



# 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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December 7, 2009

### *There Are So Many Ways to Be a Gift*

#### 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 Reinhoel

Secretary - Ashley Bird

Member - Helen Brunston

Member - William McCulley

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Michele Disbro

#### MIC STUDENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> year - Jared Witt

1<sup>st</sup> year - Joe Brosious

Most of what follows is from Redeemer's Advent flyer that went out to approximately 5,400 homes:

*In a tight economy or a booming one, the greatest gift we can give to another person is to offer a part of our lives. That doesn't take cash or the newest brand of this or that. How many people have you seen with nice new "toys" (children and adults) and yet they seem lost or forgotten or they act as though they have no purpose or direction. **Be a gift.***

*Think about a good parent who is there for children ... in and through all things. Like a mother who can brighten a child's day with a smile or a father who stops and listens - again. **Be a gift.***

*Think about what it means to children or teenagers to be greeted and have their name spoken - as though they count ... as though they are somebody ... as though they are seen and heard and worthy of your attention. **Be a gift.***

*Think about what it is to be a trusted neighbor who will lend a helping hand or provide added security or how the simple task of taking care of your home or rental property really becomes a financial gift to a whole neighborhood. **Be a gift.***

***Be a gift and be surprised by what a gift it is to you to be someone with a life that is freely offered to others. The day is full of opportunities to be a gift - great or small. Rather than wonder who deserves to receive a gift from you - simply go ahead and **Be a gift!*****

It is the beginning of the new church year and soon it will be the end of the calendar year ... and the start of 2010. What I am caught up with this year is the very basic needs of so many people. At the beginning and ending of days, there are people who need other people to help make it to another day and through another year. Once again, I want you to know the important role the Good Samaritan Fund plays in providing help to Redeemer members in need and then to help people in the community. It is my priority to help people in the congregation because I really know their needs. Strangers can be more difficult to read - and so I find it more difficult to know real needs - but I still help when I can. Passing on your gifts to members in need enables what could be an awkward situation - to be nothing but grace. Yes, we do have needs among us. If you are able, consider a gift to the Good Samaritan Fund - the need is already there and we need only release the gifts to meet those needs. If you hear of need within the congregation, let me know - the Good Samaritan Fund may be able to offer help for now.

Christ's Peace! pastoral

## GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### LESSONS

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

8:30 AM Holy Communion & Rite of Healing (Setting 6)

11:00 AM Holy Communion & Rite of Healing (Setting 6)

### INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of Bethel Lutheran Church in Grove City.

+ For Redeemer members Ken and Grace Jones.

+ *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 Kunce, Evelyn Fitch, Estella Kuemmel, Theresa Frazier, Vernon Schleppe, and Redeemer visitors.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Michelle Clemence	David Curtis
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jill Disbro	Colin Young
<b>Reader</b>	Jill Disbro	Sabine Lamar
<b>Cantor</b>	Katie Kent Smith	Jennifer Young
<b>Healing Team Prayers</b>	Katie Kent Smith	Carol Heacock
	TBA	TBA
<b>Healing Team Assistants</b>	Michelle Clemence	Donna Schmidt
	TBA	Thea Barbour-Harms
<b>Coordinator</b>	Kathy Zwanziger	Dave Reinoehl
<b>Ushers</b>	Earl Bradley	Thelma Johnson
	Kurt Goshen	Heidi Sherer
<b>Welcoming Team</b>	Jon Disbro	Mary Lapham
	Sandra Keaton	Marilyn Roberts
<b>Hospitality</b>	Kurt & William Goshen	Julie Johnson
<b>Nursery</b>	Jessica Fisher	Kristen Yanchak
	Becky Fisher (9:45)	
<b>Communion Set-up</b>	Michele Disbro, Linda Williams, Wendy Stoica	

### RESPONSE TO VISITORS

<b>Baked Goods Baker</b>	Linda Williams
<b>Baked Goods Deliverer</b>	Mary Benis
<b>Note-writer</b>	Leslie Roy
<b>Food Pantry Delivery</b>	Barb Connors

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christmas Play: *"Matt & Lucy's Version Births"*  
Redeemer Sunday School

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

DECEMBER 9-15

### Wednesday

- 11:30 AM Central Ohio Conference  
7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Room 2  
7:00 PM Advent Desserts  
7:30 PM Advent Worship  
8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

### Thursday

- 7:30 PM Church Council

### Friday

### Saturday

- 9 AM-3 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists  
10:00 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal  
10-11:30 AM Confirmation Class  
5:30-7:30 PM FRIEDE Dinner & "Magpie Consort"

### Sunday

- 8:30 AM Holy Communion & Rite of Healing  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
9:45 AM Christmas Program  
11:00 AM Holy Communion  
12:15 PM Church-in-Society Committee  
1:00 PM World Café – *La Chatelaine*

### Monday

- 3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons  
6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Room 3  
6:30 PM Juniors – Room 4

### Tuesday

- 8:00 AM ROMEO – *Abner's on Brice Road*  
5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 4  
6:15 PM Chimes Choir  
7:00 PM Sister Act  
7:00 PM Coffee & Theology – *Cup O' Joe's, Bexley*  
7:30 PM Senior Choir

## PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Congratulations to the **Misato In-Brad Phillips** Family on the birth of **Hitoshi David!**

+++

Prayers are asked for **Barbara Connors** who will have surgery later this month and for **Ruth Murray** and **Donna Voelkel** on the death of Ruth's brother-in-law.

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### Membership Directory Update

**Donna Schmidt** has a new address, phone and email: 2513 Woodstock Rd., Columbus, OH 43221; (614) 457-1034; [dschmidthaus@gmail.com](mailto:dschmidthaus@gmail.com).

## REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

### Youth Christmas Program Dec. 13

Redeemer's youth will be performing this year's Christmas program on Sunday, December 13, at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. **Director Julie Larson** writes, "The kids have been working hard on their lines and songs for *Matt & Lucy's Version Births*, so we hope that you'll come and enjoy the show. It's also fun to see some new little faces up front each year!"

There will be one last rehearsal on Saturday, December 12 at 10 a.m.

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

### Mid-Week Advent Worship

Redeemer's midweek Advent worship service continues on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. However, the evening begins with "Advent Desserts" at 7 p.m. in the Narthex. This year, has invited Christ United Methodist Church to join us. The service will use the very popular "Holden Evening Prayer."

If you are willing to provide a dozen cookies or the equivalent to share for Advent Desserts for one of the two remaining Wednesday evening services, please sign up on the sign up sheet located on the kiosk. There will be no midweek service on Wednesday, December 23.

### Christmas Eve Worship Schedule Change

**7 p.m. Lessons and Carols**

**11 p.m. Holy Communion**

The Worship Committee was asked to reconsider the time of worship that is held during the week. This involves worship in Advent and Lent and it involves worship for Christmas Eve. As part of that consideration, we learned that our usual time of worship (7:30 p.m.) made it next to impossible for families to attend. Therefore, with Christmas Eve soon to be at hand, we thought it made the most sense to move our first Candlelight liturgy to 7 p.m.

### An Encouragement Gift

A Redeemer household is planning to give a gift of \$2,000 above their pledge for 2009 in order to encourage giving from people who call Redeemer home. The hope is to (1) stimulate giving beyond commitments for 2009; (2) stimulate new giving; (3) encourage visitor giving.

As Redeemer comes closer to the end of the year, there are several items that will need attention in the 2009 budget (ex: our commitment to Trinity Lutheran Seminary to support the last year of **Michael Powell**, plus RLC's BREAD commitment).

If you are "encouraged" to step into this adventure of giving, please make a note on either your check or the envelope in which you put your donation. The end of the year is often a time that brings our responsibilities for the year to an end and gives us a bit of a boost as we enter the next year.

### Advent Open House at Al and Karen's

**Pastor Al and Karen** would like to open up their home for an Advent Open House on the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, 2 – 5 p.m. Yes, it is open to y'all (members and friends). If

you think you might attend, sign-up in the Narthex to give Pastor Al and Karen some kind of estimate of people who will be dropping by the house.

### Pick Up Cookie Dough, Popcorn, Cake

The cookie dough, popcorn, and cakes ordered from Lutherans Concerned will be available at Redeemer after either worship service on Sunday, December 13. This is the last Sunday for pickup.

If you're unable to be at church either of those times, please contact the LC representative who took your order and arrange for pick-up or delivery.

And once again, a big thank-you for your always-gracious support of a really good cause.

### Brosious on Brosious

**Joe Brosious**, Redeemer's new first year Ministry in Context (MIC) student provided the following introduction:

Joe and his wife **Lynn** came to Redeemer by way of Sacramento, CA. Joe is a first year student at Trinity Lutheran and Lynn will be starting her master's in education program in the fall of 2010. Lynn and Joe met while living in Germany and were married in 2001. Joe is a third career seminarian who spent 10 years as an Air Force pilot before separating to start a real estate development company that built green, affordable housing projects in extremely low-income neighborhoods throughout the Gulf Coast areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Lynn is a former elementary school teacher and graduate of Miami University here in Ohio. She also has a background in real estate. They have two sons, **Mason** who will be three in January 2010, and **Connor** who was born in June 2009.

"We are looking forward to getting involved in the life of Redeemer and getting to know everyone who has made us feel so welcome."

### Sharing the Warmth

So far, Redeemer members have contributed over 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.

### Vision Team Looks at Mission Trips

Join the conversation on Tuesday, December 8 at 7 p.m. to discuss one of the areas of service that came up through the "Day of Vision" last year – mission trips. A lot of possibilities exist!

A few people have already shown interest in this area and this is our first gathering. If you would like to hear more about it, please join us. This can be an exciting way of serving and connecting with others beyond the Columbus area. Questions about this "team" should be directed to **Kelley Scott** at [kelleynotez@yahoo.com](mailto:kelleynotez@yahoo.com) or by home phone at 740-756-4817.

### RLC Serves at Faith Mission Dec. 27

Redeemer will be serving at Faith Mission on Sunday, December 27 and is seeking donations of food, cash and time to help with the event. See the sheet on the kiosk to volunteer to assist with the meal.

A big thank you goes out to **David Curtis**, who ends his coordinating of Redeemer's involvement with serving Faith Mission meals with this dinner!

Anyone interested in picking up this volunteer activity should contact **Pastor Al**.

## **Council Members for 2010-11 Elected**

The following candidates for two-year terms on Church Council were elected by acclamation:

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

There was no candidate for the Stewardship slot, which remains vacant.

## **Alternative Christmas Gift Ideas**

Ever wondered what to get the person who seems to have everything already? Or the grandchild who really doesn't need another toy? The Church in Society Committee suggests considering alternative Christmas gifts this year. By choosing from this list, you could save a great deal of time, energy, gasoline, the frustration of standing in long lines—and help a “neighbor” who really needs some assistance in obtaining some of the basics of life.

- **God's Global Barnyard:** You can choose to give chickens, a goat, a pig – or any of several other options to someone in the world who could use the gift to sustain their own family and help others. Catalogs will be available in the Fellowship Area or go to:

<http://community.elca.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=469>

- **Mosquito Net:** To provide protection from disease for a family in a malaria-prone area. For a special occasion (e.g., a 50<sup>th</sup> birthday), challenge your friends to provide 50 nets.

<https://community.elca.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=475&nccsm=21&nccspID=997>

- **Faith Mission:** For a donation of \$39 you can feed and care for 19 people at Faith Mission. Hope begins with a meal and if you can pledge to give \$39 each month for two months, you could help change the lives of 38 hungry people

<http://www.faithmissionofohio.org/radiothon.php>

- **Lutheran Volunteer Corps:** LVC changes lives every day, made possible by a dedicated, grassroots group of donors, alumni, congregations, and friends of LVC. Join with your time, talent, treasure, and prayers provided to help build a world focused on intentional community, social justice, simple and sustainable living.

<http://www.lutheranvolunteer corps.org/>

- **Heifer International:** Similar to God's Global Barnyard, a variety of items can be given to someone in need, such as a llama, a water buffalo, trees, a gift basket to begin a small business.

<http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.204586/?msource=kw2795>

- **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio:** Consider a camper sponsorship for youth to attend a summer camp.

<http://www.lomocamps.org/support/giving>

- **Habitat for Humanity:** Help build a decent, affordable home by donating money for windows, faucets, a light switch, tools, a room, or other construction materials.

<http://www.habitatgiftcatalog.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about>

- **International Rescue Committee (IRC):** Dedicated to emergency response efforts in crisis situations around the world, gifts such as blankets, food rations, and carpentry tool kits may be sent to areas around the world.

[http://www.fromharmtohome.org/?ms=em\\_fh2h\\_xxx\\_MAIN\\_bc\\_0919xx](http://www.fromharmtohome.org/?ms=em_fh2h_xxx_MAIN_bc_0919xx)

## **FRIEDE to Attend Magpie Consort**

The FRIEDE small group will attend the 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 12 concert of the Magpie Consort at St. John's Episcopal Church (700 High St., Worthington), starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. at La Chatelaine (627 High St.). Redeemer member **Heidi Sherer** sings with the group.

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

## **World Café Tours la Belle France**

The December outing of World Café will be to La Chatelaine French Bakery & Bistro, 1550 W. Lane Ave., on Sunday, December 13 at 1:00 pm. Please let **Ashley** or **Judy Bird** know (239-9380 or [jambird@aol.com](mailto:jambird@aol.com)) by Wednesday, December 9 that you will be participating so that we can make reservations to ensure enough seating for all.

## **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](mailto: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 [Ireinoeh@insight.rr.com](mailto:Ireinoeh@insight.rr.com).

## Sign Up Now to Read Lessons

There are sign-up sheets on the kiosk for readers for the 7 p.m. **Christmas Eve service** and for the two Sunday worship services for now through Sunday, February 14.

**One slot for Christmas Eve and a number for both services remain open.** Anyone is welcome to sign up including both youth and adults. Youth are particularly encouraged to read on Christmas Eve.

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.

## Movie Night

Please note: The Movie Night small group will not be meeting in December because of holiday schedules and conflicts. It will return in January.

## Member Profile

**Eric Vivens** is 16 years old and in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, but he's a first-year student at Bexley High School this year. Previously, he'd been attending The Charles School, a charter school on the east side. He likes math and science especially and would like to pursue business and game design in college.

Eric lives with his mom and two cats during the week and stays with his dad on the weekends. He's enjoying being an only child now that his two older sisters are away at college.

In his free time Eric likes to sleep, play computer games, sleep, listen to music, sleep, and play soccer. Several years ago he had a successful kidney transplant and is now happy to be cleared for all normal activities except heavy contact sports.

Eric has been at Redeemer most of his life. He likes the relaxed atmosphere and is looking forward to the youth group's reorganization.

## The Wider Church

### Thrivent Builds Holds Holiday Event

Thrivent Builds will hold a Holiday Celebration on Sunday, December 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Habitat for Humanity Greater Columbus, 3140 Westerville Rd.

The program includes a dessert buffet and a short program with displays showcasing the accomplishments of Thrivent Builds Homes and Thrivent Builds Worldwide.

RSVP's are appreciated to 396-4130.

### Service Opportunity at Jacob's Porch

Redeemer received the following from the folks at Jacob's Porch – the Lutheran campus ministry at Ohio State University:

“We would like to extend an invitation to all of your churches to use your hands and feet and serve some hungry college students here at Jacob's Porch. Our Sunday service begins with a meal (pot luck, spaghetti, pizza, chilli are some examples that we've had so far this year). Thus far this year we have had a good number of churches provide these meals for our students.

“This is an AWESOME ministry that keeps our students aware that the body of Christ is much bigger than just us! When other youth groups, small groups, or individuals from neighboring churches come to bring us our meal we realize that the body of Christ is enormous and entirely humbling to be a part of.

“We have a wide variety of dates available for churches to plug in! Your church can either provide a meal OR donate supplies/money and our students to prepare the meal for one another. Our Sunday services are at 7 p.m. and we eat first.

“Dates we have open are: January 10, 17, 24 and 31; February 7, 21 and 28; March 21 and 28; April 4 (Easter), 11 and 25; and May 2, 9, 23 and 30.

“If you have questions, please email me at [beckyrobbins@gmail.com](mailto:beckyrobbins@gmail.com) or call Jacob's Porch at (614) 291-9317.”

## The Community Beyond

### Magpie Consort Schedules Concerts

The Magpie Consort ([www.magpieconsort.org](http://www.magpieconsort.org)) presents three performances of its holiday program, 'With Sweet Rejoicing', in Columbus, in December. The program of seasonal music which is performed by the 20 singers including Redeemer's **Heidi Sherer**, includes traditional carols from Latvia and the British Isles, Estonian lullabies by Veljo Tormis, renaissance gems by Monteverdi, Praetorius, and Dufay, Morton Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium," and more.

Admission to all concerts is free, with a suggested donation of \$10.

Performances are set as follows: Friday, December 11 at 8 p.m. at St James' Episcopal Church, 3400 Calumet St., Clintonville; Saturday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m. at St John's Episcopal Church, 700 High St., Worthington; and Sunday, December 13, at 6 p.m. at St Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus.

The December 12 concert includes a reception with mulled wine and refreshments while the December 13 concert collection will benefit Faith Mission.

The Magpie Consort's new CD *Celtic Voyages*, 22 songs from Scotland, Ireland, Wales and Appalachia, is available at the concerts. It can also be ordered online at [www.magpieconsort.org](http://www.magpieconsort.org) for a suggested donation of \$20.