



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 28, 2010

The Creed - Interesting Story Telling...or...

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

It would be interesting to see how many people in worship on Sunday realized that we did not say the Creed. Several weeks ago I wrote that we would be using some of the "may" rubrics of the liturgy throughout the summer. A "may" rubric simply means that there are parts of the liturgy that are options - they are not needed every Sunday. The week before, we left out the "Hymn of Praise" and we always leave out the "Kyrie" throughout the whole season of Pentecost. Today, I don't want to write again about the various ways we can go through worship this summer. Instead, I want to throw out to all of you some conversation that is percolating in the congregation around the use of the Creed in worship.

The Evangelism Committee has been discussing the use of the Creed and what it means to folks. Some people never say the Creed in worship. Others know it by heart and find it meaningful. Most folks seemed to be a bit confused by some of the language and wonder what it all means. The most dramatic community presentation of the Creed is at the time baptism, baptismal renewal on Easter Sunday, and confirmation. With this in mind, we are looking at a concise statement to put into the bulletin whenever we use the Creed - a few words that give it a context for everyone in worship.

Dr. Cheryl Peterson tossed out the name of a good book on this subject: *The Apostles' Creed - A User's Guide*. It is becoming a good read. I am thinking of using it for a series in adult Sunday School when we return to classes in the fall. It may be something that gives deliberate space to many voices, concerns and interests that deal with this ancient bit of our liturgy. Marshall D. Johnson notes that:

A creed is a statement of what we believe or trust. Your actual faith is what you entrust your life to - the direction in which your personal being is oriented. But if spirituality were entirely a private matter, perhaps creeds would not be necessary; each person could have his or her distinctive beliefs and practices without sharing them with others. Without clearly understood written formulations and affirmations, however, the Christian church could only with great difficulty sustain itself over the generations, and it would struggle to describe what holds it together as a community, the "communion of saints." The creeds of the church while spoken by individuals are always community statements - faith statements of the fellowship of believers.

In the meantime, the conversation is growing about this Creed thing. It is good to have wide, open discussion. I find that such discussions begin to make all of us be a bit more intentional about who we are as followers of Jesus, what we consider to be central to our living witness, and how we look at the whole storytelling of God's people who have been wandering about over the centuries. When the fall arrives, think about adult Sunday School and what we say we believe. Christ's Peace! pastoral

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LESSONS

Isaiah 66:10-14; Galations 6:[1-6] 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, 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 Paul Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer member Eric Muller.

+ *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 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

10:00 AM

Assisting Minister

John Caron

Acolyte

Daniel Pawlowski

Reader

Cantor

Coordinator

Kurt Goshen

Ushers

Seth Harms

Thea Harms

Welcoming Team

Mary Lapham

Linda Williams

Hospitality

VBS Staff

Nursery

Lynn Brosious/Mary Lapham

Communion Set-up

Linda Williams & Wendy Stoica

RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker

Ruth Murray

Baked Goods Deliverer

Mary Benis

Note-writer

Shirley Miller

Food Pantry Delivery

Cathy Oldham

SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS RESUMES IN THE FALL

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

JUNE 29-JULY 6

Tuesday

10 AM-8 PM Cello Lessons – Room 9

5:30-8 PM Vacation Bible School (VBS)

6:30-8 PM Basketball Camp (BBC)

Wednesday

5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 4

5:30-8 PM VBS

6:30-8 PM BBC

7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Rm. 2

8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

Thursday

5:30-8 PM VBS

6:30-8 PM BBC

7:00 PM Bridge - Redeemer

Friday

Saturday

9 AM-Noon Veggie Give Away

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

Sunday

10:00 AM Holy Communion

Monday

1:00 PM Property Committee – Rm 1

5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 2

6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Rm. 3

6:30-8 PM Basketball Camp

6:30 PM Juniors – Room 5

Tuesday

6:30-8 PM Basketball Camp

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for **Ed Klopfer** who had a pacemaker implanted on Monday; and for the **Elhard/Kinlan Family** on the death of former Redeemer member **Leland Elhard**.

+++

REMEMBER TO BRING VEGGIES TO GIVE AWAY!!

Contributions of fresh vegetables and herbs for the weekly "give away" can be brought to the church on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and on Saturdays, beginning at 8 a.m.

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Member Directory Updates

Julija Volfa's new address is 71 S. Roosevelt Ave. Bexley, OH 43209.

Teri Lynn S. (Forbes) Stackhouse's new address is 216 W. Newell St., P.O. Box 119 W. Liberty, OH 43357, (937) 707-7788 or (619) 609-9799 (cell); email: WTStackhouse5@aol.com.

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REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

Closing VBS Celebration on Thursday

Vacation Bible School (VBS), with the theme of *Baobab Blast*, runs this week through Thursday, July 1 beginning with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Activities go from 6 p.m. through 8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join this year's VBS adventure on Thursday, July 1 at 7:30 p.m. for the closing celebration, followed by an ice cream social!

Approximately 60 kids attended the opening evening.

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.

In connection with VBS, the June 27 and July 4 "noisy offering," where folks can contribute their loose change at communion time, will go to *Africa Jam*. This is a nonprofit youth empowerment organization serving more than 10,000 young people in Cape Town, South Africa through faith enrichment, arts, social and education programs. Additional information about the group can be found online at www.myafricajam.org.

Food Give-Aways Continue on Saturdays

Vegetable and herbs from Redeemer's own gardens and from those of members' and friends' gardens will now be given away each Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon here at Redeemer as part of the "Making Room – to Feed Neighbors" project. The give away runs through August.

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. Donations of food can be brought on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and on Saturdays, beginning at 8 a.m.

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

Up to four volunteers are needed to help staff the project on Saturdays, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with set-up and running through 1 p.m. with tear down. Sign up on the kiosk if this is something you can do to help.

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 Gets Underway

Registrations are now closed for Redeemer's 2010 Basketball Camp. For youth ages 8 to 14, it runs 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.

Food Pantry Volunteers Needed for July 15

Redeemer needs two more volunteers to help work at the Food Pantry on Thursday, July 15. If this is something you can help out with, call **Kurt** in the church office at 237-1263.

Calling All Golfers!!

Plan now to participate in the *Fore Christ Golf Tournament* on Saturday, July 31. It will be held at the Chapel Hill Golf Course in Mt. Vernon and is sponsored by Lord of Life Lutheran Church. All proceeds will go to the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization that honors and assists U.S. military personnel wounded in the service of this country.

Information about the tournament, including registration and opportunities to make additional contributions, is posted on kiosk. Questions can also be directed to **Mike Benis** at 864-1506.

Calling All Cooks!!

Redeemer is supporting Faith Lutheran with providing meals for First English Lutheran Church. Specifically, Redeemer will be providing the dinner on Thursday, July 29 for about 150 people. Redeemer's role is just preparing the meal at this point (although anyone who would like to serve can do so).

The dinner will consist of a casserole, salad, and dessert. Recipes and pans will be available in the Narthex beginning this Sunday, July 4.

Please sign the sheet if you take one. Also please indicate if you are willing to provide salad, dessert, and/or drinks.

World Café Visits Vietnam

The July outing of World Café will be to the **Ha Long Bay Vietnamese Kitchen**, 8489 Sancus Blvd., on Sunday, July 11 at 12 noon. Please let **Ashley** or **Judy Bird** know (239-9380 or jambird@aol.com) by Wednesday, July 7 that you will be participating so that we can make reservations to ensure enough seating for all.

The World Café small group eats once a month (usually the second Sunday unless there is a conflict) at a different ethnic restaurant after the late service. New participants are always welcome to join.

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.

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.

Personals *cont'd from p. 2*

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1-Bruce Collins 1-Karen Riccio
2-Jeff Wise 5-Mark Powell
5-Sachio Phillips 8-Kathy Zwanziger
11-Phil Collins 11-Marne Turner
13-Nathaniel Gallick 14-Khai Kauffman
15-Kandice Hoddinott 17-Jasmin McFarland
18-Kelley Scott 19-Leslie Sorg
21-Grace Jones 22-Dayrel Billingsley
22-Kim Faulk 22-Noah Gosnell
23-Kirsten Johanson 24-Gail Patrick
25-Tracy Hoddinott 26-Jillian Curtis
27-Tom Mimplitch 28-Rita Jenkins
29-Kathy Mimplitch 31-Eric Hals
31-Marilyn Roberts

The Wider Church

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 Brosious** 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.

ELCA Leaders to Revise 2010 Budget

Leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will prepare a revised 2010 budget and spending plan for action by the ELCA Church Council during its August 4 meeting as well as a plan to restructure the churchwide organization in 2011 in response to continuing declines in income, said the **Rev. M. Wyvetta Bullock**, ELCA executive for administration, in a June 21 email to churchwide staff.

In her message to staff, Bullock wrote that she wanted "to inform you of challenges we are facing related to the work of the churchwide organization as we move forward in mission with decreased financial resources. I also want to let you know how we plan to respond to those changes."

"As of the end of May, mission support income continues to decline," Bullock wrote. "You may recall that mission support represents approximately 80 percent of our churchwide organization's general operating budget." Mission support is income sent by congregations through synods to the churchwide organization. The reduced budget plan will incorporate the underspending plan already implemented earlier this year," she wrote.

"As we plan for 2011, given the depth of the changes necessary, we will be creating a plan to restructure the churchwide organization to align our work with anticipated income," Bullock wrote.

"Over the past 12-18 months we have faced significant changes in the churchwide organization. We are also mindful that challenges are being faced by synods, congregations, institutions, agencies and ecumenical partners. I continue to be thankful for your partnership and commitment to serve this church. Our prayers for one another and this church are needed as we walk together in the days ahead," she added.

She explained that the reasons for the income declines include a 30-year trend in declining revenues, the struggling U.S. economy and declines in congregational income due to the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly's decisions on human sexuality.

Christina Jackson-Skelton, ELCA treasurer, said in an April 30 report that declines in mission support income in 56 of the ELCA's 65 synods, compared to the first quarter of 2009, "merits careful attention. The annual mission support budget for 2010 was reduced by \$4.6 million or 7.7 percent from the amount received in 2009," Jackson-Skelton's report said. "The decline of 12.5 percent in the first quarter 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 exceeds the rate anticipated in the budget proposal and is unfavorable to budget by 3.5 percent."

The churchwide organization began its 2010 fiscal year with a current fund spending authorization of \$69.3 million, including \$55.1 million in mission support funds.