

PARISH PROFILE

Church of the Redeemer, Anglican
207 N Carolina Highway 343 S
Camden, NC 27921

A Spiritual Harbor of Hospitality

INTRODUCTION: Church of the Redeemer, Anglican is an orthodox Anglican Church committed to prayer, God's word as revealed in Holy Scripture, and corporate beliefs as outlined in the creeds. Our mission is to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to maintain the truths, values and beliefs of the historic and apostolic Christian faith, and to affirm the authority of the Bible as the rule for our lives. As a loving, caring congregation, we reach out to each other, to our community and to the world, boldly proclaiming the good news that salvation comes through Christ alone.

ABOUT US: At Church of the Redeemer, we believe that God loves everyone and calls everyone to come to him for salvation through Jesus. As a community of God's sons and daughters, we believe that the Bible is God's inspired word to us that reveals the truth about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We also believe that we are called to love the world as God has loved us. We believe that God has given us his Holy Spirit and poured his love into our hearts, so that we might engage in his mission in the world. This mission is to seek and to save the lost.

For the purpose of God's mission, he has given to each of his children gifts for expressing his love and salvation. We believe that every person in the church has gifts from God that align with his or her passions in life. We try to build up, empower and encourage everyone to express the gifts and talents God has given them. This is what makes our hearts sing.

Our vision and hope for our worship and ministry at Church of the Redeemer is that it will be thoroughly Biblical and Holy Spirit-filled. This means we strive for it to be *EPIC*:

- **Evangelical** – promoting salvation through Jesus Christ by the proclamation of the gospel of the Kingdom of God.
- **Pentecostal (charismatic)** – experiencing the Holy Spirit and ministering to one another by the gracious gifts he gives to each of us.
- **Inspirational** – blessed and inspired by God and His Word to engage in the serving the church and world.
- **Catholic** – participating in the one holy catholic (universal) and apostolic faith and Body of Christ through sacramental liturgy in the Anglican Tradition.

EPIC encapsulates the streams of classical Anglicanism and at the Church of the Redeemer we work in them all with equal time, energy, and passion. Our EPIC elements are expressed in the areas of worship, mission (outreach, charity, missionary support), discipleship, and fellowship.

Church of the Redeemer is a constituent parish of the Anglican Church of North America (ACNA) and the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic (DOMA). The Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) prior to the pandemic COVID-19 was 85. The church's doors have remained open throughout COVID and Sunday worship continued onsite with an understandable decrease of ASA to 60. Ours is a mature congregation with a recent promising emergence of young families with small children in membership. This is a trend we work and pray hard to continue.

OUR COMMITMENTS (EPIC in action:)

Worship: Our neighbor city, Elizabeth City, NC refers to itself as the Harbor of Hospitality. Church of the Redeemer serves as a Spiritual Harbor of Hospitality for all who come through its doors. We hope that the same hospitality God shows to us in Jesus Christ overflows to all who visit the church and to the wider community. In our life together, we emphasize the authority of Scripture, the presence and ministry of the Holy Spirit, and the family of faith. Jesus' invitation urging people to "Come" echoes in all of the services and ministries at Church of the Redeemer. Jesus explained to his followers that whatever we do to even the least of our brothers and sisters we do unto him. By serving each other, other Christians and those in the world that God is calling, we believe we are feeding Jesus, clothing Jesus, healing Jesus, visiting Jesus and blessing Jesus every day (Matthew 25:40). We believe the greatest hospitality we can show to people is to lift Jesus up that He might draw all to Himself through the preaching of the gospel and faithful administration of the sacraments. We rely on the empowering of the Holy Spirit and the gracious gifts for ministry he distributes to all who are saved through Jesus. All are invited, welcome and encouraged to come and experience Jesus' love in our spiritual home.

At all of our worship services, we pray that all who come will experience God's peace and hospitality, hear his loving voice speak to them and feel his transforming touch of saving grace. We emphasize the presence of the Holy Spirit with us, the authority of Scripture, the power of the gospel for salvation, the gifts of grace among the people of God and God's expression of grace in the sacraments. We seek to worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth.

We worship together and share Holy Communion every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:15-10:15 for adults and, as noted above, these services have continued onsite throughout COVID. The ACNA liturgies are used for all services. Our 8 a.m. service is a quiet service that means we do not have music or singing. Our 10:30 a.m. service includes music and singing with a choir leading us in traditional hymns (choir has been suspended for COVID). Children are most welcome at all of our services. We have the Children's Chapel and Nursery available during the 10:30 a.m. service. The 8.00 a.m. service is also live streamed. Following our services we often have drinks and snacks while we fellowship (this has been suspended during the pandemic and we look forward to resuming as soon as safely possible).

Prayer: Church of the Redeemer is passionately committed to and sustained by prayer. Personal prayer and events for corporate prayer are continually growing in intensity. The church has a 24-7 Prayer Room, accessible to all congregants, which is stocked with material to support individual and small group prayer. Prayer events are highlighted by the following:

- Morning Prayer Service at the church 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday. In this service every member of the congregation is individually called out and lifted up in prayer.
- Monday Prayer Group in the Parish Hall 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday Men's Prayer Group at local restaurant 7:00-8:00 a.m.
- Prayer for Revival and Renewal in the Parish Hall Saturdays 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
- Vestry Prayer Group in the Parish Hall second Tuesday of every month 6:00-7:00 p.m. (This is separate from the monthly vestry business meeting.)
- Various Home Bible Study and Prayer Groups held weekly.

On the first Tuesday of every month a Healing Service is held at the church at 7:00 p.m. Healing Services are also provided on request after each Sunday worship service. We believe God heals by answering our prayers and by giving us gifts for healing. We also visit the sick at home and in the hospital for healing prayers.

We also have special as required prayer services as situations warrant such as our 40 Days of Prayer for Spirit and Power that was held Monday – Sunday at 6 a.m. in May 2019.

Teaching God's Word: Church of the Redeemer is committed to teaching God's word to all ages with opportunities for children, youth and adults. Opportunities include:

- Current topic is, To be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism: Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall
- Men's Discipleship Groups: Thursdays 7:15-8:15 at the church.
- Middle and High School Discipleship Groups: Sundays 6:15 – 7:30 at the church.
- Children's Chapel on Sunday as required.
- Women's Bible Studies.

Community Outreach: Church of the Redeemer is deeply committed to community service. Ours is "boots-on-the-ground" approach with volunteers actively embedded in many activities that include:

- SOULs Feeding. SOULs (Serving Others in Unity and Love) is a "feeding" ministry consisting of teams from Christian churches throughout the Elizabeth City area who believe in serving the Lord by feeding the "least of His brethren" - the needy, the homeless and the hungry. Church of Redeemer teams prepare meals the first Wednesday of every month for 60-80 people.
- Teen Challenge. Teen Challenge USA is a holistic model of drug and alcohol recovery. Their means are concerned with the body, mind, and spirit of those who come to addiction recovery centers. The vision is to see all people freed from addiction through the power of Jesus Christ!
- Albemarle Pregnancy Resource Center and Clinic. The Pregnancy Resource Center is place of support and hope for those facing unexpected pregnancies and frightening or uncertain sexual health issues. They offer free and confidential medical services, one-on-one mentoring and educational opportunities. Our previous rector served as Chaplain to this Center.

- Benjamin House: The Benjamin House is an assisted-living residence for the mentally challenged, offering residents viable lifestyle options while strengthening their ties with family, church and community.
- Hopeline Projects. Albemarle Hopeline is a domestic and sexual violence agency serving our and surrounding counties.

Church of the Redeemer also provides financial support for global missions.

OUR AREA: Our church is in Camden County in northeast North Carolina. We sometimes affectionately refer to ourselves as the church in the cornfield and our location is the best of two worlds. Camden is a rural/farm community which provides welcomed serenity and beautiful landscape. The nearest city, Elizabeth City, is only five miles away and provides all the amenities required. A number of parishioners (and both previous rectors) live in Elizabeth City. Chesapeake and Virginia Beach, Virginia to the north are less than an hour drive. To the southeast is Kitty Hawk on the renowned Carolina Outer Banks, also under an hour drive. The closest airport is Norfolk International in Virginia, a one-hour drive (slightly more during morning and evening commute).

Camden's population is approximately 10,251, however while our physical footprint is in Camden our population base is not viewed through a "Camden lens" alone as the majority of our congregation come from the close bordering counties of Pasquotank and Currituck with populations of 40,661 and 23,547, respectively. For more information on Camden and demographics please follow the links, <https://www.camdencountync.gov/> and <https://www.camdencountync.gov/about/demographics>

The Camden County Schools have a long tradition of student academic success. The Camden County School system is consistently ranked among the highest achieving school systems in North Carolina. For more information on the school system please follow link, <https://ccsnc.org/>

OUR STAFF: Detailed information about the Church of the Redeemer staff is available at <https://redeemernc.com/clergy-and-staff/>. The church also has a vibrant vestry to manage the temporal affairs of the church and assist the rector in the oversight of parish life and ministry.

CURRENT CHALLENGE: Like any church, there are concerns we pray through and seek the Lord's direction and favor. The primary challenge at Church of the Redeemer is multi-generational congregational growth, especially with the younger age groups.