



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

An adventure for *life!*

Reflections

(614) 237-1263

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November 23, 2009

Advent – A Time to Invite People into a New Life

OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here
in the name of Jesus

Pastor - F. Allan Debelak

Secretary - Dolores Brannigan

Lay Ministry Coordinator –

Kelley Scott

Organist/Senior Choir Director -

Kathy Rapp

Chimes Choir Director - Karen

Kent

Youth REJOYsing - Julie

Larson

Youth Director –

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President – Margie Frazier

Vice Pres. – Gage Gosnell

Treasurer – Eileen Day

Financial Secretary - Bruce

Collins

Secretary – Kay Ernsthause

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPS.

Church in Society - Jenny

Young

Evangelism – Jon Disbro

Fellowship - Becky Fisher

Finance – Brad Phillips

Member Care – Carol Heacock

Parish Ed - Michelle Clemence

Property – Maureen Callahan

Stewardship - Judith Bird

Worship - Wendy Stoica

Youth – Jennifer Young

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Chairman - Robin Stokes

Treasurer - David Reinhoehl

Secretary – Ashley Bird

Member – Helen Brunston

Member – William McCulley

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Michele Disbro

MIC STUDENTS

2nd year – Jared Witt

1st year – Joe Brosious

Advent is a good time to get started. If you know someone who is not connected to a congregation – or gave up on church – or can't make sense of the story, Advent is a good time to invite them on an adventure for *life*. It doesn't mean that we will give them answers or try to convince them of the way they must be. Rather we are inviting them to take a look at the vision for life that is present when our God leads us, abides with us, and goes all the way to bring new life to the world. Advent is a part of our storytelling that points to this way and announces that "all are welcome to enter this life." To help with the asking, I wanted to remind folks that the Evangelism Committee will have Redeemer's "business" cards out so that you can use them to hand to friends. They give folks the simple reminder about who we are, where we are, and when we gather for worship.

By the first Sunday in Advent you will see a new banner in the Narthex. It will outline the narrative for the upcoming year of worship. The theme for the next year of worship here at Redeemer is *What did we get into anyway?!?* The theme for Advent that begins to answer this question is *A relationship not a religion*. The stories of John the Baptizer press us to look more at the shape of our living than the structure of our religious establishments.

As is the case in Advent, we attempt to be very intentional about the themes and hymns and moods and colors of the season in worship. With the help of our Sunday School, some of our youth artists will add to the visual presentation of Advent. Our worship planning group does a good job of making each season of the year a bit different in order to catch the character of that season. This year, we will begin each Sunday liturgy with the Remembrance of our Baptism and then, in place of the usual opening hymn, the procession will take place during the singing of the Kyrie. A lead voice will chant the various bids that remind us of our connection to the whole world and God's sovereignty over all things. The processional cross will then pause as the congregation calls on our God to "have mercy on us" as we go along our way serving in the world in the name of our Lord, Jesus – the one who is to come.

We will also continue the use of "Evening Prayer" from Holden Village as the liturgy for our midweek Advent worship. The liturgy has become a favorite for those who have attended over the past few years. Worship on Wednesday, December 2, 9, 16, will be at 7:30 p.m. The liturgy is about 45 minutes in length. One of the treats of gathering for midweek worship is that we really begin our time together in the Narthex with Advent Desserts at 7 p.m. There will be a sign-up at the kiosk for those who would like to bring Advent delights to share.

Rather than holding a fourth midweek advent liturgy, we will hold open Wednesday, December 23, as a potential time to invite people out to help set up all that needs to be up for the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. More information about this will be forthcoming.

Christ's Peace! pastoral

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LESSONS

Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

8:30 AM Holy Communion (Setting 6)

11:00 AM Holy Communion (Setting 6)

INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of All Shepherds Lutheran Church in Powell.

+ For Redeemer member Thelma Johnson.

+ *Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns:* Doris Bell, Jan Bouman, Rose Varga, Doretha Holland, Georgia Wegmeyer, Lois Monett, Barb Atkinson, Betty Hoops, Bebe McCoy, Ellen Kuncce, Evelyn Fitch, Estella Kuemmel, Theresa Frazier, Vernon Schleppe, and Redeemer visitors.

WORSHIP LEADERS

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
Assisting Minister	Stan Heacock	Bernice Stewart
Acolyte	Renee McFarland	Daniel Pawlowski
Reader	Jon Disbro	TBA
Cantor	Heidi Sherer	Jennifer Young
Coordinator	Dick Kautz	Bruce Collins
Ushers	Sandra Keaton Jon Disbro	Marilyn Roberts Tom Mimplitch
Welcoming Team	Michele Disbro Barb Atkinson	Rose Varga Tomara Herring
Hospitality	TBA	Dave Lippert Margie Frazier
Nursery	Becky Fisher Gary Pawlowski (9:45)	Brad Phillips Misato In
Communion Set-up	Kay Ernsthause & Dave Curtis	

RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Bonnie Hegreness
Baked Goods Deliverer	Leslie Sorg
Note-writer	Kelley Scott
Food Pantry Delivery	Nancy and Kathie Ehrich

SUNDAY SCHOOL

“Living the Question/The Myth of Redemptive Violence”

Jared Witt, Ministry-in-Context Intern

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 1

Wednesday

7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Room 2

8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

Thursday

Thanksgiving Day
OFFICE CLOSED

Friday

Saturday

9 AM-3 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists

Sunday

8:30 AM Holy Communion

9:45 AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal

11:00 AM Holy Communion

Monday

3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons

6:00 PM Fellowship Committee

6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Room 3

6:30 PM Juniors – Room 4

Tuesday

5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 4

6:15 PM Chimes Choir

7:30 PM Berwick Civic Association

7:30 PM Senior Choir

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for **Don Yehling** who is hospitalized at Mount Carmel East; for **Tim Young**, who fell and faces possible surgery after fracturing his elbow; and for **Chad Eberle** whose father is near death.

Prayers are also asked for **Amy Hoops** who is recovering from surgery at home.

+++

A GPS unit was found in the parking lot on Sunday. It can be claimed in the church office.

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Pastor Al is out of town this week, from Monday, November 23, to Saturday, November 28. In his absence, pastoral care emergencies will be handled by **Pastor Eric Moehring**. Pastor Eric can be reached at Faith Lutheran Church, 237-4241; 486-5144 (H) or 448-7580 (cell).

cont'd on p. 4

REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

Council Elections Set for Nov. 29

Elections for open slots on church council will take place on Sunday, November 29 after both services. The slate of candidates for the two-year terms open this year includes the following:

Vice pres./pres. elect – Steve Winner
Treasurer – Eileen Day
Church in Society – Kathy Denhard
Fellowship – Donna Schmidt
Finance – Brad Phillips
Parish Ed – Heidi Stover
Worship – Michelle Clemence
Stewardship –

Time/Talent Surveys, Cards Due Nov. 29

The Time and Talent Surveys and commitment cards for 2010 can continue to be placed in the basket in the Narthex or mailed back to the church in the envelope provided in the stewardship packet through Sunday, November 29 when they will be dedicated during the worship services.

A second mailing is going out this week to those who have not yet responded in case the first stewardship packet was misplaced.

This information helps Church Council in the development of the church budget for 2010 and gives the various groups using volunteers an updated list of those persons interested in a particular ministry here at Redeemer. So if you have not yet turned yours in, please consider doing so.

Don't forget Redeemer offers an automated giving program or **electronic funds transfer** (EFT) through Thrivent called "Simply Giving." It permits the automatic withdrawal of pre-authorized donations from savings or checking accounts. See **Judith Bird** if you are interested in signing up for this method of handling your contributions to Redeemer.

Gardening For Life

This coming Sunday, November 29, a group of Redeemer members will meet during the Sunday School hour (10 a.m.) to discuss one of the areas of service that came up through the "Day of Vision" last year. They will be looking at the possibility of providing fresh food for those in need, giving members and neighbor of Redeemer an opportunity to be micro-farmers with a purpose, and possibly making an impact on the lives of everyone who is touched by the feeding of God's people.

This "task force" has a few folks who have shown interest and this is our first gathering. If you would like to connect to simply hear about it ... join us. You may find it is a new way to serve the well-being of others.

Mid-Week Advent Worship Begins Dec. 2

This year Redeemer will hold midweek Advent worship services beginning on Wednesday, December 2. Redeemer is also inviting Christ United Methodist Church to join us. The service will use the very popular "Holden Evening Prayer." Worship is at 7:30 p.m. but the evening begins with "Advent Desserts" at 7 p.m. in the Narthex.

If you are willing to provide a dozen cookies or the equivalent to share for Advent Desserts for one of the

Wednesday evening services, please sign up on the sign up sheet located on the kiosk. The Fellowship Committee will provide treats on December 2.

Meeting about Youth

On Sunday, December 6, during the Sunday School hour (10 a.m.) **Pastor Al** will be meeting with all interested adults to talk about Redeemer's ministry with youth (from the youngest up through the Luther League).

If you have an interest in working with youth and want to be involved in some of our planning and organizing, please come out. If you have questions or concerns prior to the meeting, please call Pastor Al.

Sharing the Warmth

So far Redeemer members have contributed 40 pairs of gloves and mittens, eight hats, five jackets and one pair of snow pants for those in need. Keep the warmth coming!

Deposit the items in the designated box in the Narthex.

Time to Order Poinsettias

Order envelopes are now available in the Narthex for poinsettias for Redeemer's chancel this Christmas.

Plants are priced at \$7 each and are available in red, pink, or white. Orders and payment must be received by Tuesday, December 1.

Christmas Program Rehearsals to Begin

It's already time to start work on the Christmas Program, with a performance set for Sunday, December 13 during the Sunday School hour. Rehearsal times are as follows:

1. Sunday, November 29 during Sunday School hour.
2. Saturday, December 5 at 10 a.m.
3. Sunday, December 6 during Sunday School hour.
4. Saturday, December 12 at 10 a.m.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact **Julie Larson** (julesrachel@yahoo.com or 614-833-0991). Hope you can join us!

Sign Up Now to Read Sunday Lessons

A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk for readers for the two Sunday worship services for now through Sunday, February 14. **A number of slots for both services remain open.** Anyone is welcome to sign up including both youth and adults. The readings are sent out the week before and there is a pronunciation guide posted on the kiosk to assist with some of the more difficult Biblical names.

Split Announcements

Those of you in worship on Sunday noticed that the Worship Committee has decided to try a new approach to the Sunday announcements. It is quite simple and practical. At the beginning of worship only those announcements that have to do with worship will be made: liturgy used that day, communion instructions, new hymns, names added to the prayers, etc.

Then after the final hymn but before the dismissal, there will be announcements that deal with items we need to remember for the week.

Worship will then end with the usual dismissal.

Sister Act to Meet Dec. 15

Sister Act will meet next on Tuesday, December 15 at 7 p.m. downstairs in Fellowship Hall. This month, Sister Act will be icing Advent cookies and packaging cheer plates to give to Redeemer members.

Sister Act is a new kind of Women of the ELCA congregational unit, meeting monthly and rotating activities of study, service, and spiritual growth. Women of ALL ages are welcome to join us! If you have any questions, contact **Kelley Scott** at kelleynotez@yahoo.com or by home phone at (740) 756-4817.

Christmas Journey

The Interesting Journey group's December outing will be Sunday, December 20. The group will be going to see State Auto's Christmas display. This life-sized Nativity has been part of downtown Columbus since 1930. The building is decorated with lighted 12-foot wreaths and rooftop nutcrackers. This year the display is in an adjacent park, closer to visitors, enhancing the experience.

The group will leave church following the 11 a.m. service and eat lunch at Peking Dynasty on Livingston Ave. After lunch they will head downtown to view the Nativity display. Everyone is welcome to join the group for this journey. Please RSVP to **LaVerna Reinoehl** at (614) 236-5687 or lrinoeh@insight.rr.com.

Test Your Carbon Footprint!

A new group has formed at Redeemer – the Green Team – which is looking at ways that church can reduce its carbon footprint. That means figuring how many pounds of carbon dioxide are given off by the ordinary heating, cooling, and electrical needs of the church.

The group is also interested in finding out the carbon footprint of several families in the church using a calculator that is based on the following information:

- 1) Make, model, year of car(s) and the annual miles driven
- 2) Total miles flown.
- 3) Total kWh electricity (last 12 months is listed on the bill).
- 4) Total Therms natural gas used (again, listed on the bill) OR total gallons heating oil OR total gallons propane.
- 5) Total gallons garbage.

Over the last few years the Church in Society committee has suggested various ways to help reduce our carbon footprint: recycling, keeping tires at the correct air pressure, using energy efficient light bulbs. Not only are these things better for the environment, but they affect a family's finances. One committee member added insulation to the attic – and the next month the budget amount decreased by \$20 – \$240 for the year. Another family installed a new electric furnace and heat pump – and decreased their electrical bill by \$80 to \$100 per month during the winter months.

If you are considering new appliances, be sure to look for the Energy Star ratings for increased efficiency and lower monthly costs.

If you are interested in figuring your carbon footprint, start collecting the data listed above. The committee will plan for a time to input the numbers and give you your personal (household) carbon footprint.

The Green Team is open to additional members and encourages everyone to participate in "green activities" in their own households – a way we can all participate in the stewardship and protection of the environment.

FRIEDE to Attend Magpie Concert

The FRIEDE small group will attend the 7 p.m. Saturday, December 12 concert of the Magpie Consort at St. John's Episcopal Church (700 High St., Worthington), starting with dinner at 5 p.m. at La Chatelaine (627 High St.). Redeemer member **Heidi Scherer** sings with the group.

Those wishing to attend should RSVP to **Shirley Meyer** at 231-8850.

November Council Update

Budget (through October)

Year-to-date income (budget) – \$214,564 (77% of budget)

Year-to-date expenses – \$217,809

Surplus or (Deficit) – (\$5,056)

* **Pastor Al** told council that long-time church secretary **Dolores Brannigan** will be retiring at the end of the year.

* **Pastor Al** said that he is contacting a number of members who have not been involved in the ministry and mission of Redeemer for some time.

* Council agreed to recommend to the congregation that the Mission Endowment Fund interest be used by Redeemer for community programming in 2010.

* Attendance was down in October – for an average of 138/Sunday (40 at 8:30 a.m. service and 98 at late service).

* A Nominating Committee of **Gage Gosnell, Julie Johnson** and **Margie Farnham** will be recruiting council nominees.

* Council continued the discussion of the hiring of a nursery attendant, asking the Worship and Parish Ed committees to come to a common understanding of what is needed.

* **Paul Voytas** of Redeemer's "Green Team" described a number of green initiatives the church is ... and could undertake. The council recommended that funding for an energy audit be included in the 2010 budget.

* There appear to be some glitches in having a tutoring program at the church. **Pastor Al** continues to investigate.

* **Carol Heacock** is no longer Redeemer's liaison with BREAD.

* Many blankets were donated by Redeemer and other congregations for the Good Neighbor Picnic. Five RLC members volunteered at the event.

* Research has been done on disposable products for use during Redeemer events. Discussion continues about what to use.

* Alternative gift ideas will be offered the congregation for the holiday season.

* **Kelley Scott** and **Trina Thorton** will co-direct the 2010 Vacation Bible School. It has been set for June 27-July 1.

* Confirmation class member this year include **Sarah Binau, Dayrel Billingsley, Jasmin McFarland** and **Daniel Pawlowski**.

* A total of 31 people participated in the Luther League-sponsored Halloween party for RCL youth: 12 children, 12 adults and seven high school students.

Personals *cont'd from p. 2*

Membership Directory Update

Lois Monett has transferred her membership to St. Luke Lutheran Church in Cuyahoga Falls, her daughter's church.

Michael Powell has a new address and email: 2188 E. Main St., Apt. B, Columbus, OH 43209; mapowell82@gmail.com.