



# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

An adventure for *life!*

## Reflections

(614) 237-1263

VOL. 13, ISSUE 50

December 14, 2009

### *Uniquely Gifted*

#### 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

*"Joy, radiant joy, streams from the face of one who gives and kindles joy in the heart  
of one who receives." - St. Seraphim of Sarov*

Be a gift. That's the message that was included in Redeemer's recent Advent flyer to our neighbors. So I wonder ... how am I being a gift to others when they are in need? How are others being a gift to me when I am in need? Hmmmm ....

I think we often overlook the God-given gifts that make each of us unique: spiritual gifts and the gift of personality that we share with others and receive from others every day (and might not even know it!). One of the foundational blocks of lay ministry or equipping ministry is the discovery of gifts, needs, and God's calling. In the coming months, each person at Redeemer will have a chance to participate in this discovery process. Over the next couple of weeks, though, we will specifically take a look at various spiritual gifts, those special abilities and passions received through our baptism. Which are your gifts? How is God calling you to use your gifts? (It's ok if you don't know or haven't really thought about it - that's part of the discovery process!)

Peace, Kelley

**Administration:** the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23.

**Discernment:** the gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations. Biblical References: John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

**Exhortation:** the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict or facing a spiritual void. Biblical References: John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8.

**Giving:** the gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). Biblical References: II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4.

**Knowledge:** the gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:8; I Corinthians 14:6, Romans 12:2.

**Service (Helps):** the gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. Biblical References: Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23.

*(To be continued next week)*

## GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### LESSONS

Micah 5:2-5a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, 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 2)

11:00 AM Holy Communion (Setting 2)

### INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of Christ Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer member Kris Kauffman and her sons, Khai and Kenny.

+ *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>	Michele Disbro	John Caron
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jasmin McFarland	Dayson Billingsley
<b>Reader</b>	Jeff Jenkins	William McCulley
<b>Cantor</b>	Heidi Sherer	Julie Larson
<b>Coordinator</b>	Kathy Zwanziger	Dave Reinoehl
<b>Ushers</b>	Neil Hoddinott Jon Disbro	Tom Mimplitch Marilyn Roberts
<b>Welcoming Team</b>	Merlin Hoops Nancy Steiner	Jan Bouman Jacquie Bussie
<b>Hospitality</b>	Nancy Steiner	Tony Naess Kathy Denhard
<b>Nursery</b>	Michele Disbro Eileen Day (9:45)	Seth and Thea Harms

**Communion Set-up** 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

*Debunking the Rapture - Pastor Al*

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

DECEMBER 16-22

### **Wednesday**

- 7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Room 2
- 7:00 PM Bridge - Redeemer
- 7:00 PM Advent Desserts
- 7:30 PM Advent Worship
- 8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

### **Thursday**

- 7:30 PM SPMHOTN – Barley's Brew Pub

### **Friday**

### **Saturday**

- 9 AM-3 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists
- 9:30-11 AM GSA Cookie Training

### **Sunday**

- 8:30 AM Holy Communion
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Holy Communion
- 12:15 PM Worship Committee
- 12:30 PM Interesting Journey – State Auto Christmas Exhibit
- 2-5 PM Advent Open House – Pastor's Home

### **Monday**

- 3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons
- 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
- 7:15 PM Mutual Ministry Committee
- 7:30 PM Senior Choir

## PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for **Theresa Frazier** who is hospitalized at Riverside and for **Heidi Sherer's** mother **Kathe** who had major surgery on Monday.

## REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

### Dolores Brannigan to Retire

Dolores Brannigan, Redeemer's church secretary for the past 20+ years, is retiring at year's end.

To honor her years of service, Redeemer is collecting contributions. But this is all "hush hush" so if you want to contribute please use one of the small brown envelopes on the table in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate. If you need to mail the contribution, make the check out to Redeemer but address the envelope directly to Pastor Al.

If you talk with Dolores, please do NOT mention this effort.

### Church Secretary Position Open

Pastor Al is currently gathering the names of anyone who might be interested in applying for the church secretary position following the retirement of Redeemer's long-time secretary Dolores Brannigan at the end of the year.

The hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. It will pay \$12 per hour.

Please see Pastor Al if you are interested.

### Mid-Week Advent Worship

Redeemer's midweek Advent worship service concludes this week on Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. The evening, however, actually begins with "Advent Desserts" at 7 p.m. in the Narthex. The service being used is the very popular "Holden Evening Prayer."

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**

Worship Committee has changed the time of Redeemer's first Candlelight Christmas Eve liturgy from 7:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. to respond to requests from some families who have said the later time makes it impossible for them to attend.

This time change will also apply to midweek worship in Lent.

### 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 will 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.

### 2010 Flower Chart

The chart for altar flowers for 2010 is on the kiosk. The cost per vase remains at \$20. Please put a checkmark next to your name when you sign up to indicate you intend to take your flowers with you after the services otherwise the flowers will either be taken to one of Redeemer's shut-ins or used in the Narthex.

### 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**.

Items still needed for the dinner include the following:

- \* 2 4-5 lb pre-sliced hams
- \* 16 14.5 oz. cans of chicken broth
- \* 15 10 oz. cans of chicken
- \* 12 cans of cut green beans
- \* 8 doz. fresh rolls
- \* 6 doz. cookies/brownies

### 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 Reinhoehl** at (614) 236-5687 or [lreinhoeh@insight.rr.com](mailto:lreinhoeh@insight.rr.com).

## Congratulations to Christmas Play Cast!!

The Sunday School Christmas Program, *Matt & Lucy's Version Births*, which was held Sunday, December 13 in the Sanctuary, was a great success and great fun to watch!! Congratulations and thank you to Director **Julie Larson** and her helpers **Pastor Al, Ely Kleszczelski, Michele Disbro** and **Krista Pawlowski** and all the supportive parents and children who participated: **Jill Disbro, Maddie Gosnell, Noah Gosnell, Bryce Harms, Jackson Harms, Anna Halldorsdottir, Tomas Halldorsson, Kolya Larson, Emma Martin, Corine Montgomery, Grace Montgomery, Daniel Pawlowski, Ty Pawlowski, Meredith Yanchak** and **Colin Young**.

## 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 the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service 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.

## 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)

## Member Profile

**LaShawn Williams** recently interviewed **Catherine (Cathy) McFarland:** “In typical teenage fashion, she was conveniently on the phone when I called. Catherine has a glowing personality that radiated through the phone. Catherine is a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at the Arts & College Preparatory Academy. When she is not talking on the phone she enjoys reading in her pastime.

“Catherine was born in Illinois and has five delightful siblings, four sisters and one brother. She also has a dog named Sabrina. She attends the first service. Catherine says what she likes most about being a member at Redeemer is Pastor Al's humorous personality and attending Vacation Bible School.”

## The Wider Church

### 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 our 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.”