



NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION ONLINE HANDBOOK

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- 2557 Buford Drive, Suite 491712 Lawrenceville, GA 30049 Phone: (803)626-2463

Welcome

Welcome to the God's Redeeming Temple Family! Because of the commitment you have just made, which is to Connect – Grow – Serve – Share – Honor. We welcome you to our New Members Class. We are excited about this opportunity to be used by God in preparing you to fulfill your purpose. This is the most serious point in your Christian walk. The foundation is being laid, and it must be a proper and sure one so you can build upon it and grow.

The leaders are here to give you support and time and to share with you many things which may be helpful to you as a new member of this church. Please feel free to call on one of our team members with any questions or concerns you may have. You can find a directory of the leaders and ministries at the end of this booklet, along with their contact information and a picture so that you easily identify them.

Because God gave His best, we also desire to give our best to you. Our church will grow and prosper when you agree to provide your best. If you have any special needs or if you are having any problems, we are here to help and support you.

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Overview

Our new member's orientation class will help you understand more about your relationship with Christ, who we are as a church family, and how we love God and Serve people at God's Redeeming Temple Family.

Since you are taking this class online or in person, please carefully review the material provided in this handbook and associated scriptural references to understand better. Upon completion of the handbook, please log on to our website and complete the course assessment at

www.godsredeemingtemple.com

This handbook is yours to keep. You may print it, write in it, and take notes as you please.

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Who we are as a Church

Our Mission

To reach the world by connecting with souls, teaching them to grow in the Word of God, and preparing the saved to serve readily, in season and out of season, by sharing the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ while honoring the great commission of our Lord. Matthew 28:16-20

Our Vision

As a community of GRT church, we will continue to win souls back to the kingdom of God, where they can find hope, growth, and discipleship into the things of the Lord as we impact the next generation.

What We Believe

We Believe In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

We Believe In one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. We believe Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the intercessor for the church.

We Believe That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for the forgiveness of sins.

We Believe That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

We Believe in sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

We Believe Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.

We Believe In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

We Believe Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.

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OUR FOCUS:

Our ten core values guide us and ensure everything we do is aligned with our:

Scripture Worship

Discipleship Prayer

Maturity Giving

Relationships Serving

Excellence Outreach

OUR STANDARD:

We are committed to ministering with integrity and the highest standard of excellence.

We are dedicated to embracing every person with the greatest level of dignity and Respect.

OUR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP:

GRT Family has one Pastor, who is gifted and in authority to govern the church as she provides quality leadership and effective pastoral care for the congregation. Pastor Gipson, will serve the church in preaching, teaching, administration, finances, visitations, funerals, weddings, and many other official capacities. As the ministry grows and the need arises, Pastor will oversee designated appointed pastors of GRT church but will continue to share equal authority in the ministry to ensure that the needs of our growing congregation are met.

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What You Can Expect from Us

God's Redeeming Temple church is a ministry where you can, Connect, Serve and Grow.

You can expect:

A community of people who are in the Body of Christ, both universal and local, through faith in Jesus Christ and redeemed by the Holy Spirit. We believe that Christ Jesus is the Head and Lord of the Church. The mission on the Church is worship, evangelism, discipleship and the nurturing and care of one another.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

A community/believer that's equipped by God's Spirit with spiritual gifts that enable us to carry the mission of Jesus Christ. All of life is to be used for the honor, glory, and service of God.

Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Galatians 6:10

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

A community where you can Connect- Serve- Grow in God's Word and in relationship with other believers.

"Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment". **Proverbs 4:7**

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Your Participation

Faithful Attendance in our Worship Services:

There is joy in attending God's Redeeming Temple worship service with our friends, family, and loved ones. Our goal is to continue to ushering the holy spirit through worship we connect with your lord Jesus Christ to grow in oneness and to develop our spiritual stamina so that we may grow in God.

Faithful Participation in Bible Study and Life Groups

The Christian faith is based upon the revelation of and from God that is found in the Bible. The Bible gives us instruction and hope (Romans 15:4), helps us to grow in the Christian life (1 Peter 2:2), and keeps us from sinning (Psalm 119:110). Therefore, it is imperative that we have a proper understanding of the Scriptures. The essential truths of the Scriptures are open for all to seek the message that God has for us personally. You will receive Biblical teaching that real and relevant. "Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Faithful Witness

Service in the name of Christ should also extend beyond the study classes, group activities, and worship services. In fact, meetings within the walls of the church should not be an end in themselves, but should be a vital source of training and inspiration that will send us forth to witness and serve in every facet and relationship of life. As Christians, we must carry the gospel to those outside the fellowship of the church and serve humankind in every area of need.

Christians cannot be true to their Lord and remain silent about Him. We are dishonest

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with our family and friends if we withhold from them the best news in the world. Our Lord commanded every believer to make disciples. He said, “ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). The greatest work, and the work that pays the largest rewards, is to encourage others to receive Christ as their Lord and Savior.

What Does It Mean to Be a Christian?

Theologically speaking, a Christian is someone who has received the Lord Jesus as Savior (John 1:12), trusts Him alone for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 4:12), has put no trust in his own efforts (Isaiah 64:6) to please God, and repented from his/her sins (Mark 1:15). Salvation

Salvation is the transformation of a person’s individual nature and relationship with God as a result of repentance and faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ on the cross. All humanity stands in need of salvation which is only possible through faith in Christ Jesus. Believers are saved by grace through faith for good works (Ephesians 2:8-10). Because of Adam’s “Fall” all humans required a plan of salvation (Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1- 11). We are unable to save ourselves, so God provided a means of salvation for the world.

God’s word assures that all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior that salvation belongs to them (I John 5:10-13) and that they are saved (John 6:37).

Accepting Jesus and salvation is very simple: Romans 10:13 says, “Whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” “Whosoever”, that means you. Verse 9 and 10 also tells us that if we say with our mouths that Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead, we “shall be saved”.

It’s that easy. If you believe that and have not allowed Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior, then say this prayer:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for my sins and you raised Him from the dead. I

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accept Him now as my personal Lord and receive salvation from sin. Jesus is my Lord
and He is my Savior and I commit my life to Him. Thank you, Father God, for forgiving
me, saving me, and giving me eternal life with You. Amen

BAPTISM

After the repentance of sin and acceptance of salvation, we believe that you should be
baptized as the Lord Jesus commanded. Baptism is significant in that it represents the
cleansing from sin that comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Water baptism involves
immersion in water and symbolically portrays the washing away of our sins. If you would like
to be baptized, you are required to attend one of our
baptism classes offered. For more information, please contact the church office.

Responsibility of the Church

God calls believers into fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ. Believers
are told to assemble together to encourage each other (Hebrews 10:25). In His instruction
to His disciples, Jesus gives us the purpose of the church in what is known as the Great
Commission. There He states:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things
whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the
end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)

The responsibility of the Church (Body of Christ) is to spread and share the good news of
the gospel throughout the world. To that end members of the church have the privilege of
serving God and their fellow man. Some of the basic responsibilities of church members
(Christians) in the local body of believers are as follows:

Just as Christ loved believers - the Church, believers are to love one another (the

church).

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There must be love among and between members of the Church. Christ set the example in this area by giving Himself for the Church. We as the church ought to give of our time, talents, and resources to the body of Christ. (Ephesians 5:25)

God desires the worship and praise of His people. The church building is the meeting place where believers assemble to offer worship and praise to God as one. Worship and praise of God is both public and private (Matthew 6:6, Luke 4:16). The church building is the physical location where believers can offer uninterrupted worship and praise to God. (Psalm 95:6, 96:6, 150)

God calls all believers into service. God has placed within each believer a gift that is to be used to bring Him glory. In service to the church, we are to use those God-given gifts. (Luke 22:21, John 9:4, I Corinthians 10:31, 15:58)

By adhering to God's commandments believers show their love for God. While no one is sinless, believers should always be striving to remain obedient to the Word of God. (John 14:21, John 15:10, 14)

Believers provide the financial assistance needed to support the ministry to sustain the operations of the church. We must give financially as God has prospered us. By properly giving to the church we give to ourselves. How? When believers give to God He blesses them in return. (Proverbs 3:9, Malachi 3:8-12, Luke 6:38, II Corinthians 9:7) Giving

Tithes and Offerings

God has a plan for the financing of the work He has ordered the Church to perform – through tithes and offerings.

Tithe means the Tenth part, especially as offered to God. Tithing is a practice of obedience of returning 10% of your income to God. Originally, the tithe was given to the temple in the form of produce or livestock since this was the only real income the people had. As society shifted to a monetary exchange system, the tithe began to be

paid in currency.

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Tithing is first mentioned when Abraham presented a tithe to the Priest-king of Jerusalem, Melchizedek. (Genesis 14:18-20).

Abraham's grandson, Jacob, pledged to offer to God a tenth of all that God would bless him with (Read Genesis 28:20-22). What was his 3-fold expectation?

- God's presence - "If God will be with me"
- God's protection - "will keep me in the way that I go"
- God's provision - "will give me bread to eat and raiment to put on"

Old Testament

In Malachi 3:1-4 we have a prophecy that the Lord will come and teach people how to live righteously and in a manner that is consistent with God's will. The fact is then stated that Israel has robbed God by not bringing the tithe to Him.

Consequences of Disobedience Regarding Tithing

Those that were disobedient in regard to tithing were condemned with a curse from God. (Malachi 3:8-9).

Blessing of Obedience Regarding Tithing

Those that are obedient in tithing are blessed by God in return. According to Malachi 3:10-12, the benefits of tithing are:

- Increase
- Blessings
- Protection

Some argue that since we are under grace in the New Covenant, that tithing should not be the responsibility or obligation of the contemporary church. This is erroneous thinking when in fact tithing is first mentioned in Genesis, which is 430 years before the Law.

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New Testament

Jesus Taught Tithing

In Jesus Christ, Malachi's 3:1-4 prophecy is fulfilled. Jesus taught in Matthew 23:23 that acceptable living includes the tithe and the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith.

For the Christian, tithing is a practice of obedience, faith, and worship given in recognition of the blessings that God has given to us.

Our tithes provide for:

- The financial support of the total ministry operations of the church
- The financial support of the pastoral staff
- The management of the church campus and facility

The tithe is our starting point; it's the minimum we should give. We believe in God's plan for everything, and we believe that every member of the church should be a tither, bringing to the Lord a tenth of their income. If all members were tithers, God's plan of finance would meet all of the financial needs of the church.

If you aren't tithing, step out on faith and "try" God. Begin consistently giving something until you can build your faith for 10% of your income.

Offerings

I Corinthians 16:2 teaches that believers are to give "as God has prospered," us. This scripture teaches of giving above and beyond the tithe. Consider the tithe as the seed you "owe" and offerings as the seed you "sow" for increase or toward an expected need or outcome, through your faith. Offerings are voluntary giving above the tithe. Offerings bring in the overflow or the abundance of whatever you need from God. It's not always money. It can be health in your body, better relationships, peace of mind, etc.

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Why is it important to have the right attitude when giving?

Giving begins with what you decide. Whether it is your attitude, whom you will give to, and what you give, it's about your personal decision. You should not give if:

- You have to fuss about giving

- If you are angry about giving
- If you are giving worrying about how you are going to survive
- If you are feeling manipulated or taken advantage of

Three things to keep in mind when giving:

1. You are giving to honor God. Although our giving goes to New Life, we don't give to a church, we don't give to the pastors. We give our offerings to honor God.

Giving is about relationship. It shows that we love and trust God and that we truly recognize Him as Lord over our lives.

2. Your giving must be willing (2 Cor 8:12, 9:7). The amount doesn't matter, it's your attitude, your willingness. God loves a cheerful giver; whose heart is in his giving. It is your decision what you should give.

3. Your standard of giving, raises your standard of living (2 Cor 9:10-11). When you have a willing heart and mind to give, God will make sure to supply you with money to give. Not only that, He will increase what you give and then enlarge the harvest you receive from it.

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We recognize that it is so easy to feel lost, alone, and disconnected. And that where Life Groups come in. These are small groups of members who meet to connect, grow, and do life together. Our purpose is to provide fellowship, relationship, discipleship, and the encouragement we all need to become committed followers of Christ. Most importantly life groups are where you never have to walk through life alone.

Groups meet twice a month both virtually, on Zoom, and in person. Whether you are single, married, or widowed, we have a life group just for you. Please see life groups

descriptions and times on the following pages. You can scan the QR code with your phone to immediately be connected to social media.



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MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

The associate ministerial staff are responsible to assist and support the senior Pastors in whatever needs arise and to serve the congregation in various areas of ministry.

DANCE

The purpose of the dance ministry is to offer opportunities to children and young girls to use the artistic gifts of music and dance as an expression of praise and worship to God.

TRANSITION

The Transition ministry is responsible for new member intake. We provide assistance and support to help new members assimilate into the culture God’s Redeeming Temple through new member orientation, transition counseling, and the promotion of both Christian Education and Ministry connections. We also assist with ministry campaigns and special events to promote fellowship and outreach.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Congregational Care team works as an extension of the pastors to attend to the needs of the congregation experiencing sorrow, sickness, or setbacks.

GATEKEEPER

The role of the gatekeeper (usher) is to greet members and guests as they enter the sanctuary. We assist worshippers in locating seating, collecting tithes and offerings, and maintaining order in the church. We also offer opportunities for our youth to develop in service through the Youth Gatekeeper Ministry.

PARKING LOT GREETERS/SECURITY

Our purpose is to serve as a first point of contact for visitors and members. Our responsibility is to help all who come to worship feel joy, sincerity, importance, peace, and comfort on the parking lot, before they enter the doors of the church and security within the church

Mrs. G. Moore

GUEST RELATIONS

The guest relations ministry consists of smiling, friendly people who provide warm greetings and information to guests and members as they enter the church.

HEALTH

Our team of healthcare providers help members reach their full potential mentally, spiritually, and physically through health promotion and continuing health education activities. We also provide emergency response for those who have basic health needs during worship service(s) and other ministry events.

HOSPITALITY/SPECIAL EVENTS

The Hospitality/ Special Events Ministry is responsible for the coordination, planning, design, and set-up of a variety of church wide events and special projects. This ministry strives to organize entertaining celebrations that foster growth and fellowship among the members of

God's Redeeming Temple

Kids to Kids Ministry

Our role is to provide safe, secure, nurturing, clean and efficient care to our children ages 4-11. At "Kid Life" we integrate biblical truths with themed activities. Our goal is to take advantage of every opportunity to make biblical truth "real" to each of them.

MARRIAGE – Partner's for Life

The Partners for Life Marriage Ministry seeks to strengthen the body of Christ by building, fortifying, and enhancing marriages. Our goal is to help couples thrive in their marriage by providing empowering tools to nourish and cherish each other in a healthy relationship.

Daisies Ministry

They are the light that shine bright. Matt:5 v:16 The purpose of Daisies' ministry, is to teach the bible basic Fundamental so that we can shape our children into God given purpose. Everything from believing to giving and obeying to trusting. This application from the bible stories will continue to build their Characters.

VBS (Vacation Bible School)

A faith formation process for children. which usually includes games, snacks, crafts, skits, and, of course, Bible lessons. There is always a connection between God and the theme, allowing kids to discover God in a more creative way. You will have the opportunity to reach into those communities and find children that are excited about what your church has to offer for the summer.

MEDIA

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The purpose of the media ministry is to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our visually driven, everchanging world through the use of technology and media, and to equip other ministries of the church to use digital and electronic media as a worship and outreach tool. We have multiple areas in which you can serve from audio, production, and multimedia to network evangelism, our social media ministry platform.

MUSIC

The music ministry shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through leading the congregation in musical expressions of praise and worship.

PRAYER COUNSELORS

Our prayer team is composed of people assigned to pray for weekly requests, immediate crises, and the weekly activities at God's Redeeming Temple. Dependence on God through prayer is foundational to our church and provides a basis for all we do. Join us for Corporate Prayer in the sanctuary every Tues 6:00pm and 1st Saturdays at 11am.

MEN'S Ministry

The purpose of Men's Fraternity is to bring men together in the name of Christ to speak to critical issues and challenges that we encounter in our spiritual, personal and family lives. Adult men of all ages, single, married, divorced or widowed are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

WOMEN & MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

The women's ministry provides fellowship, teaching, sharing, and prayer for women of all ages. Our goal is to promote sisterhood by cultivating life changing relationships, creating a safe environment to discuss issues that impact our lives, to grow in the knowledge of Jesus and to extend grace to other women.

YOUNG ADULT

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Our mission is to evoke social and spiritual vibrancy, to create a discipleship focused community, and build healthy relationships amongst young adults, ages 18- 30, within God's Redeeming Temple.

Teen MINISTRY

Leading by Example with no Excuses in Excellence for Jesus Christ Our purpose is to draw youth ages 12-18 through Godly concepts and cultivate their gifting(s) through knowledge and understanding of the Word of God made applicable to their daily lives.

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