



# 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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April 19, 2010

### ***Be It Resolved: We Will Walk in the Reign of God***

#### 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 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

In preparation for our monthly Cluster meeting (ELCA pastors in the city of Columbus and SE Suburbs), I called the Southern Ohio Synod office to ask if there were any resolutions that would go before the Assembly in May. It was my thought that if there were resolutions, it is always good to have some discussion with colleagues about them before the Assembly. There was one resolution. Last week, I went and picked up a copy to share with my colleagues. As I opened the envelope, it looked like resolutions I helped to create in previous years. A list of statements punctuated with "Whereas" led the way to the inevitable "Be it resolved" and then a list names supporting the resolution. Though the look was similar in form, the character of the content was quite different in this resolution.

For years, I have tried to be one of many voices asking the ELCA - and the Southern Ohio Synod in particular - to open wide its doors to whole-heartedly welcome the diversity of the baptized saints into the full life of the church. Many years ago it took the form of arguing for the support of urban parishes that were being forgotten as the church ran with its love affair of suburban sprawl and the economics that went along with growth in those areas. For the past 20+ years, I have been moved to raise a voice gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) saints who have been denied full participation in our church. Their exclusion for years has been justified with the argument that their very life - who they are - is a sin that cannot be tolerated within the fullness of the ELCA.

Not having time to go into all the arguments of that thinking, I have always questioned how a person's "being" - who they are and who they have been - would prohibit them from the full life of the church. As I have said many times, I expect that all the baptized in Christ are on a journey of being nurtured in the way of Jesus. Since we are all saints/sinners, the church nurtures each one of us - constantly.

Therefore, it is important that the Reign of God that is displayed in all of our lives has some guidelines to which we point - the guidelines or disciplines or laws are not used to judge one as in or out, but rather to draw us ever closer to the character of God's Reign. We are pointed along the way of peace, acts of mercy, justice, forgiveness, and - one I like to say again and again - the law of love. I expect this kind of life for all of us in the church. When we fully invite all to come to share in this life, we are each held accountable to one another. This never means anything goes. It does mean all are welcome - without condition. It is in such a gracious embrace that we all are ruled by the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus.

However, the resolution I picked up the other day was asking the ELCA to rescind the actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly that opened wide the doors of inclusion in our denomination to all GLBT in the church. That 2009 body did so with as much of a majority vote as the Lutheran churches did when we voted to allow women to be ordained.

I have come to learn that we have a responsibility to the future to be people who are not afraid to change what we have been and become more and more a part of this wide open, witness of the Church of Jesus, Christ.

Christ's Peace! [pastoral](#)

## GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

### LESSONS

Acts 9:36-43; 1 Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is wellpleasing in your sight, 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 (Hymnal Supplement)

11:00 AM Holy Communion (Hymnal Supplement)

### INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of Messiah Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer members William McCulley.

+ *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, Vernon Schleppe, Kathie Ehrich, Robin Stokes Estella Kuemmel and Redeemer visitors.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
Assisting Minister	Jared Witt	Gage Gosnell
Acolyte	Jasmin McFarland	Dayrel Billingsley
Reader	Jeff Jenkins	Bob Eakin
Cantor	Linda Williams	
Coordinator	Kurt Goshen	Paul Atkinson
Ushers	Jack Miller	Heidi Sherer
	Becky Fisher	Thelma Johnson
Welcoming Team	Julija Volfa	Karen Wilson
	Merl Hoops	Mary Benis
Hospitality	Sue Baker	Tony Naess
	Cathy Oldham	Kathy Denhard
Nursery	Tammy McFarland	Krista Pawlowski
	Jennifer Young (9:45)	

Communion Set-up Michele Disbro & Tammy McFarland

### RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Shirley Meyer
Baked Goods Deliverer	Leslie Roy
Note-writer	Betty Hoops
Food Pantry Delivery	Cathy Oldham

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

*The Joseph Story – Part 5 –*

Ron Hals

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

APRIL 21-27

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

- 7:00 PM Berwyn West Civic Association  
7:30 PM Stewardship

### Friday

### 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  
12:15-4 PM Meckley Family Luncheon – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 PM Movie Night

### 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  
6:00 PM Fellowship Committee  
6:30 PM Juniors – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 PM Coffee & Theology – Cup O Joe's, Bexley  
7:00 PM Condo Association–Room 1

### Tuesday

- 8-11 AM The Residences @ Bexley Woods – Fellowship Hall  
1:00 PM Bible Study  
6:15 PM Chimes Choir  
7:30 PM Senior Choir

## PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Three Redeemer members have family members who are ill and in need of prayers. They include **Kay Ernsthausen**, **Katie McCleaf** and **Mary Lapham**. In addition, prayers are asked for **Jan Bouman** who had eye surgery last week but is now home.

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On Sunday, April 25, **Adelyn Kathleen Meckley** will be baptized. Also joining are **Nathan** and **Emily Ott** and **Regina Brantley** and her son **Aiden Brailsford**. Welcome to the Redeemer family!!

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Thanks to Redeemer members **Carol Heacock**, **Shirley Meyer**, **Barb Connors**, **Damon Stewart** and a friend of Redeemer, **Nancy Stinson**, for helping out at the food pantry this past week. Your efforts are appreciated!

# REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

## Next Task: Move Dirt

Help is needed Saturday, April 24 beginning at 9 a.m. to move the pile of dirt in the north end of the parking lot down to the south end.

This past week, the garden beds were filled with compost and dirt in preparation for planting – thanks to all who helped!!

Opportunities to help in a variety of ways will continue to present themselves over the next weeks and months as Redeemer continues with this latest project – “Making Room – to Feed Neighbors.” This multi-faceted ministry encompasses the growing and then giving away of fresh produce either here at Redeemer or through the LSS Frebis/Champion Food Pantry.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities ranging from planting to tending the plants to manning the Saturday morning distribution.

Check out the display in the Narthex to see where you might fit in and volunteer as Redeemer seeks “to make room to feed our neighbors.”

## Items Needed for Health Kits

The Church in Society Committee reports it is in the last couple weeks of gathering items for the health kits. THANK YOU to all who have contributed generously!

However, in order to reach the goal of 90 kits, the following items are still needed:

12 hand towels (dark color)

16 tooth brushes (adult)

30 combs (wide-tooth)

In addition, this month’s “noisy offering” – where members deposit their loose change in the offering plates in the front of the church – has been designated for the health kits, including helping to cover the cost of mailing the kits to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR will then send them on to where they are most needed. Thanks again!

## April 25: ‘Pump It Up’ Sunday

If you can’t remember when you last checked the air pressure in your car (or scooter) tires, now that Earth Day is approaching and fairer weather is here is a good time! The Church in Society Committee (CIS) has an ongoing program to help, both by this reminder and through its “Pump It Up” Sundays.

Weather permitting, after both services on Sunday, April 25, CIS members and other volunteers will be available to check the air pressure in your car tires and to gladly top them off to the recommended value if they are below that.

Not sure what the recommended pressure for your tires is? It should be listed in the owner’s manual as well as on a sticker either on the windshield, on the driver’s side door frame, or the part of the driver’s door that faces the door frame.

For questions or to volunteer to help make this successful, please contact **Paul Voytas** at [pvoytas@wittenberg.edu](mailto:pvoytas@wittenberg.edu) or 937-342-0312.

## VBS Helpers Sought

Come be a part of the Baobab Blast with Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer (June 27 through July 1)! Are you interested in helping out in some way? More information and sign-up

sheets will be available at a display in the Narthex starting Sunday, April 25.

Lots of opportunities exist! Plan to take a grand adventure to the African savannah as we explore connections with God, family, friends, and others around the world. You’ll want to experience the most amazing community get-together under the sun!

Questions can be directed to VBS co-coordinators **Trina Thornton** at [psherman02@yahoo.com](mailto:psherman02@yahoo.com) or **Kelley Scott** at [kelleynotez@yahoo.com](mailto:kelleynotez@yahoo.com). Trina and Kelley can also be contacted by home phone at (740) 756-4817.

## Mailing Contributions to RLC

For those members who use the weekly envelopes to mail in their offering, **please strike through the barcode**. It is wrong and sends your contribution on a cross country (or at least to Georgia and back) trip.

## Cookies Needed

Donations of cookies to be used for Sunday hospitality are needed. Packaged cookies can be left on the kitchenette counter in the Narthex.

## Game Night Set for May 7

A game night for the entire Redeemer church family ages 5 to 105 is planned for Friday, May 7 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dinner will be provided as will activities and child care for younger children.

Cost is \$2/person or \$5/family. Folks are asked to bring favorite games and a dessert or party snack. A signup sheet will be posted on the kiosk.

## Building Use Reminder

Members are asked that when they use the building to return the areas in use to the way they were found. This also means picking up any messes and making sure the doors are locked and – if they are the last out of the building – the alarm is set.

## Where Are You?

Are you in the picture? Members are invited to view the photo montages of life here at Redeemer on the bulletin board just off the Narthex, on the way to the education wing.

## 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.

## April Council Update

The following information was taken from reports submitted to Church Council at its meeting on Thursday, April 8.

**Budget** (through March)

Year-to-date income (budget) – \$61,430 (21.6% of budget)

Year-to-date expenses - \$65,589

Transfer from 2009 - \$5,000

Surplus or (Deficit) - \$841

\* Benevolence payments weren’t made for March because of the cash flow.

\* The Executive Committee is looking into whether Redeemer's constitution, bylaws and continuing resolutions need updating.

\* **Ed Stover** and **Jeff Montgomery** agreed to handle the audit this year. They have met once. Final results will be published in *Reflections*.

\* **Pastor Al** reported the church has submitted two applications for Neighborhood Partnership grants: one for \$8,000 for a community garden and one for \$5,000 for "A Between Place" – basketball court related.

\* The Balloon Payment Task Force (**Judith Bird**, chair; **Steve Winner** and **Brad Phillips**) has met. Recommendations will be submitted to council no later than the June meeting.

\* Youth Committee reported that 18 youth and 16 adults participated in the Easter Party.

\* Fellowship Committee reported an average of nearly 29 people attended the weekly soup suppers during Lent.

\* **Pastor Al** reported that attendance averaged 135 at both services in March – 46 at 8:30 and 89 at 11.

### Member Profile

A native of Toledo, OH, **Leah Whitaker** graduated from Capital University, then Trinity Lutheran Seminary. She now works as an administrative assistant in the development office at the seminary.

Her brother **Bennett** is her roommate in Whitehall, where they live with two cats: Bibi (which means "grandmother" in Swahili) and Mister Grainger (a character from a British sitcom). She also shares that they have a "Channukah fish."

How did she find Redeemer? "I think my brother found it first. I started coming with him." She's reportedly been attending services for about five years. The diversity in the community is a big draw for Leah, as well as "the theological underpinnings of Al's leadership." You might see her at the 11a.m. service, or working on the Redeemer garden. She's also involved with the Evangelism committee.

"I really like audiobooks and talk radio," Leah said when questioned about interests. She mentions enjoying podcasts about history, economics, and politics. Some favorites include "This American Life," "The Moth," and "Freakonomics." Said Leah, "I love learning useless information." Other activities she enjoys are baking and cooking and, per Leah, "neurotic cleaning."

### The Wider Church

#### Trinity Seminary Choir to Sing Evensong

The Trinity Seminary Choir and Chamber Orchestra will present a Choral Evensong on Friday, April 23 at 8 p.m. in the seminary's Gloria Dei Worship Center where they will sing Mozart's Coronation Mass.

Tickets are not required and there is no admission charge but a freewill offering will be taken. Parking is free in the seminary parking lot.

#### LOMO Sponsors Open House May 2

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio (LOMO) will host an Open House on Sunday, May 2 from 2-5 pm at Camp Mowana and Lutheran Memorial Camp.

During this open house, guests may tour the grounds and facilities, see the camper cabins and meet some of the summer staff. No registration is need to attend the open house.

For more information, please contact either Camp Mowana (419)589-7406 or Lutheran Memorial Camp (419) 864-8030.

Camp Mowana is located near Mansfield and Lutheran Memorial Camp is located near Mt. Gilead. Camps run June 20 through August 15, 2010.

Registration for a summer camp, which run from June 20 to August 15, can be handled online at [www.lomocamps.org](http://www.lomocamps.org). Both full and partial week camps are offered.

### Southern Ohio Synod Assembly Set for May 21

The 2010 Southern Ohio Synod Assembly will be held on Friday, May 21 at Wittenberg University in Springfield. The theme is "Disciples Making Disciples" from the Biblical text of Matthew 28:19-20.

According to the synod, "Our congregations grow when we invest in others, as does the Kingdom of God. While attending this year's assembly you'll learn how your investment in our synod and church-wide ministries equip and enable our congregations and global partners to be and make disciples for Christ."

Additional information on the assembly can be found online at the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly website at <http://associationdatabase.com/aws/SOS/pt/sp/assembly>.

Redeemer's delegates, elected at the annual meeting last January, are **Bennett Whittaker** and **Julianne Johnson** and alternates **Tony Naess** and **Mary Benis**.

### The Community Beyond

#### Kent Smith Performs in Musical

Part Rock Concert, Part Dance Crew, Part Musical, All for Charity! SNAP! Performance Productions presents, "Hugh vs. the Black and White"- May 6 7, 8 at the newly renovated Lincoln Theatre. Come see **Katie Kent Smith** in this amazing show. SNAP! is a nonprofit organization of people committed to helping the community through performance. Tickets are \$21 and a portion of each ticket sold goes to Recreation Unlimited. Order tickets through Katie (614-893-1072) or through SNAP's website at [www.snapcolumbus.org/tickets](http://www.snapcolumbus.org/tickets).

#### Hymn Festival to Celebrate Schalk

A hymn festival celebrating Chicago-based composer **Carl Schalk** and his legacy to the church will be held at Christ Lutheran Church in Bexley at 7 p.m. on the Day of Pentecost, May 23. The event, titled "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" in honor of one of Schalk's most beloved hymns, is presented by ALCM Columbus: Cantor Connection, a local chapter of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. It will feature the Schalk Festival Choir along with a variety of conductors, organists and instrumentalists from central Ohio and beyond.

For more information please see [www.cantorconnection.org](http://www.cantorconnection.org). Additional details will follow as the date draws nearer.