



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

An adventure for *life!*

Reflections

(614) 237-1263

VOL. 14, ISSUE 9

March 1, 2010

Come to Worship!

OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here
in the name of Jesus
Pastor - F. Allan Debelak
Secretary - Kurt Goshen
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 - Gage Gosnell
Vice Pres. - Steve Winner
Treasurer - Eileen Day
Financial Secretary - Bruce
Collins
Secretary - Kay Ernsthausen

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPS.

Church in Society - Kathy
Denhard
Evangelism - Jon Disbro
Fellowship - Donna Schmidt
Finance - Brad Phillips
Member Care - Carol Heacock
Parish Ed - Heidi Stover
Property - Maureen Callahan
Stewardship - John Kennedy
Worship - Michelle Clemence
Youth - Jennifer Young

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Chairman - Robin Stokes
Treasurer - David Reinoehl
Secretary - Ashley Bird
Member - Helen Brunston
Member - William McCulley

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Michele Disbro

MIC STUDENTS

2nd year - Jared Witt
1st year - Joe Brosious

Come to worship! During the last meeting of the Evangelism Committee, we were taking note of the pattern of worship attendance over the past year. For some folks it appeared as though our summer worship attendance was down a bit. For others, there was the thought that worship attendance was down during the rest of year also. Well, I did a little checking. I went back over our worship attendance records for 2006-2009. On a graph, they all have a similar shape. The ups and downs mimic each other from year to year. And yet, on that graph, it is quite noticeable that 2009 was a low year for worship attendance - low throughout the year.

Observations like this don't disturb me too much because I have seen this kind of movement over the years. Then again, it is one of the first times since I have been at Redeemer that our average worship attendance has fallen below 50 percent of our baptized membership. Even though the average worship attendance for a congregation is about 25 -33 percent of baptized membership, I have always thought those low figures showed that churches too often settle for a membership list that does not reflect the true activity of the congregation. When we have a large percentage of our people coming to worship on a regular basis, I think it is easier for everyone to know what is going on among us and how people can become involved in areas that stretch them or fit them.

I am convinced that regular attendance at worship helps all of us remember whose we are. We can look around the room and see that there are others who find the tie to a community of faith as something that can and does shape life. It is my hope that as we worship, there are many opportunities in the liturgy to be shaped. It may be a hymn or a lesson that is read or the words of a 'regular' part of the liturgy. We are also shaped by the action in the room. When people turn to the cross as it moves through the congregation, this is not merely some nice liturgical movement. Rather it is the beginning of how we see the day taking shape. We are people who are called to follow the way of the cross. It is like an exercise that makes that following more and more natural to us. I would even say that we are shaped by those sitting around us and those who are missing from time to time. Seeing others pulls us out of ourselves and reminds us how central worship is to more than each of us individually. I am also profoundly nurtured by the presence of children in worship. It is in seeing them that I become hope-full and joy-filled.

There are many reasons some people cannot come to worship. Most often that is because of illness or disability or, like this winter, weather. For the rest of us, there is the reminder that we cannot shape ourselves as followers of Jesus. It does take a community and a community involved in worshipping the One who delivers, sustains, heals, and pulls us into a life beyond what we can create for ourselves. The spirit at worship - low numbers or higher numbers - is always a blessing that has power to ignite new life and lift us beyond circumstances that can so readily drag us down.

Come to worship!

Christ's Peace! pastoral

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

LESSONS

Isaiah 55:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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 (Setting 2)

11:00 AM Holy Communion (Setting 2)

INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of Grace Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer member Mary Lapham.

+ *Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns:* Pearl Aggas, Doris Bell, Jan Bouman, Rose Varga, Doretha Holland, Georgia Wegmeyer, Barb Atkinson, Betty Hoops, Bebe McCoy, Ellen Kunce, Evelyn Fitch, Theresa Frazier, Bob Frazier, Vernon Schleppe, Grace Jones, Kathie Ehrich, Robin Stokes and Redeemer visitors.

WORSHIP LEADERS

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
Assisting Minister	Michele Disbro	Joe Brosious, MIC
Acolyte	Catt McFarland	Colin Young
Reader	Sabine Lamar	TBA
Cantor	Linda Williams	Julie Larson
Coordinator	Kathy Zwanziger	Dave Reinoehl
Ushers	Ed Klopfer Dick Kautz	Thea Barbour-Harms Seth Harms
Welcoming Team	Linda Williams Jon Disbro	Kathie McCleaf Mary Benis
Hospitality	Michelle Clemence	John Caron & Chad Eberle
Nursery	Renee & Caty McFarland Julie Larson (9:45)	Brad Phillips & Misato In
Communion Set-up	Linda Williams & Wendy Stoica	

RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Kirsten Johanson
Baked Goods Deliverer	Mary Benis
Note-writer	Kathie Ehrich
Food Pantry Delivery	Barb Connors

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Creative Transformation –
Pastor Al

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

MARCH 3 - 9

Wednesday

- 5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 4
- 6:00 PM Soup Supper
- 7:00 PM Worship
- 7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Room 2
- 8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

Thursday

- 7:00 PM Bridge – Bouman's

Friday

- 7:00 PM Sister Act

Saturday

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

Sunday

- 8:30 AM Holy Communion
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Holy Communion
- 12:15 PM Parish Ed

Monday

- 3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons – Room 9
- 5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 5
- 6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Room 3
- 6:00 PM Daisy's – Room 4
- 6:30 PM Juniors – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Member Care

Tuesday

- 1:00 PM Bible Study
- 6:15 PM Chimes Choir
- 7:30 PM Senior Choir

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for the families of Redeemer members **Darlene Vance** whose husband **Harold** is in Grant Hospital and for **Paul Voytas** whose father is in the late stages of Alzheimer's and other family members who are also facing multiple physical issues.

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Thanks to **Ed and Carolyn Klopfer, John and Nancy Steiner** and **Bernice Stewart** for working at the food pantry on February 18. Your efforts are very much appreciated in this important ministry!

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Membership Directory Updates

Kristen Meckley's address has changed. It is now 3124 Fabyan Dr., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-9778. Please update your directory.

Bonnie Hegreiness has a new email address: bonniehegreiness@att.net

REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

RLC Seeks Nursery Attendant

Church Council approved the hiring of a nursery attendant at its February meeting. This position, funded in the 2010 budget passed by the congregation at the January annual meeting, is for every Sunday morning, Christmas Eve, and during the Annual Meeting. Other times may be added as needed. The nursery attendant should have knowledge and experience with infants and children through age 5.

If interested in this position and desire a job description, please submit a resume and direct any questions to **Pastor Al** by Sunday, March 14.

Time to Order Easter Flowers

Snow or no snow, it is time to order Easter flowers! Lilies and pink, yellow or red tulips may be ordered using the envelopes in the Narthex.

The price is \$7 per plant. Orders must be received by Sunday, March 7.

Offer A Blessing This Lent

During each time of worship on Sundays in the season of Lent Redeemer is offering a time of blessing. In preparation for the baptismal renewal on Easter morning, we will be reminded of how we are marked with the cross of Christ forever. This occurs each week following the hymn after the sermon. Four to six stations are set up around the sanctuary. At each station a person will be waiting to mark you with a cross that will encourage us all to be mindful of how all the parts of our lives are blessed as we follow Jesus in the world.

We need six volunteers who will serve as agents of blessing from these stations each week. You may volunteer for one week or two or all of them. There will be a simple one line blessing each week that you will say to those who come to your station. In addition to the verbal blessing, you will trace the cross on or over representative parts of our lives: eyes, ears, feet, hands, shoulders, and heart.

To serve as one of the people offering blessings, you may sign up at the kiosk.

Sunday, March 7 the blessing is of our eyes "that we may see the light of Christ illuminating our way." Last Sunday, it was of our ears "that we may hear the gospel of Christ."

Readers Needed for Holy Week

Readers are needed for both services on Palm/Passion Sunday on March 28 and for Good Friday, April 2. The Good Friday reading duties will be shared with volunteers from Christ United Methodist Church, who are joining Redeemer for the 7 p.m. Good Friday service.

Sign up sheets for both are on the kiosk in the Narthex as are the readings.

Youth are invited to participate as well as adults.

Readers Needed for Sunday Services

Volunteers to read for the Sunday worship services are needed for now through Sunday, May 23.

A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk. 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.

RLC Collects Coupons for Military Families

Redeemer continues to collect unexpired coupons **with bar codes** to send to military families. Please save any unused ones and deposit them in the marked box in Redeemer's Narthex.

John Steiner, who is heading up the effort, stressed how much this can mean for military families who have a difficult time making ends meet. Coupons are often inserted in the Sunday paper and can also be found in various magazines.

RLC Collects Box Tops for Education

Redeemer also continues to collect "Box Tops for Education" which can be found on a variety of products. These will be contributed to Berwick School.

Sister Act to Meet March 5

Sister Act will meet next on Friday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall downstairs at Redeemer. This month, the group will focus on prayer, different ways of praying, and useful prayer aids/tools as they join with others all over the globe in the World Day of Prayer and the call of Psalm 150 to "let everything that has breath praise God!"

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! If you have any questions, contact **Kelley Scott** at kelleynotez@yahoo.com or by home phone at (740) 756-4817.

World Café Visits Korea

The March outing of World Café will be to Min-Ga Korean Restaurant, 800 Bethel Rd., on Sunday, March 14 at 1 p.m. Please let **Ashley** or **Judy Bird** know (239-9380 or jambird@aol.com) by Wednesday, March 10 whether you will be participating so that we can make reservations to ensure enough seating for all. Folks can either meet the group at the restaurant or carpool from church at 12:30 p.m.

The World Café small group eats once a month at a different ethnic restaurant after the late service. New participants are always welcome to join!!

FRIEDE is Cooking!!

Join FRIEDE (Females of Redeemer Involved in Eating, Discussion and Entertainment) for the annual cooking dinner on Sunday, March 14, 5-8 p.m. at **Kathy Zwanziger's** (1489 Wilmore Dr). We'll have fun making new recipes! The menu is a secret until the evening of the dinner, but participants will be asked to bring specific ingredients to contribute. Please sign-up on the kiosk in the Narthex. Call **Michelle Clemence** (614-266-2311) or **Kay Ernsthansen** (614-291-8655) with questions.

Funeral/Memorial Guide Available

The small group on planning a Christian funeral or memorial service, which met from October to January, has made available a form to be used as a guide. This form is available by calling Kurt in the church office at 237-1263, or from **Pastor Al**, **Ruth Murray** or **Karen Collins**.

Copies of the completed form can then be filed in the church office where they will be available to the pastor. Copies should also be given to family members.

LOMO Information Now Available

Information from Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio (LOMO) about its summer programs at its four Ohio camps is now available. Flyers with the summer schedule can be picked up in the Narthex while more detailed information can be found online at www.lomocamps.org.

This year, LOMO is offering a reduced fee (\$50) for those registering online. In addition, Redeemer offers scholarships towards the camp fees: \$50 for a full week and \$25 for a half week. To participate, please contact the church office by March 31 to let Kurt know what week your child will attend which camp so Redeemer can issue the check.

Please provide a copy of either the registration form or the confirmation email from the online registration to the church secretary. Questions? Contact **Becky Fisher** at 321-6164 or **Michele Disbro** at 451-3642.

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.

Member Profile

"You know everybody and can get along with everybody." This reflects **Dayrel Billingsley's** feelings about Redeemer. One reason for this may be, as he reported, that he's been coming here since he was two or three. He's forgotten how he and his family found this place but remains a regular part of the church life here, filling duty as acolyte and taking part in the youth group.

He, his mother **Tomarra**, and brother **Dayson**, all attend 11 a.m. worship service, as did his sister **Jenesis** before she headed to college in Toledo. Their current household on the southeast side of Columbus also includes a bearded dragon called "Jayga".

A lifelong Columbus resident, Dayrel is now an eighth grader enrolled at Africentric Early College. His primary interest when he's not busy at school or church is sports. He was quick to mention football but also enjoys baseball.

When questioned about what else Dayrel thought people should know about him, he replied, "I want to go to Oregon for school and to stay there." He hopes to study sports medicine and/or zoology. In another 10 years, he imagined he might find himself helping injured football players, or discovering new animals.

The Wider Church

Concert Benefits Faith Mission

A concert featuring the Synchronicity Trio set for Sunday, March 14 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church (35 E. Stanton Ave., 43214) will benefit Faith Mission. The concert begins at 5 p.m. and will include classical and light classical music by Dvorak, Massenet, Francoeur, Handel/Halvorsen, Ravel, Kreisler, Denes Agay, John Williams and Scott Joplin.

The freewill donations will be matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. To maximize funds, folks are asked to make their checks payable to the West Franklin County Chapter of Thrivent and put Faith Mission in the memo line.

Christians in Dialogue with Jews

Trinity Lutheran Seminary is sponsoring a "covenantal conversation": *Christians in Dialogue with Jews and Judaism* on Tuesday, March 16 beginning at 7 p.m. The evening will feature **Rev. John Stendahal**, a contributor to the book on which the discussion is based, and **Rabbi Emily Rosenzweig** of Temple Israel here in Columbus.

The evening is another step in attempting to heal the rift between the faith traditions of Judaism and Christianity in the post-Holocaust era and to recognize and repudiate Christian sources of anti-Semitism.

There is a \$10/person registration fee if more than one from a church attends. See **Pastor Al** for additional information.

Lutherans in Chile Report Significant Earthquake Damage

Earthquake damage is said to be extensive in Santiago and Concepcion following the February 27 severe earthquake in central Chile, according to **Karen Anderson** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Global Mission staff in Santiago.

The February 27 earthquake measured 8.8 on the Richter scale. Reports of deaths continue to mount as do injuries and damages to homes and other structures.

"Many homes, especially in older parts of Santiago, were destroyed," she wrote. The international airport there suffered "major damage" and is closed, Anderson wrote.

"We are all still waiting to hear news from Concepcion. There is very little communication with people in Concepcion – the IELCH (Iglesia Evangelica Luterana en Chile or Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile) has congregations there," Anderson wrote. The IELCH is a member of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

Anderson also works with another ELCA-partner organization, Educacion Popular en Salud (Popular Education in Health Foundation or EPES), which promotes quality and fairness in health care for the poor, and works to establish and train community health groups.

She said most EPES staff is accounted for in Santiago. "EPES has a center in Concepcion. We have not been able to communicate with anyone on our staff in Concepcion -- led by **Dr. Lautaro Lopez** -- or any of the health promoters. We are hoping and praying they are okay. The damage reported on the news is devastating -- entire buildings collapsed, the old bridge completely collapsed, and so on. The images are very sad and frightening," Anderson wrote.

There was some structural damage to Lutheran church buildings in Santiago, Chile's capital, according to the **Rev. Martin Junge**, LWF general secretary-elect. Junge, a Chilean, reported that communication with congregations in Concepcion has been "extremely difficult," and it has not been possible to reach some Lutheran pastors in the area by telephone.

Financial contributions to support earthquake relief efforts in Chile can be made at <https://community.ELCA.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=537> on the ELCA website.