



# 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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August 2, 2010

### *Holy Conspiracy!*

I enjoy those times during the month when I notice that a few Redeemer people are taking on a bit of mission work or jumping in to handle a part of the ministry that helps to shape us. What I like about it is that it can and does happen - just happen. I'm not talking about a project that is big and grand. I'm talking about some of the ways people step up to be engaged with others. When we are at our best, a congregation is alive beyond the actions of the pastor. In fact, when the pastor is not present or is not taking the lead, the real personality of the congregation seems to make itself known. It is at those moments that there is a conspiracy of holiness. For me that simply means that each person begins to realize just how blessed we are - even when we do not think we have many skills or talents. We are holy because that is how God sees us. We are a people who have been "set apart" as a part of that living Reign of God that is promised from age to age.

Whenever one person trusts in that 'holy' identity, it can quickly become a conspiracy that shakes and rattles everything - just like on the day of Pentecost. Soon, others begin to realize what it is to be holy - it is a life that is embraced and shaped by the Holy Spirit so that the world may see in us something new, refreshing, bold - a promise. All of us are held within that promise of new life and that makes us each an instrument of promise and hope and life.

Thursday evening a bunch of Redeemer folks stepped up to help provide food for the weekly dinner at First English Lutheran Church. Usually I would try to stick my nose into the action. I did not. I didn't need to. A whole troop stepped forward and each person took on a piece. In fact, there were some folks who noticed that something more might be needed and they decided to be the one to supply that something more. We can each be such a valuable part of the life that grows from our congregation.

Some people call others on the phone - some make visits - some see a sign-up sheet for an activity and get their pens out - some can sing or play instruments and they let the music flow - some bake - some put things in order - some find it natural to greet and meet others and they do it - some see a need (great or small) and decide that they can meet it - some are willing to organize groups or projects or activities - some see extra financial needs and step up .... When we add up all the people who make up this "some" we find ourselves standing in the middle of the "power of the Holy Spirit:" a holy conspiracy.

It is always part of my prayer that not only is each of us able to see what part of the conspiracy we are at Redeemer but also to see how we are part of this holy conspiracy as we go out into our daily lives and bring the way of Jesus' love right into the middle of everything we touch. I know ... you may think you don't have much to offer. Then again, the Holy Spirit is the power that will help to shape you into a part of this grand conspiracy of hopefulness, joy, service, and fellowship.

Christ's Peace! pastoral

#### OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here  
in the name of Jesus

Pastor - F. Allan Debelak

Secretary - Donna Yarborough

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 Ernsthansen

#### 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

2<sup>nd</sup> year - Joe Brosious

## GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### LESSONS

Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

10:00 AM Holy Communion

### INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of All Saints Lutheran Church.

+ For Redeemer member Cathy Oldham.

+ *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, Faith Wick and Redeemer visitors.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

10:00 AM

Assisting Minister	Stan Heacock
Acolyte	Colin Young
Reader	Bob Eakin
Healing Team Prayers	Michelle Clemence Bernice Stewart Carol Heacock
Healing Team Assistants	Linda Williams Colin Young Earl Bradley
Cantor	Julie Larson
Coordinator	Kurt Goshen
Ushers	Earl Bradley Kurt Goshen
Welcoming Team	Michele Disbro Karen Wilson
Hospitality	Judy & Ashley Bird
Nursery	Rene & Caty McFarland Lynn Brosious
Communion Set-up	Heidi Stover & Ranel Hoddinott

### RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Leslie Roy
Baked Goods Deliverer	Leslie Roy
Note-writer	Katie McCleaf

*Food Pantry Delivery* Nancy and Kathie Ehrich

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS RESUMES IN THE FALL

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

AUGUST 2 – AUGUST 8, 2010

### Tuesday

10AM	Cello Lessons #9
6:30PM	Basketball Camp
7:30PM	Berwick Civic Association

### Wednesday

5-7PM	Youth Expressions #4
6:30PM	Basketball Camp
7PM	Beacon of Hope SDA-
8:30PM	OCA

### Thursday

6:30PM	Basketball Camp
7PM	Bridge - Redeemer

### Friday

### Saturday

9AM	Beacon of Hope
10AM	Veggie Give away

### Sunday

10AM	Worship
11:15AM	Executive Committee

### Monday

5PM	Youth Expression #4
5:30PM	Mutual Ministry*

## PRAYERS & PERSONALS

**Heidi Wick** and **Don Hustead** will be driving to Minnesota to bring **Faith Wick** back to Columbus. It will be nice to have Faith back in our congregation!

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**Mary Bowling** has two cats (2 and 4 years old) that need a home. One is an indoor cat and the other can be an indoor/outdoor cat. For more information, contact **Pastor Al**.

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Redeemer has received a phone number for **Jan Bouman**: 219-464-4581. While saying she is hard to catch, Jan said she would love to hear from folks.

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The ordination of **Peder Johanson** will be held on Friday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1410 Rogers St., Stevens Point WI.

## REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

### Six Weeks of Basketball Camp

This Thursday, August 5, the 2010 Summer Basketball Camp comes to an end with a program for the participants and their families. This year we provided a camp for approximately 50 young people (8 - 14 years). Berwick resident and one time NBA and ABA basketball player, **Larry Jones**, had taken the lead in working with youth in the neighborhood. He has been supported by his son-in-law, **Ernest Wilder** who coaches the older players and Redeemer's **Mike Benis** who has really given quite a bit of his time to be the primary connection between Redeemer and the camp.

On Thursday, beginning at 6:30 p.m., we will be treated to a simple dinner, ice cream, and words of encouragement from Columbus City Council member, **Hearcel Craig**.

All of the campers will be given certificates of participation and several of them will receive awards for some special participation in the camp.

### Be Part of What Makes Sunday Roll Along

As September approaches, it is the best time to prayerfully consider how you can be a part of the conspiracy that keeps Redeemer's worship and fellowship alive and moving from Sunday to Sunday. If you look at the back of the monthly calendar of activities, you will see a page of individuals who step up and take responsibility for some part of what goes into a Sunday morning at Redeemer. Some of those roles take a bit of training – some of them just take a willingness to sign up and say "I can do that!"

On the kiosk this week we will post a list of the ways people can step up and help create a part of our life together. For example, we can always use and can train more: assisting ministers, acolytes, ushers, coordinators, greeters, healing team members, and vergers.

**Now, you may not even know what some of these folks do – so how do you know if you would be willing to step up!?! Well, on the sign-up sheet there will be a brief explanation of what each of these roles entails. After reading those descriptions, if you have more questions, ask **Pastor Al** and he will direct you to someone who is already serving in that role.**

Really folks – we need you and you are perfect for the part.

### Volunteer for August 10 Community Celebration

On Tuesday, August 10, from 6:30 – 8 p.m. there is going to be a celebration on the north lawn of the church. (If there is a huge storm, it will be in the basement.) On that evening, we need some people to help put it all together.

First, here is what will be going on so you have an idea of what it is you will be helping to make possible.

- The unveiling of new murals for the parking lot and the garden fence.
- TransitART will bring in a group of young artists and entertainers to perform.
- Under the "big tent" there will be a Vegetable Dish Cook off with prizes for the dishes judged "best of the

day." (Prizes will be gift certificates to The Black Creek Bistro.) Judges will be:

- **Bruce Black**, president of the Berwick Civic Association.
- **Sheryl Owens**, president of the Berwyn West Civic Association.
- **Matt Meyers**, Redeemer member.
- **Kent Peters**, owner of The Black Creek Bistro.
- Ice cream and drinks will be served up and people will be able to taste the vegetable dishes after the judges are finished.

As you can see, we will need a number of people to jump in and take on a piece of what it will take to make it all work.

A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk in the Narthex.

### Food Give-Away Continues on Saturdays

Veggies continue to be given away each Saturday. Usually the give-away starts at 10 a.m. Before that can happen, a few Redeemer folks show up (about 9 a.m.) to go through the garden and pick what is ready for the day, set up small tables, bring out any vegetables that were harvested in the few days before the weekly give-away and stored in the refrigerator, put out the "Free Veggies" sign and then – the people start coming.

We've had one neighbor bring by herbs for teas and Redeemer members provide peppers, tomatoes – anything else that they have grown!

Remember that RLC members and friends can drop veggies off at the church as early as Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon and store them in the refrigerator.

### Volunteers Needed to Work at Food Pantry

Two more volunteers are needed to work at the food pantry on Thursday, August 12. The hours are 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. If you can help, please call Donna at the church office at 237-1263.

Redeemer tries to send a team of five individuals each shift. Questions should be directed to **John Steiner** at (740) 927-7347.

### **REMEMBER TO BRING VEGGIES TO GIVE AWAY!!**

Contributions of fresh vegetables and herbs for the weekly "give away" can be brought to the church Wednesday through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon (store them in the refrigerator) and on Saturdays, beginning at 8 a.m.

### Good Neighbors Picnic Set for Oct. 9

On October 9, the Good Neighbors Picnic will again be held at Goodale Park. Every year, over 1,200 men, women, and children are fed and clothed at this event.

Once again Redeemer has the opportunity to help by providing gently used or new blankets. In the past few years there has also been a need for extra large hooded sweatshirts. Large winter coats are not often available and hooded sweatshirts provide warmth and protection from the cold.

At this time of year, bedding and warmer clothing is often on sale so please consider picking up one of these items that will make a difference in the life of a homeless brother or sister.

A box will be available in the Narthex for the donations.

### **A New Book Has Been Added**

A new book has been added to Redeemer's lending library which is available in the Narthex. It is *Final Gifts: Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs, and Communications of the Dying* which offers practical advice to anyone caring for a terminally ill person on how to recognize, understand, and respond to the patient's messages.

Written by two hospice nurses, **Maggie Callanan** and **Patricia Kelley**, the caregiver is told to listen carefully to try to discern what lies behind the patient's verbal clues rather than just believing "Grandma is confused" when, for example, she talks about seeing her parents who have been dead for many years.

Many examples are given to encourage caregivers to observe carefully. Often one is able to give one last gift to the loved one – as well as receiving the gift of understanding for one's self.

### **Quarterly Statements Available**

Thanks to **Financial Secretary Bruce Collins**, quarterly statements are available for pick up in the Narthex.

## **The Wider Church**

### **LSS Holds Open House**

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Central Ohio will hold an open house at its new corporate offices on Tuesday, August 17 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The address is 500 W. Wilson Bridge Rd., Ste. 245, Worthington.

Refreshments will be served.

To RSVP, call 429-5486.

### **Peace LC Collects Clothing, Furniture**

Cleaning out but have nowhere to contribute items you want to discard? Peace Lutheran Church (455 Clark State Rd.) has trailers at the back of its parking lot where clothing and furniture is collected. Lutheran Social Services (LSS) then distributes the items to people in southeastern Ohio who are in need.

(Call Peace at 337-1000 to talk to **Dana Stuckey** to make sure there is room for your donation.)

### **Hanson Calls for Immigration Reform**

If Congress does not pass comprehensive immigration reform soon, state legislators and local governments will continue to take immigration policy into their own hands, wrote the **Rev. Mark S. Hanson**, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), in a July 27 letter to **U.S. President Barack Obama**.

"This would create an untenable patchwork of differing local laws and produce confusion for law enforcement officials and lawfully present people, as well as increased suffering for the undocumented," wrote Hanson.

Responding to Obama's June speech on the need for immigration reform, Hanson thanked the president for his speech and wrote that, as presiding bishop of the ELCA, he sees firsthand the "direct consequences of inaction on this issue for

immigrant families, for congregations, and for communities across the United States."

Without a significant change in U.S. immigration policy, "we will continue to deal as a nation with the devastating consequences of a broken immigration system," wrote Hanson.

In his letter, Hanson told the U.S. president that a bi-partisan bill is possible "based on efforts (of) only a few years ago."

Hanson also told the president that synod bishops of the ELCA have written letters and opinion pieces in support of immigration reform and highlighted "Toward Compassionate, Just and Wise Immigration Reform" – a social policy resolution passed by the ELCA Church Council in November 2009.

Christians have a clear calling not only to welcome immigrants but to care about their lives, concerns and experiences as newcomers in the United States, Hanson wrote.

"I asked Lutherans to support comprehensive immigration reform that keeps families together, maintains basic human and worker rights, helps our new neighbors come out of the shadows, and seeks a path to permanence for our new neighbors," wrote Hanson.

Lutherans believe that hospitality is a central value, wrote Hanson, adding that Lutherans know immigration is a complex issue.

"We are a hopeful church and we are committed to working for a better future for people who migrate and for our country," he wrote. "We strive with others to model and promote civil discourse on these and other issues."

Through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) congregations of the ELCA and Lutheran social ministries provide critical services to migrant populations, spread the word of welcome, and advocate for fair and human immigration reform, wrote Hanson.

LIRS is one of the nation's leading agencies in welcoming and advocating for refugees and immigrants. Based in Baltimore, LIRS works on behalf of the ELCA, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

"We have a robust commitment to effective advocacy" addressing issues like poverty, hunger, market and environmental issues that force people around the world to leave their homes, wrote Hanson. "On the basis of this practical experience, as well as our stated principle, we will continue to call for a comprehensive reform of our immigration system."

The ELCA Church Council's social policy resolution is at <http://www.ELCA.org/What-We-Believe/Social-Issues/Resolutions/Comprehensive-Immigration-Reform.aspx> on the ELCA's website.