan Haig, Ann Jervis, Renata Kok, Paul MacLean, Margaret Rodrigues, Paul G. Walker, Katy Waugh, Andrew Wesley

Program Staff

Director of Music: Dan Norman
Assistant Director of Music: Mike Daley
Musician-in-Residence: Jill Daley

Common Table Staff & Leads

Director: Tom More
Outreach Worker: Jim Willis
Volunteer & Kitchen Coordinator: Beverley Galandzy
Kitchen Coordinator: Natalie Buyniak
Counsellors: Jane Brushey-Martin, Francis Martin

Ministry Support

Administrative Assistant: Brianna Davies
Bookkeeper & IT Support: Nasir Qamar
Facilities Manager: Craig Martin
Communications: Ann Cope
AV & Sound Tech: Morgan
Duty Custodian: Lloyd Simangan

Members of Diocesan Synod

Wesley Acheampong, Chris Ambidge, Peter Bennett, Lyn Sibley, Karen Visser, Richard Van Delft (alternate)

Board of Management

Chair: Carol Scovil
Vice-Chair: Laura Boast
Advisory Board Chair: Henry Krol
Property: Susan Graham Walker
Stewardship: Ron Waldie
Finance: James Newman
HR: Wesley Acheampong
At Large: Jonathan Batty, Sheila Crummey

Advisory Board

Chair: Henry Krol
Vice-Chair: Susanne Hunter
Board of Management Chair: Carol Scovil
Creation Matters: Grant Jahnke, Andrew Scorer
ISWG: Stephen Allen
Redeemer Explorers: David Townsend, Deb Deacon
At Large: Christina Chang, Mark Ebdon, Louise Greig, Deb Hinton, Scott MacLeod, Dawn Lee, Alanna Zоргdrager, Salome Pinto

Redeemer Ministry Leads

Accessibility Advocate: Carol Scovil
Archives: Nancy Luno
Catechesis: Georgi Georgievski
Creation Matters: Grant Jahnke, Andrew Scorer
Hospitality: Tony Crosbie
Human Resources: Tim Hadwen
Indigenous Solidarity Working Group: Stephen Allen
Liturgy Animator: Ann Cope
Martha League: Richard Van Delft
Meditation Group: Lilian Junkin
Pastoral Care: Tony Crosbie
Property: Susan Graham Walker
Redeemer Explorers: David Townsend, Deb Deacon
Redeemer Pilgrims: Susan Haig
Refugee Settlement: Alison Colvin, Henry Krol
Stewardship: Ron Waldie
Trans Ministry: Margaret Rodrigues
Young Adults: Shirley Park
Zoom Moderators: Anne Lee

If you spot any errors or omissions, or to find out more about our ministry areas, please contact us: office@theredeemer.ca