



## Episcopal Church of the Redeemer - Midlothian Redeemer Foyer Dinner Groups



***“Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread from house to house and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.” Acts 2:46-47***

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At the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, we are fortunate to have a strong and connected family of parishioners. Foyer Groups are small group gatherings of individuals which come together to share simple meals and fellowship. Foyer derives from the French word *foier* meaning “hearth” or “home.” The very name implies the warmth of a small group of friends and community members sharing a common love and concern for one another.

The intention is to have fun and to meet and build meaningful relationships by breaking bread together in a small group setting that fosters conversation and connection. As Redeemer enters into 2023, our hope is that the return of our Foyer Dinner Groups will bring joy to our community as we strengthen old bonds and forge new ones. We hope you will join us in this opportunity for fellowship and togetherness.



**Sign up**



## Episcopal Church of the Redeemer - Midlothian Redeemer Foyer Dinner Groups

### Overview

Redeemer Foyer dinner groups will be composed of approximately 8 individuals who will convene once a month for a simple meal and relaxed conversation. These group dinners are most often held in a private home (preferred), with members taking turns as host for this opportunity of fellowship. There is no formal agenda nor assignment for Foyer dinner hosts, though we do request that each group say grace.

Redeemer Foyer dinner groups will be divided into two seasons: Spring (February to May) and Fall (September to December). Sign-ups will open in January with groups formed in early February (for the Spring season) and in August (for the Fall season).

### Redeemer Foyer groups ARE...

... Small groups of parishioners who meet once a month to share a meal and fellowship.

... Thoughtfully assigned to reflect our parishioners' wishes and foster fellowship across the congregation.

... Open to one and all. Redeemer Foyer groups may include singles, couples, young adults, and/or retirees. Members may have young or school age children, be empty nesters or be without children. Long time members and newcomers are all welcome.

### Redeemer Foyer Groups are NOT...

... A "Top Chef" competition. Foyer group dinners are intended to be stress-free and enjoyable. Foyer groups and individual hosts can determine their own style. In most instances, dinners are a home-cooked meal with the host providing the main dish and the other members bringing the appetizer, salad, and dessert. They could also be take-out from a local restaurant, or for a change of pace, groups may meet in a garden for a picnic or at a restaurant or private venue. There are no "rules" other than to come together.

... a page out of *Martha Stewart Living* magazine. Foyer dinner groups are designed to be relaxed and welcoming, not a decorator's tour.

... a bible study or prayer group. There is no required agenda other than spending time with one another and engaging in conversation and fellowship. For those interested, conversation starters and activity suggestions can be provided to foster meaningful conversation and connections to our shared faith.



## Foyer Groups



## Episcopal Church of the Redeemer - Midlothian Foyer Groups - Small Group Fellowship

### KEY DATES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

#### What is the timing for the Redeemer Foyer Dinner Groups?

Redeemer foyer groups are organized with two seasons per year:  
Spring (Feb-May; groups formed in Feb.) and Fall (Sept.-Dec.; groups formed in Aug.).

**Spring Foyer season:**      **Feb., March, April, May 2023;** groups formed in early Feb.  
Sign-ups available Jan. 15 - Feb. 5, 2023

Signs up may be submitted via [Google sign-up form](#) or  
in-person during coffee hour in Pinder Hall following the service  
on Jan. 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5.

#### **Kick-off party: Date TBD**

To officially launch the 2023 Foyer dinner group program, the  
committee will host *all* participants for an adults-only cocktail party  
in February (exact date and location to be announced).

**Fall Foyer season:**      **Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. 2023 (sign-ups/groups formed in Aug.)**  
*Fall season dates and deadlines will be shared in the summer.*

#### How are the Foyer dinner groups formed and who assigns members to each group?

The Foyer dinner group committee will make final assignments about  
each Foyer dinner group, with input from you all. Please complete the  
sign up form with as much detail as possible and include any  
additional requests or considerations in the comments. We will do our  
best to create meaningful and thoughtful groupings. Spring 2023  
Foyer group assignments will be announced between Feb 10-15.  
Groups will be shared via email.

#### What if I'm not a good cook, or if my home is not large or grand enough to host?

Please do not be concerned with this. Please note there is no need to  
be concerned that your house is not "grand" enough to host, or if your  
culinary skills are not "gourmet" enough to share. The focus of Redeemer Foyer Dinner Groups  
is friendship and fellowship.





**May I request a specific individual or family to be paired with?**

You may request to be paired with an individual or family, yes. However, please keep in mind that the goal of the groups is to meet and/or to build meaningful relationships with fellow parishioners, including with some of those whom you may not already know. The committee will do its best to accommodate requests, but cannot guarantee it.

**Are Foyer dinner groups for adults-only or are children included?**

Typically, Foyer group dinners are adult-only to allow parishioners to get to know each other in an intimate setting. However, if families wish to have their children included, they can request to be part of a special “Family Foyer Group with children included. Please add a note to this effect on the submission form or reach out to us for more information.

**If I sign up for a Foyer Group in the Spring, will I automatically be signed up for the Fall?**

Sign ups to participate will be on a seasonal basis. Sign ups for the Spring season will be in January and sign ups for the Fall season in August.

**Will the Spring and Fall season Foyer groups be the same or different?**

The idea behind the Foyer groups is to meet and become acquainted with fellow Redeemer parishioners you might not already know. Thus, the plan is to change foyer groups each season.

**If I don't want to host a Foyer dinner in my own home, are there other options? Can you recommend other locations for these dinners?**

Please reach out if you are looking for ideas about alternative places to host a Foyer dinner, as we are happy to brainstorm and to provide guidance.

**Is there a budget/money available to help cover the cost of dinner?**

Foyer dinner groups are not paid for by the church. Group members are encouraged to work together to prepare or to source meals. Please remember, these are not intended to be fancy or expensive, but to foster togetherness and connections.



← SIGN UP

**Questions/suggestions?** Reach out to the Foyer Groups committee:

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