



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

An adventure for *life!*

Reflections

(614) 237-1263

VOL. 14, ISSUE 32

August 9, 2010

Small But Mighty ... *Important*

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 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 Reinhoehl
Secretary - Ashley Bird
Member - Helen Brunston
Member - William McCulley

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Michele Disbro

MIC STUDENTS

2nd year - Joe Brosious

Many churches have an active small group ministry. Have you ever wondered what the *purpose* of small group ministry is, though?

Small groups are about relationship-building, nurturing, and community. They can be the first place a person interacts with a church. They can be the one place where someone trusts others enough to share their story. They can encourage laughter, tears, conversation, study, and prayer. They are places of support, mutual caring, and growth. Small groups often are a launch pad for the formation of other groups and ministries.

All small groups have common characteristics. Generally, small groups contain 5-12 people. A smaller number encourages interaction among the group participants. Mutual trust is developed within small groups. Group participants learn to care for one another.

Small groups have unique characteristics, as well. Some groups meet weekly, some meet monthly, some meet year after year, some meet for a short term. Groups are mixed genders or can be made up of just males or just females. Age ranges can be different from group to group. Some groups are focused around a particular topic, interest, or cause and some groups are more general in nature. Some groups are more structured and others are more informal.

Each year, small group formation is encouraged at Redeemer. In September, we will once again showcase small groups and invite people to be a part of a current group or a new group that is forming. If you want to create a small group, you will also have an opportunity to start one. At Redeemer, we have and will continue to have small groups that meet together in learning and meet together in fellowship. This year, we will also make another type of small group available: Mustard Seed Groups.

Mustard Seed Groups share the common and unique components of small groups described earlier. With Mustard Seed Groups, time and activity together is more intentional and structured. While each group has its own unique style, each Mustard Seed Group will generally follow a similar pattern of prayer, sharing, and Bible study/discussion. For those interested in leading a Mustard Seed Group, training will be offered.

No matter what your interest and where you are in your faith journey, there is a small group just for you at Redeemer. Come aboard, join in the adventure!

Peace, Kelley

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

Mary, Mother of Our Lord

LESSONS

Isaiah 61:7-11; Psalm 34:1-9; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 1:46-55

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

10:00 AM Holy Communion

INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of All Sheperds Lutheran Church.
+ For Redeemer members Emily and Nathan Ott.
+ *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

Presiding Minister	Dr. Cheryl Peterson
Assisting Minister	Mary Benis
Acolyte	Dayrel Billingsley
Reader	
Cantor	Jennifer Young
Coordinator	Kurt Goshen
Ushers	Donna Voekel Ruth Murray
Welcoming Team	Becky Fisher Nancy Steiner
Hospitality	Dick and Hilda Kautz
Nursery	Tammy 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 McCleafe

Food Pantry Delivery Nancy and Kathie Ehrich

SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS RESUMES IN THE FALL

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

AUGUST 9 – AUGUST 16, 2010

Tuesday

10AM	Cello Lessons #9
5PM	Mission Endowment
6:30PM	Community Celebration

Wednesday

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

Thursday

10AM	Food Pantry
7:30PM	Church Council

Friday

Saturday

9AM	Beacon of Hope
10AM	Veggie Give away

Sunday

10AM	Worship
11:30AM	Worship Committee

Monday

5PM	Youth Expression #4
5:30PM	Evangelism #2*
7PM	DADS

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for long-time Redeemer visitors **Aani Brown** and **Kevin Bourassa** whom **Pastor Al** married over the weekend at Old Trinity Lutheran Church.

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Prayers are also asked for **Bob Eakin** who fell at home this past week.

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Remember: Deadline for **Reflections** articles is 7 a.m. Monday mornings. Just email them to info@Redeemerluth.com and put "For Reflections" in the subject line.

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Pastor Al will be gone this weekend to his 40th high school reunion.

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Volunteer Still Needed

One more volunteer is needed to help at the Lutheran Social Services 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.

REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

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.) It will include the following activities:

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.

Helpers are still needed. Either call the office and just come and jump in! See you then!

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.

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.

A Note from Stewardship

Week in and week out, we are reminded of our mission as a community at Redeemer Lutheran Church ... to be followers of Jesus, sharing God’s love with all. So how is Jesus active in your life? Do you ever think about all the aspects of your life that reflect how Christ is alive in you? How we steward all that God has entrusted to us can be a roadblock to the relationship we have with Jesus or can be a catalyst to a growing relationship with Jesus.

Psalm 24 begins, “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and all those who live in it....” We are given the privilege and responsibility to care for all that belongs to God. Our faithful response to a loving God is embodied in every minute of our day. Our response is reflected in how we care for our physical and emotional health, how we care for creation, the care we take with our relationships with family and friends, our use of time, the care we take in our daily paid and unpaid work, the care of our finances, and our use of the skills and abilities we are given.

It’s not an easy road, nor an ending one. Being a steward means constant and intentional attention to all the aspects of our God-given person and life.

But don’t think of it as a burden or chore. Think of it as a joyful response to the gracious love and blessings we have from God. Think of it as a way to cultivate and nurture our relationship with Jesus. Think of it as part of the faith journey we share with others. Think of it as an adventure for life!

Envelopes, Envelopes

Hopefully, you’ve noticed the new white envelopes in the hymnal racks in the sanctuary. They’re intended for “all y’all” – members, visitors, friends, relatives – anyone who’d like to make a recorded contribution to Redeemer. Members who fill in the name blank on the envelopes can be confident that the enclosed offering will be duly noted by the financial secretary.

And about those other envelopes – the weekly ones with your very own number on them – just a few reminders:

1) Any contribution to “Current Budget” supports **all** regular Redeemer programs, including benevolence, and is allocated as the congregation has directed.

2) Any amount in the “Building Maintenance” monthly envelopes goes directly to the Building Maintenance Reserve Fund, which is used for larger, occasional, or emergency maintenance needs.

3) Each preaddressed envelope can be mailed in to the office—just add a stamp and cross out the erroneous bar code. Redeemer can function best when our financial support is consistent.

One way to be *sure* that your offering gets to Redeemer consistently, even when you’re far away and/or out of stamps, is to set up your contribution electronically. The Simply Giving program has been accomplishing this for some of our members for a number of years. It charges Redeemer a

very modest fee to send the members' offerings electronically on whatever schedule the members have chosen; enrollment forms are available in the office.

In addition, many of us already use electronic funds transfer (EFT) to pay bills through our own financial institutions. In most cases EFTs are easy to set up and typically involve no added fees at all.

Long story short – there are lots of ways to be faithful stewards and to be sure that Redeemer's ministry stays strong. Please choose whatever method works best for you.

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.

July Council Update

Budget (through June)

Year-to-date income (budget) – \$128,399 (45% of budget)

Year-to-date expenses – \$130,649

Transfer from 2009 - \$5,000

Surplus or (Deficit) - \$2,509.78

* Council officially ratified the hiring of **Donna Yarborough** as church secretary.

* The parking lot will be resealed the week of August 17.

* Beacon of Hope repainted the Fellowship Hall. Redeemer provided the paint.

* **Pastor Al** reported that his will be presiding at the Covenant Ceremony for **Maureen Callahan** and **Margie Farnham** on August 21.

* **Pastor Al** reported that attendance in June averaged 131.

* Executive Committee has begun plans for **Pastor Al's** sabbatical which will run September through December 2011.

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.)

LWF President Pleads for Unity Despite Differences

The **Rev. Mark S. Hanson**, president of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), appealed to delegates at the LWF assembly here to hold together and avoid splits in the face of differences over issues of sexuality, according to Ecumenical News International (ENI).

"It is not the time for further traditions of Lutheranism to emerge in the world. We have to find unity," said Hanson in his address to delegates recently.

The LWF is 140 member churches in 79 countries, representing more than 70 million Christians worldwide.

Hanson was speaking after conflicts had surfaced between some churches from the African continent and Western churches on the roles of people who are gay or lesbian in the church, ENI reported. In recent months, the LWF's second-largest member church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, has stated its opposition to same-sex marriage and churches that support such unions, the report said.

Hanson diverted from his prepared speech to appeal for unity. "I am deeply concerned that we are on the precipice of a time where the rich tradition of Lutheran theology is used to divide Lutherans among themselves," said Hanson.

Looking ahead to 2017, which will celebrate the start of the Reformation 500 years ago and the role played by **Martin Luther**, Hanson added, "As we approach 2017, it should not become a celebration of division but of our rich diversity."

Hanson expressed his concerns about the Lutheran world community in a time when churches in the Southern Hemisphere are continuing to grow while churches in Europe and North America are losing members, the ENI report said.

Speaking about the ELCA, he said that 95 percent of its membership is white, and does not mirror the multicultural society of the United States. The average age of the church members is well above the average for the population as a whole, Hanson explained.

"This radically inclusive communion will face the challenge of supporting churches in the South, (and) developing accessible and contextual models of leadership development for their rapidly growing churches," said Hanson.

"Northern member churches can learn much about how important the training of lay evangelists and catechists is to the growth and renewal of the church," the LWF president told 400 delegates and other guests. "We need you to teach us."