



Reflections

VOLUME 24

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ISSUE 33

Lessons from Geese:

Standing by Each Other in Difficult Times

Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from the Children's Defense Fund's *Child Watch Column* by Marion Wright Edelman who credited Angeles Arrien in a 1991 speech.

Fact 1: As each goose flaps its wings it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Fact 2: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

Fact 3: When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.

Fact 4: The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.

Fact 5: When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

In This Issue

[Lessons from Geese: *Standing by Each Other in Difficult Times*](#)

[The Redeemer Community](#)

[The Wider Church](#)

[The Community Beyond](#)

[Prayers & Personals](#)

[Getting Ready for Sunday](#)

OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor – Rev. David Shull

Office Manager – Becky Trover

Custodian – Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director-

Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chimes Choir Director -

Karen Kent

Reflections Editor – Judith Bird

2020 CHURCH COUNCIL

President – Margie Frazier

Vice President – Julie Johnson

Finance Officer –

Secretary – Chad Eberle

Worship – Julie Larson

Education – Wendy Stoica

Outreach – Jon Disbro

Member Support – Elyce Herring

Property – Sue Yehling

Stewardship – Ruth Murray

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer – Larry Trover

Financial Secretary – Brad Phillips

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Michelle Clemence

Bruce Collins

Dave Engel, Chair

Nancy Magargal

Jim Riley

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent – Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community

Stepping Out into the Community

Redeemer's two-year-old race conversations group, after discussing *White Privilege* earlier this spring, has decided it is time for us to imagine stepping outside the walls of the church to engage larger communities around these issues.

As a result, two Zoom conversations have been scheduled with people who have worked on a couple areas we want to learn more about so we might decide if we'd like to invite you all to engage in these specific areas of anti-racist work.

On **Wednesday evening, August 19**, we will have a Zoom conversation with **Suellen Bennett**, the recently-appointed health equity supervisor in the Columbus Health Department. She will speak with us about the ways this pandemic has only made more obvious what people in the health field have known for decades: that people of color are far more at risk to be sick and die of preventable illnesses and conditions than white people. She will talk with us about how church communities and organizations might partner to address this injustice toward our neighbors in meaningful ways. Here is the information on how to join in that conversation on Zoom:

Topic: Redeemer Race Conversations Zoom Meeting on health inequity

Time: August 19, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: ID: 848 4641 2334; Passcode: 007526

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84846412334?pwd=WXYxYUhwZ3c0VDRIRkNLSDc3Y1NOZz09>

Phone only: 646 876 9923

On **Wednesday, September 9**, at 7 p.m., the Zoom talk will be about police reform with **Debbie Crawford**. She has been engaged in anti-racism work in Columbus for years. In the past four years she has focused that work on the area of police accountability and reform. She will speak with us about her work and, again, facilitate a conversation with us about ideas we might have about how our congregation and others might work meaningfully to bring about changes in policing. Here is Zoom information for that gathering:

Topic: Redeemer Race Conversations Zoom Meeting on police reform

Time: September 9, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: ID: 875 3338 8596; Passcode: 521578

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87533388596?pwd=cm1Lb0FTdUJGK05zVXIHSm1UWIZWdz09>

Phone only: 646 876 9923

These are two ways we can continue to carry on the work of Christ while we are not gathering face-to-face. Your voice would be a welcome addition as we seek to listen for how God's Spirit calls us to live into our vision of fostering understanding and healing in community!

Sharing Meals on the Church Lawn

The next two gatherings on the lawn will be **Sunday, August 23** at noon for lunch, and **Wednesday, August 26**, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon for coffee and doughnuts and to hear from **Gail Feinstein**, the community engagement coordinator for Kensington Place Senior Living Community, talk about that facility and what it offers. This had to be rescheduled from earlier this month.

RSVP to the church office at 614-237-1263. There is room for nine individuals at each.

Please bring your own chair and mask and lunch on the Sunday. Likewise, bring your own chair and mask on Wednesday. However, doughnuts will be provided.

Faithful Giving!

The Congregation Council met **Wednesday, August 5** evening, and among the items reviewed were Redeemer's finances through the end of June. **Julie Johnson** reports, "We talked about how grateful we are that the congregation has continued to financially support the congregation faithfully throughout this

time away during this COVID-19 pandemic. Giving at the end of June was slightly over 50 percent of the annual budgeted giving -- right on target!

“Council thanks you all for continued support in these uncertain times. We are truly an extraordinary group of believers!”

Follow Redeemer on Facebook Instagram, YouTube

Did you know that Redeemer is on social media? You can follow RLC on Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube channel! These pages/profiles will be sharing church updates, announcements, weekly worship and more in addition to the news you receive through the weekly *Reflections*.

If you are active on these social platforms, please support Redeemer by following our page, liking our posts, and maybe even re-sharing Redeemer's content with your own social network. These efforts help spread the word about RLC and the many ways our congregation is serving, connecting, and worshipping.

Do you have something to share on Redeemer's Facebook or Instagram? Email your request and details to communications@redeemerluth.com. Thanks for your support and help spreading the word about RLC!

Follow us on Facebook at Redeemer Lutheran Church (@RedeemerColumbus), on Instagram @RedeemerLuth, and on YouTube at Redeemer Lutheran Church Columbus Ohio.

RLC Seeks Donations of Disinfecting Wipes

One supply Redeemer will need as church council begins to contemplate re-opening the building are disinfecting wipes to make available throughout the building. However, these wipes are difficult to find and, while the congregation will continue to try to order through its regular sources, they have been consistently out of stock. **So, if congregation members happen to see some in stores, they are asked to pick up as many as permitted and share any they don't need for personal use with the church.**

RLC Weekly Produce Giveaway Underway

Redeemer's weekly Saturday morning produce giveaways from our own garden will again be held on **Saturday, August 22** and will continue every Saturday morning through the summer. The giveaway runs from 10 a.m. until items are gone. Picking is at 9 a.m. If you can help, please call **Jon Disbro**.

If you have food items to include in the giveaway, please drop them off at the church.

Adult Sunday Education Class Resumes on August 23

The Sunday adult education class on the Apostles' Creed resumes on **Sunday, August 23**. This class explores the words said every week in worship: *I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...*

Where do these words come from? Why does this statement of faith include what it does, but say nothing about the sacraments, and nothing about what a life of following Jesus looks like in practice? Are there ways earlier Christians might have heard these words that are lost to us now? If we affirm these words in worship, what do we believe we are saying? What are we committing ourselves to? What meanings do these words have for us?

These are the kinds of questions we're exploring in our Sunday Faith Exploration class. The next one is **Sunday, August 23** from 10-11 a.m.

Join the Zoom Meeting ID: 856 0009 9704; Passcode: 728810. By phone, call 646-876-9923. If you don't have the Zoom app, you can join the meeting by copying and entering the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85600099704?pwd=dU9MTIFQT3VxdGVZWIRyRDJCaHdEUT09>

You would bless us by your participation in this!

Tuesday Bible Study Resumes on August 18

The Tuesday Bible Study on the Letter to James resumes on **Tuesday, August 18**. This is the book which **Martin Luther** believed totally contradicted the teachings of Paul which had been so essential for Luther's own transformation and which he felt formed the essence of grace. It was one of the last books accepted into the collection that became the New Testament partly because it seemed to differ from Paul's writings. The main reason was because it wasn't clear that it was written by someone who had known or met **Jesus**, so its "apostolic origins" were in doubt. At the same time, James has some of the clearest statements about what love and justice look like in action that exist in any of scripture.

If you have Tuesday afternoons free, join us. We are a group of people who are both serious about listening for the Spirit's voice in the text and in each other and serious about supporting each other through whatever we're going through -- and who laugh deeply and often. Give us a try! Get in touch with **Dave Shull** if you have any questions.

To join the group this **Tuesday, August 18** from 1-2:30 p.m., go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 884 6835 2748; Passcode: 319682. To participate by phone, call 646-876-9923. If you don't have the Zoom app, you can join the meeting by copying and entering the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88468352748?pwd=U3IzNEVINDRIWVYwbG5tUVVvMkltZz09>

Sister Act Cancels Fall Retreat

Carol Heacock reports that, due to the situation with the coronavirus, the group has decided to cancel the fall retreat that had been set for October 9-11. She said that, "In our discussions, we felt it would be impossible to maintain distance in the Priebe Center plus having to be inside for most of the time, including meals, would not be a healthy setting for us, certainly not this year."

The group does plan to give a donation to the camp "as a show of appreciation and support to their ministry."

Sunday Worship Available on YouTube

The **August 16** Sunday worship service is available at <https://tinyurl.com/r6mk2xh>. For the Sunday Worship Bulletin, go to the Redeemer website at www.RedeemerLuth.com >News, Sermons, Devotions.

We are holding one another in prayer and in spirit as we work through this time. Go in peace, serve the Lord, wash your hands!

Important Emails

DSnull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

Info@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with **Financial Secretary Brad Phillips**, and for stewardship campaigns.

Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

Property@RedeemerLuth.com – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

Communications@redeemerluth.com – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put *Reflections* in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

Prayers for healing and recovery are asked for **Larry and Becky Trover** following Larry's COVID-19 diagnosis. Prayers are also asked for **Mark Zwanziger, Kathy's** brother, who recently had surgery.

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Nancy Stinson thanks the congregation for their prayers on behalf of her brother **Tom Starkey**. She reports that he is well on the mend.

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Becky Trover is looking for someone to mow their very small yard while **Larry** is recovering from illness. They use a push mower. Is there someone to assist them? If you or someone you know who likes the smell of newly mown grass, please contact **Kathy Mimplitch** at KathyMimplitch@yahoo.com or by calling 614-439-7739.

New Redeemer Directory Available

Redeemer's Directory of members has been updated. To receive an electronic copy or to have a hard copy mailed to you, please contact the church office. Hard copies are available at the church and can be found under the bulletin board in the hallway off the Narthex.

August Birthdays

17-Thelma Johnson

18-Jasper Glover-Oakleaf 23-Scott Steiner

25-LaVerna Reinoehl 26-Brad Binau

27-Matthew Bird 27-Jon Disbro

29-Heather McGurer 31-Lynn Belhorn

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Jeremy Davis, a Redeemer member who is at the Ross Correctional Institute, is unable to receive visitors due to COVID-19 prevention efforts. In addition, Redeemer is not able to send him the group letter written each week after worship. Please send him a note sharing a greeting, thought, or prayer. It must be on a blank white 8.5x11" piece of paper; the note must be written in black or blue ink only. There can be NO enclosures of any kind. His address is Jeremy Christian Davis #758199, 16149 Ohio-104, Chillicothe OH 45601.

COVID-19 Information

To get the most up-to-date information regarding the pandemic and Ohio's COVID-19 activities, go to the Ohio Department of Health website at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/> or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

In addition, the Southern Ohio Synod has put together a number of Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) resources online at <https://tinyurl.com/y9ohdaov>. Among the items linked to are the latest "Stay Safe Ohio" order from **Gov. Mike DeWine**, a checklist on face coverings and cleaning and disinfecting alternatives.

The Wider Church

St. Philip's Offers Free Produce

St. Philip Lutheran Church (1506 E. Long St.) is sponsoring a free produce giveaway on **Saturday, August 22** from 9 to 11:30 a.m. (or until the food runs out) in the East High School parking lot across from the church. Folks are asked to bring their own heavy duty bags, boxes and carts to carry the bulk produce home.

The giveaway is in conjunction with the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The Community Beyond

Free Masks for Columbus Residents

In response to Gov. Mike DeWine's instituting a statewide mask mandate, Columbus Recreation and Parks is providing **free** masks at a Produce Drop on the following dates at various community centers.-All locations are open 3:30-5 p.m. "Help slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep the Columbus community safe. Show respect and kindness to others by wearing a cloth face covering in public."

Adams Community Center

854 Alton Ave. | 43219

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24

Barnett Community Center

1184 Barnett Rd. | 43227

Date: Sept. 11

Beatty Community Center

247 N. Ohio Ave. | 43203

Date: Sept. 11

Dodge Community Center

667 Sullivant Ave. | 43215

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24

Feddersen Community Center

3911 Dresden St. | 43224

Dates: Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and Sept. 18

Glenwood Community Center

1888 Fairmont Ave. | 43223

Date: Aug. 20

Holton Community Center

303 N. Eureka Ave. | 43204

Dates: Aug. 20, Sept. 3 and Sept. 17

Howard Community Center

2505 N. Cassady Ave. | 43219

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24

Marion Franklin Community Center

2801 Lockbourne Rd. | 43207

Date: Sept. 24

Milo Grogan Community Center

862 E. 2nd Ave. | 43201

Dates: Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and Sept. 18

Scioto Southland Community Center

3901 Parsons Ave. | 43207

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24

Tuttle Park Community Center

240 W. Oakland Ave. | 43201

Dates: Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and Sept. 25

Getting Ready for Sunday

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost, August 23, 2020

Lessons

Readings: Romans 12:1-8; Psalm 124; Matthew 16:13-20

Prayer for the Times

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for
our children when their schools close,
Remember those who have no options.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those who have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have not margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country,
Let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors.
AMEN

Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Epiphany Lutheran Church in Pickerington.
- + For Redeemer community member Kay Ernsthause.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns:, Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Lea Spang, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Kelly Scott, Diane Louangrath, Sue Baker, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Amy DeLorenzo, Linda and Don Williams, Pamela Andrews, Val Farnham, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's mother Maryland Belhorn and friend MaryAnn, Laura Warren's brother Walter Hudson and his wife Jan, Bill Boys, Doretha Holland, Dolores Brannigan's husband Dave, Becky Trover's sister Maddie and brother Jeff, Jack and Shirley Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Grace Jones' son Chief Warrant Officer Henry Mentrak, Ranel and Neil Hoddinott, Kathleen Zwanziger's brother Mark Zwanziger, and Larry Trover.

Noisy Offering will be for Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, August 23: A study of the Apostles' Creed for today ~ Led by
Pastor Dave Shull

This class is held via Zoom or folks can call in. See separate story about how to participate.

This Week at Redeemer
August 18 - 24, 2020

<u>Tuesday</u>	1:00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00 am	Conversation and Coffee ON THE LAWN
	7:00 pm	ZOOM Conversations on Race
<u>Saturday</u>	9:00 a.m.	Redeemer Garden Pick
	10:00 a.m.	Redeemer Garden Giveaway
<u>Sunday</u>	YouTube	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 am	ZOOM Adult Education
	Noon	RLC 3D Lunch ON THE LAWN