



# 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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June 21, 2010

### Seized by the Spirit of the Resurrection

#### 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

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

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

In Sunday's sermon, I used the language of Resurrection in contrast to the world of division and the creation of "them" in order to help make us rulers of the day. The Resurrection changes everything. The Spirit of the Resurrection is the life that is available to all who are baptized in Christ, Jesus. That *all* cannot be held back or limited or defined in any way that is meant to keep some people out of the domain of God's beloved *all*. The Resurrection changed everything. And yet, we are not so sure that we want everything to change - unless of course, we can be in charge of how things change. As I read ahead in a book I am using for the weekday devotions, I once again have come to see that the Spirit does not settle for old ways of walking through the day at hand. In fact, we are people who are disciplined to become new. Jurgen Moltmann helped me see this again:

*If we are seized by the Spirit of the resurrection, we get out of our sadness and apathy. We begin to flower and become fruitful again, like the plants and trees in the spring of the year. An undreamed-of love for life awakens in us; we drive out the sweet poison of resignation, and our painful remembrances of death are healed. We encounter life again like children, in eager expectancy.*

Like my mother, some days I can be so down and feel sorry for myself that I begin to throw a pity party. She and I would talk about that common experience in our lives. She was good at saying that is not where our Lord, Jesus, would want us to remain. Even though we both knew it is difficult to be anywhere else but in a pity party or a "pike-on-everyone" party, we knew it was necessary to do just that.

It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we turn direction in the day at hand. Even though it is easier not to forgive and it is easier to talk about someone behind his or her back and it is easier to gripe about how things are done and it is easier to throw a good, old pity party, we are people who step beyond that. We are defined by the power of the Holy Spirit that is the source of life within God's Reign. Within that power, we step into life and find ways to have our gifts be used for the well-being of others. It is there - in that action - that we are healed of our pity-soaked lives and freed from pointing at what is wrong with the world.

We are people who have been told and we know that *an undreamed of love for life awakens in us* when the Spirit of God blows around us. That is what our stories of faithfulness tell us. Rather than settle for being a negative force within life, *we drive out the sweet poison of resignation, and our painful remembrances of death are healed*. We are continually invited to step into that love of life no matter what the world throws at us and no matter what our individual stories try to tell us. This is no easy road - it is a road of deliberate prayer that becomes deliberate action. One of the places and times that help me see that vision is in worship where the most insignificant action within worship can seize me. Christ's Peace! pastoral

## GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### LESSONS

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Galations 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

10:00 AM Holy Communion (Setting 2)

### INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of St Matthew Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer members Jeff, Diane, Grace & Corinne Montgomery.

+ *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, Rose Varga, Doretha Holland, Georgia Wegmeyer, Norm Wegneyer, 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

10:00 AM

Assisting Minister	Gage Gosnell
Acolyte	Renee McFarland
Reader	Shirley Miller
Cantor	Julie Larson
Coordinator	Kathy Zwanziger
Ushers	Ed Klopfer Dick Kautz
Welcoming Team	Kathy Zwanziger Julija Volfa
Hospitality	Fellowship Committee "Brunch on the Lawn"
Nursery	Lynn Brosious
Communion Set-up	Kay Ernsthausen & Michele Disbro

### RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Linda Johnson
Baked Goods Deliverer	Kathy Zwanziger
Note-writer	Bonnie Hegreness
Food Pantry Delivery	Barb Connors

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS RESUMES IN THE FALL

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

JUNE 22-29

### Tuesday

10 AM-8 PM Cello Lessons – Room 9  
5:30 PM Mutual Ministry

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

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

### Friday

### Saturday

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

### Sunday

10:00 AM Holy Communion  
5:30-8 PM Vacation Bible School  
(VBS)  
1:40 PM Movie Night (Ohio  
Theatre)

### Monday

5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 2  
5:30-8 PM VBS  
6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Rm. 3  
6:00 PM Fellowship Committee  
6:30-8 PM Basketball Camp  
6:30 PM Juniors – Room 5  
7:00 PM Condo Association – Rm 1

### Tuesday

10 AM-8 PM Cello Lessons – Room 9  
5:30-8 PM VBS  
6:30-8 PM Basketball Camp

## PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for **Darren Baldogo** who had knee surgery; for **Pastor Tim Iseringhausen** at Christ Lutheran who had heart bypass surgery; for the **Edmund Family** on the death of **Mark's** wife and **Bob's** daughter-in-law **Sheila**; for **Mary Lapham** on the death of her brother-in-law **Tim Christy**. (Tim's wife **Carole** was a former RLC member.)

# REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

## First Food Give-Away Set for June 26

The first vegetable/herbs give-away takes place on Saturday, June 26 here at Redeemer. Although not much might be ready at this point, this marks the beginning of weekly donations here at the church under the "Making Room – to Feed Neighbors" project.

Bring any extra produce you may have from your gardens and add it to what is being produced here at Redeemer in the gardens out front.

The hours are 10 to 12 noon on Saturdays although contributions can also be brought to the church on Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Vegetables not picked up will go to a local food pantry. For more information, call the church office at 237-1263.

Partners in this venture, for which Redeemer received \$7,000 from the Neighborhood Partnership Grant program of the United Way and Columbus Foundation, include the Berwyn West Civic Association and the Berwick Civic Association.

To date, the following businesses have also assisted: Dill's Nursery, Jones Fuel Company, Murray's Tool Rental, Lowe's on E. Broad and Rain Brothers, LLC.

## VBS Starts Sunday, Supplies Still Needed

Vacation Bible School starts this next Sunday, June 27 and runs through Thursday, July 1! Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by activities from 6-8 p.m. Come have a Baobab Blast as we adventure to the African savannah and explore connections with God, family, friends, and others around the world. You won't want to miss the most amazing community get-together under the sun!

It's not too late to participate ... visit the display in the Narthex or call the church office to register for VBS, donate/lend needed supplies, make a financial contribution, and/or sign up to contribute food items for dinner.

Plan to join in the adventure on Thursday, July 1 at 7:30 p.m. for the closing celebration, followed by an ice cream social!

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.

The following food items are still needed. Please call the church office to indicate what you can donate.

- 4 bags carrots (cut)
- 6 bunches celery (cut)
- 6 jars spaghetti sauce
- 4 32-oz. bags of frozen peas
- 8 cans (15 oz.) baked beans
- 7 boxes macaroni and cheese
- 4 loaves of bread
- 3 large watermelons
- 6 lbs of seedless grapes
- 8 lbs. of spaghetti noodles
- 6 packages of cookies

## Sunday Brunch on the Lawn

On Sunday, June 27, the Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a Sunday Brunch on the lawn after the 10 a.m. worship service.

The committee asks that you bring a brunch side dish to share. Also you can bring a lawn chair and your own table service, if you'd like.

The Fellowship Committee will provide breakfast casseroles and drinks.

In case of rain, the event will be moved to the Fellowship Hall. Plan to come!

## Movie Group to Ohio Theatre on June 27

Because of the conflict between Movie Night's regular meeting time and VBS on Sunday, June 27, the Movie Night small group will be having a little excursion that afternoon instead.

The CAPA Summer Movie Series is showing the 1956 movie Carousel from 2-4 p.m. at the Ohio Theatre and anyone interested in attending with the Movie Night group should meet outside the Ohio Theatre at 1:40 p.m. so we can connect and sit together. Tickets are \$4 or \$3.50 for seniors.

Carousel is a Rodgers and Hammerstein musical starring Gordon MacRae and Shirley Jones. Contact **Jon Disbro** at 451-3642 with questions.

## 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 **Kurt Goshen's** finding full-time employment.

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

Please see **Pastor Al** if you are interested.

Redeemer thanks **Kurt** for filling in for the last six months and wishes him the best in his new position!!!

## Basketball Camp Starts June 28

Registrations are now closed for Redeemer's 2010 Basketball Camp. For youth ages 8 to 14, it will run from June 28 through August 5. Sessions are Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. One court will be for younger players and one for more seasoned players.

The camp, which is run by Berwick resident and former NBA player **Larry Jones**, is free. Funds are provided by RLC, paper recycling by the community and a Neighborhood Partnership Grant.

## A Note from Stewardship

We are blessed to be members of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Part of the religious experience is in giving of our blessings. We do this in many ways, through music, reading, carrying banners, prayer, and financial support to name just a few. It is important that we give to God our first and best in all situations; giving of our time, talents, participation, consistent attendance in worship, attention, and support.

Financial support is critical to shaping the ministry of our congregation. In this area there is a concept of first fruits giving. The origin of first fruits giving is from Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce."

We are stewards of the life of the church, stewards of all our gifts and actions related to these gifts. Please consider prayerfully giving to the Lord first, consistently, and with intent.

## RLC Supports Food Pantry

During the month of May, Redeemer members donated 308 food and personal care items to the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Food Pantry. According to **Kathie Ehrich**, the pantry was delighted to receive all of the plastic grocery bags as well.

**David Drumm**, manager of the pantry, said, "We can always count on the generosity of Redeemer."

There continues to be a great need for tea, coffee, shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, soap, dishwashing detergent and laundry detergent.

### **Volunteers Sought to Pick up Flowers**

Redeemer has an immediate need for volunteers to pick up altar flowers for Sunday worship.

While the church has a standing order for altar flowers at Market Blooms in the North Market downtown, flowers must be picked up on Friday or Saturday and the brought to Redeemer, arranged in a vase and placed in the chancel.

Anyone who could help with this important service is asked to contact **Pastor Al** at 237-1263 or **Karen Collins** 939-0730.

The more people on the rotation, the fewer weeks each will have to serve.

### **Time to Sign Up for Summer Hospitality**

There is a sign up sheet on the kiosk for hosting summertime hospitality refreshments after Redeemer's one worship service.

The Evangelism Committee notes that after worship time is a great chance to mingle and connect with folks you don't always see throughout the rest of the church year.

It also encourages groups from the congregation (small groups, committees, etc.) or groups of families to host a Sunday.

### **Community Gardens: Here, Abroad**

Even as Redeemer has planted a garden to benefit the neighbors in our community, it is also possible to help others around the world raise fresh vegetables. For the next several months, the "loose change" offering (which is provided through the offering plates located in the front of the sanctuary) will go to help establish a community vegetable garden through the ELCA's "Good Gifts" program in Cambodia, Kenya, or perhaps Peru. A "good gift" of \$200 helps establish a community vegetable garden.

**Kathy Zwanziger** reports that so far one-third of the money needed to sponsor a garden has been collected.

For Sundays, June 27 and July 4, the loose offering will go to a Vacation Bible School-related charity. Thereafter, the funds will again go to the ELCA Good Gifts garden project.

### **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.

## **The Wider Church**

### **Stofac Resigns as CEO of LSS**

**Thomas Stofac** has resigned as CEO of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Central Ohio, effective July 2. **Nels Hendrickson** will serve as interim CEO while the Board of Directors seeks a permanent replace.

In a letter to Redeemer, Stofac said, "We are serving more people in need than ever before and are healthier financially than we have been for many years." His plans

include taking a few weeks off and then restarting his independent consulting practice.

### **Trinity Sponsors Summer Music**

Trinity Seminary's "Tuesdays at Trinity" Summer Music series concludes on June 22 with the Columbus Symphony Brass Quintet. The concerts are held in the Gloria Dei Worship Center and are free although a freewill offering is taken to help offset the costs.

### **May-June Council Updates**

The following information was taken from reports submitted to Church Council at its meetings on Thursday, May 13 and June 10.

**Budget** (through May)

Year-to-date income (budget) – \$110,704

Transfer from 2009 - \$5,000

Year-to-date expenses – \$112,642

Surplus or (deficit) – \$2,862

\* Council has reinstated the membership of **Teri (Forbes) Stackhouse** who has moved back to Ohio. Her husband is a UCC pastor.

\* Mutual Ministry Committee notes that the date for **Pastor Al's** next sabbatical is 2011. It will likely run September through November.

\* **Brad Phillips**, chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the 2009 audit was conducted over two sessions on March 22 and April 21 by **Jeff Montgomery** and **Ed Stover**. The scope included reviewing the financial procedures, auditing the financial transactions and suggesting revisions to the current audit guidelines. The statement from the committee is as follows: "We have examined the financial records and procedures of Redeemer Lutheran Church for the year ending December 31, 2009. In our opinion the records appear to be in good order and the procedures in place are appropriate and adhered to in a reasonable manner. Several recommendations are noted below for consideration of the Finance Committee and Church Council." Among those recommendations is the hiring of an auditor outside the congregation every four years to conduct the annual audit. "This would provide a level of professional oversight that may not be available within the congregation."

\* **Pastor Al** reported that average weekly attendance in May was 145 (46 at 8:30 a.m.; 99 at 11 a.m.).

\* **Lynn Brosius** has been hired to staff the nursery during worship. Her first Sunday was June 20.

\* Church in Society reported that \$364.50 was sent to the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. In addition, **Julie Johnson** is working on a plan to support Faith Mission next year that spreads the effort out among Redeemer members. CIS will also sponsor a School Kit drive in late summer.

\* 20 people, from ages 3 to 70+, participated in Game Night, hosted by the Youth Committee, on May 7.