



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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May 3, 2010

Burial - A Strange Beauty

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 Ernsthause

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

2nd year - Jared Witt

1st year - Joe Brosious

For over a month I have had a movie from Net Flicks sitting on the counter in the kitchen. For some reason I have not been giving myself the time to sit down and watch it. I never let a movie sit that long without popping it into the DVD player and at least starting to watch it. This past Saturday I was in one of those moods in which I simply needed to be alone and move through the day as best as I could. The movie was called *Departures*. Even though I read the jacket on the DVD, I must not have read it too closely. First of all, the movie was in Japanese and there were subtitles. I don't mind having to read my way through a movie, but on this day it was almost too much work to think. After a few minutes I thought I should just stop and come back to it on another day. Fortunately I stayed with it - it was a real gift. It is a beautiful movie.

Now, let me define "beautiful." In short, a cellist loses his job in an orchestra in Japan so he and his wife decide to move back to his home town because he was given his mother's house and they could live there and find new work. When they arrive in town, he answers an ad in the newspaper that appears to have something to do with travel: NT Departures. Well, as it turns out, it is a small business that prepares bodies for the coffin. All the bodies are to be cremated but before that takes place, the family of the dead relative sits through and watches a ritual washing and preparation of the body. All this is done with a wonderful sense of respect, honor, devotion, and love. The body - except for the face and hands is never seen. The ritual burial dress is put on the person with smooth movements that are orchestrated and deliberate and in tune with the observing family and friends in the room.

The cellist becomes completely taken by the ritual and the way this simple action eases the families through these last moments before the body is casketed. The work involves a washing of the body - again, under the material of the burial garb - and the making up of the face. The faces of men are shaven with a gentle precision and the faces of the women are made up with their own makeup. At one point, the husband of the dead woman is asked to bring his wife's favorite lipstick to him. The husband is befuddled but his young daughter gets up and brings back the lipstick and very gracefully hands it to the casketing person. When he is done, the husband is overwhelmed by how beautiful his wife's body looks - it is her. There is much weeping and there are words of amazing gratitude.

The beauty of the movie keeps moving along with each burial rite. The cellist is transformed into a loving caretaker of the dead and in that he is also a caretaker of those left behind. A beautiful transition - a beautiful departure: death loses its ugly face and compassion and love are allowed to meet us in the middle of all the sadness. I am involved in many funerals and many rites of burial. This was a movie that will probably have more of an impact on me than any class about death and dying and the various rites of the burial of the dead. It was odd to think about my own death as the movie traveled to an even more powerful ending. There is a beauty in death that has come to me like never before.

Christ's Peace! pastoral

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

LESSONS

Acts 16:9-15; 1 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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 Peace Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer members Kristen and Adelyn Kathleen Meckley.

+ *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 Ehrlich, Robin Stokes Estella Kuemmel and Redeemer visitors.

WORSHIP LEADERS

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Michelle Clemence	Bernice Stewart
Acolyte	Renee McFarland	Dayson Billingsley
Reader		Stan Heacock
Cantor	Heidi Sherer	
Healing Team Prayers	Sabine Lamar Kathy Zwanziger	Jon Caron Julija Volfa
Healing Team Assistants	Earl Bradley Linda Williams	Colin Young Mandi Schwaderer
Coordinator	Dick Kautz	Bruce Collins
Ushers	Neil Hoddinott Becky Fisher	Mike Benis Mary Benis
Welcoming Team	Dick Kautz Sandra Keaton	Becky Fisher Mary Benis
Hospitality	The McFarlands	Diane Brobeck
Nursery	Jessica Fisher Becky Fisher (9:45)	Diane Montgomery
Communion Set-up	Kathy Zwanziger & Kristen Yanchak	

RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Kay Ernsthausen
Baked Goods Deliverer	Mary Benis
Note-writer	Jeff Jenkins
Food Pantry Delivery	Kathie & Nancy Ehrlich

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Joseph Story: Genesis 43 -
Ron Hals

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

MAY 4-MAY 11

Tuesday – ELECTION DAY

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)
- 7:00 PM Sister Act

Thursday

- 6:30-9 PM Bridge – Bouman's - Potluck

Friday

- 6:30-9 PM Game Night

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

Monday

- 3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons – Room 9
- 5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 2
- 6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Room 3
- 6:00 PM Daisy's – Room 4
- 6:30 PM Juniors – Room 5
- 7:00 PM Member Care

Tuesday

- 1:00 PM Bible Study
- 5:00 PM Mission Endowment
- 6:15 PM Chimes Choir
- 7:30 PM Senior Choir

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Sunday, May 16 will be **Jan Bouman's** last Sunday at Redeemer because she is moving to be closer to family. Her new address will be 3303 Pines Village Circle, Apt. 240, Valparaiso IN 46383. Her email remains the same at jabouman@aol.com. It was good to see her in church Sunday following a second surgery for cataracts last week.

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The ordination of Redeemer member **Sabine Lamar**, who has been called to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Beaumont, Texas, will take place here on Saturday, May 29. More details to follow.

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Prayers are asked for the **Hustead Family** on the death of Don's brother Steve.

Is This for You?

Jr./Sr. High Youth Director

During this school year, a handful of adults have been attempting to be the support and organizing leaders behind the ministry and mission of Redeemer teens. In a recent meeting, these leaders, parents, and **Pastor Al** tried to take a look at what is needed most to shape the character of our ministry with our youth. It was agreed that we definitely need a person to serve as a youth director. We also noted that we would prefer this person to be a member of our congregation.

Here are some of the character traits we see in such a person:

- **Able to work with youth** - to respect them, encourage them, listen to them, honor them, relate to them, and shape their emerging characters
- Good at maintaining **regular communication** with youth and parents so that the vision of the group and its activities are fresh and well known.
- **Organizational skills** that are as simple as planning service and learning events throughout the year and working with a team of adults and teens to plan and then follow through on those plans.
- Has **a vision** for what it is to encourage faithfulness in teens and inspire them to take on their part of the vision of God's Reign here at Redeemer.
- **Mission-minded** and at least 21 years old.

The congregation has put \$2,400/year into the budget for this important work. If you are interested in this position or have questions about the expectations and want to hear more about this position, contact **Pastor Al**.

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 sign-up sheet will be posted on the kiosk.

Group Explores Mission Trips

A group at Redeemer has been exploring a mission trips ministry over the past few months. As part of that effort, Redeemer members and friends are invited to join us on Wednesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. as Redeemer MIC student **Jared Witt**, **Nikki Tournoux**, and friends share their stories and information about the Haitian Timoun Foundation (HTF).

HTF is a nonprofit organization and dynamic grass-roots movement whose mission is to create a future of hope, sustainability, and dignity for the children of Haiti by identifying visionary Haitian-led organizations in the areas of education, poverty eradication, and leadership development.

To learn more ahead of the evening, check out the flyer on the kiosk or visit the HTF website at <http://www.hopeinhaiti.org>. If you have any questions, please contact **Kelley Scott** at kelleynotez@yahoo.com or by home phone at 740-756-4817.

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 or **Kelley Scott** at kelleynotez@yahoo.com. Trina and Kelley can also be contacted by home phone at (740) 756-4817.

Sister Act to Meet May 5

Sister Act will meet next on Wednesday, May 5 at 7 p.m. (downstairs). This month the group will be joined by volunteers from CHOICES who will share information about eliminating domestic violence, the CHOICES organization, and what communities of faith can do to get involved. This program has been rescheduled from February.

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.

Volunteers Sought for RLC Habitat Team

There is now a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex for volunteers to be part of Redeemer's team to help with Habitat for Humanity. Folks are also asked to list "good" days and "bad" days for working.

Newsletter Features RLC

The latest issue of *Feed My Sheep*, the newsletter of the Hunger Task Force of the Southern Ohio Synod, includes an article on Redeemer's gardening venture "Making Room – to Feed Neighbors" – including a picture.

It is posted on the kiosk or can be found online at http://associationdatabase.com/aws/SOS/asset_manager/get_file/18263.

Help Needed to Put Health Kits Together

The Church in Society Committee thanks everyone who has contributed items or funds for the Health Kits.

Help is now needed to assemble the kits. If this is something you can do, please contact **Julie Johnson** at 276-2940.

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.

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.

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.

Member Profiles

Donna Marie and **Wes Jones** are looking forward to knowing the people of Redeemer a bit more. Once they sell their home in Marion and can spend more time in Columbus, where they also have a condo near west OSU campus, they may be able to do just that. For now they've been coming down weekly to attend the 11 a.m. service, ever since Wes retired November 1 from his position as senior pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Marion.

The couple met at Capital University. Donna Marie grew up in a suburb of Cleveland, and Wes grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. A daughter, **Jacquelyn**, lives in Baltimore. They also have a 3-year-old grandson, **Andrew**, in Minneapolis.

They went to Redeemer services a couple of times in their college/seminary years. When niece, **Paula Andree**, and her children – **Skye**, **Clay**, and **Carl** – started coming here in recent years, they heard more about it. During Wes's sabbatical, he and Donna Marie attended a few more times and liked it.

Donna Marie used to be an elementary principal. Now she works for the State Department of Education, monitoring special education in districts. Wes is enjoying being retired, reporting he is "just going with the flow right now."

Interests they share include cooking and attending the Columbus Symphony. With the driving they do weekly to attend Redeemer, it may not come as a surprise that they both also enjoy traveling. On Wednesday they'll be off to China for a month. Wes offered, "We are interested in politics, and that was one of the things that led us to joining Redeemer, because we very much appreciate the point of view there." He added on a related point that a big appeal of Redeemer is "concern and welcome for all people, as Al has said in sermons."

It was interesting for the couple to learn not long ago that **Leah** and **Bennett Whitaker's** grandfather was Wes's internship pastor in Middletown years ago. Maybe they know Redeemer members better than they thought.

The Wider Church

Southern OH Synod Assembly Meets 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> . The

minutes from the 2009 Synod Assembly are now online at <http://www.southernohiosynod.org/> .

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

About Lutheran Malaria Initiative

The Lutheran Malaria Initiative (LMI) is a joint project of the ELCA, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Lutheran World Relief. Many people may know that malaria is a disease carried by mosquitoes; they may not know that the disease is life-threatening but also preventable and curable.

Malaria disproportionately affects poor people who cannot afford treatment or have limited access to health care and traps families and communities in a downward spiral of poverty.

Prevention focuses on reducing the transmission of the disease by controlling the malaria-bearing mosquito by the use of mosquito nets treated with long-lasting insecticide, a very cost-effective method because the disease-carrying mosquitoes are active mainly at night, and by indoor residual spraying of insecticides.

Without help, a child dies of malaria every 30 seconds.

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.

Magpie Consort to Perform at RLC

The Magpie Consort, which includes Redeemer member **Heidi Sherer**, will perform at Redeemer on Sunday, May 16 at 4 p.m. The theme for this round of concerts is "Gypsies and Sailors" and will include songs of travel, exploration, pilgrimage, exile, escape, and the journey of life itself.

The group will also perform on Friday, May 14 at 8 p.m. at King Ave. United Methodist Church (299 King Ave.) and on Saturday, May 15 at 8 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church (125 E. Broad St.).

The concerts are free but a donation of \$10 is suggested.

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, see www.cantorconnection.org.