



Reflections

VOLUME 24

November 2, 2020

ISSUE 44

Prayers for Our Country on Election Eve

In last week's column, I invited any of you who wish to write a prayer for this country as we gather to complete the process of voting tomorrow. Two of you sent one in, and the third included prayers around the election in yesterday's worship service. Your prayers brought a prayer out of me as well.

So here are a few prayers for this country from this community. Please continue to offer your own as we live into whatever this week brings.

Sue Watson: Dear God, blessed Father, please hear our pleas for kindness and wisdom in the coming days. As our country continues to face such unthinkable violence and hatred never seen before, give your children the courage and hope that we so desperately need. We look to you for guidance and strength, as always, and You are right here with us as we wait for whatever comes. If it be Thy will, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Emily Ott: My prayer is that the Spirit would hear our sighs too deep for words, would intervene in all of our hearts to light the way toward justice and actions we can take to care for the widow, the orphan, and the alien, and the creation we have been entrusted to steward. I'm ready for some swords to be broken into ploughshares and some kingdoms to topple. It's really scary.

Mary Benis (from her Assisting Minister prayer on Nov. 1, 2020): We pray for our country – as we face a contentious election amid a surging pandemic. Regardless of the outcome on Tuesday, guide us toward unity, in pursuit of the common good and the inclusive well-being of all. May we be sources of healing, known for our compassion and understanding, our kindness and courage. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Dave Shull: Holy Mystery, you promise to hold this world in your care. We also know you don't save us from ourselves. If we choose to see those on the other side of the political fence as evil or ignorant or less than we are, then you will not change us. So, I pray, where our hearts become hard, soften them. When our fists clench, open them. When our minds and ears close, break us open to admit how little we truly know. When we look at another with disdain, help us see how much we need to see in a new way. Remind us to keep our eyes on you and follow only you, so all we say and do grows out of our desire to be kind and courageous. Amen.

Dave Shull

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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

Interim Treasurer – Julie Johnson

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

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614-237-1263

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The Redeemer Community

Race Conversations Zoom with Officer Melissa McFadden on Nov. 4

Redeemer's Racial Justice group invites you to join our Zoom meeting this **Wednesday, November 4.** We will host **Officer Melissa McFadden**, who has recently written a book about her experiences of systemic racism within the Columbus Police Department.

When McFadden went through the Columbus Police Academy in 1996, this West Virginia native immediately saw discrimination and bigotry she had never experienced before. She didn't know it wasn't her job to fix it. But with her belief in God, her military training, and her love of learning, she set out to right decades of wrongs perpetrated by Columbus police against the Black community, which as she quickly found out, included Black officers.

Walking the Thin Black Line is the story of her journey through the bureaucracy, the trauma, and the endless confrontation with racism within the Columbus Division of Police. The culture is very practiced at retaliation against anyone who dares to tell this story. McFadden has endured that retaliation for 24 years. She is still standing. And now she is ready to share her truth so that other little Black girls everywhere can grow up in a safe world – and follow McFadden into policing if they dream, like she did, of helping to keep it safe.

Please join us at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 4 to be part of this conversation. Here's the information to connect with our meeting on Zoom: Topic: Redeemer Racial Justice Zoom Meeting, November 4, 2020, 7 p.m.,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85201835611?pwd=alN1MjJQSWFEMK0U0bHQ0WVpNkFUQT09;>

Meeting ID: 852 0183 5611; Passcode: 640224; phone only: 646 876 9923.

Additional Volunteers Needed for RLC Food Pantry Team for Nov. 7

Kathy Zwanziger reports that Lutheran Social Services has made some changes to the pantry operation. The clients are again allowed to come into the pantry. Plexiglass has been installed for the "registrar." There is a "yellow brick road" for the clients to follow, allowing them to pick up a prepared box of food, then leading them past the meat, bread (one volunteer), milk, butter (a second volunteer), then to the produce (where more volunteers work) -- and out the "middle" door. At least this month, no client was in the building for very long.

The biggest change is that now Redeemer is requested to supply 10 volunteers to pack food.

If anyone is interested in assisting with this service to the community and would feel OK with helping, please let Kathy know at 801-205-9542 or KZwanOSU69@gmail.com. Redeemer's next scheduled day is **Saturday, November 7**, from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. There will be no clients in the pantry

Help LSS Pack Thanksgiving Care Packages

With the holidays approaching, Lutheran Social Services is trying to make Thanksgiving a little more joyful by supplying a bag of groceries (along with hope and healing) for people in crisis. To this end, LSS is assembling bags containing the following items:

- 2 pouches or 1 box of mashed potatoes
- 2 cans of fruit (peaches, applesauce, pears, etc.)
- 3 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of corn
- 2 cans of pumpkin
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box or bag of stuffing mix
- 1 turkey gravy packet
- 1 boxed yellow cake mix

Won't you consider donating one or more bags of these items? Donations of these items can be dropped off at church (making sure someone is there) or by taking them to **Kathy Zwanziger's** home. The "bags" are due by **Tuesday, November 17**. LSS will add a turkey, bread, and produce.

Thanks for helping make Thanksgiving happier for many people.

Redeemer to Serve at First English November 12

On **Thursday, November 12** Redeemer is scheduled to provide the take out dinner at First English. The menu will be: chicken, rice and veggie casserole, dinner roll, fruit cup, individually wrapped Hostess desserts. Also added will be Belvita cookies or granola bar – something for them to have later or for breakfast.

There will be lemonade and water also available for the dinners. Because we will need enough food for 72 dinners (six dozen), we need donations of seven casseroles (recipe below), fruit cups, Hostess desserts (i.e.: HoHo's, Nutter Butter bars, Oatmeal Cookies), granola Bars or Belvita cookies, dinner rolls (already baked such as Parker House rolls).

If you can provide any of these items, please let **Kay Ernsthausen** know. There is a basket in the Nathex to collect all the individually wrapped donations. If you will be donating a casseroles, please make arrangements with Kay for pick up on **Thursday, November 12** so they are hot.

If you want to donate any of the items but can't get to church, please let Kay know and she will make arrangements to pick them up.

Thank you for your continued support in helping feed those in need.

Chicken, Rice and Veggie Casserole

- 5 cups Cooked rice (cook it yourself or get it from a Chinese carryout)
- 4 cups Cooked chicken - if doing yourself-make sure to season it. Other options:
canned chicken, or buy a rotisserie chicken and pull it off the bones.
- 1 16-oz bag Frozen broccoli florets, cauliflower, and carrots
- 1 can Cream chicken soup
- 1 can Cream of celery soup
- 1 envelope onion soup mix
- 2 cans Milk (use the empty soup cans to measure the milk)
- 3 cups Shredded cheese (all one kind or any mixture)
- 30 Ritz Crackers or butter crackers (30 crackers are one sleeve)

Spray 13x9 pan with a cooking spray to prevent the casserole from sticking

In a large bowl. mix rice, chicken, veggies (break up any big pieces) and 1 1/2 cups shredded cheese.

In a medium bowl mix the 2 cans soup, 2 cans milk. (use the empty soup can to measure the milk.)

Add envelope of onion soup to dissolve in the soup/milk mixture.

Pour the liquid over the rice mixture. Mix until well blended. (If mixture appears dry, add another can full of milk.)

Spread into the prepared 13 x 9 pan.

Put Ritz crackers in a plastic bag or food processor. Crush/chop the crackers until in crumbs. Put in a medium bowl and mix in the remaining 1 1/2 cups of shredded cheese. Sprinkle over the top of the casserole.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes or until heated thru.

Stewardship Appeal: Thanks to All Who Responded!



Thanks from the Stewardship Team to all who have returned their response cards, which were dedicated during worship services on Reformation Sunday.

If you haven't yet returned your card, please send it in as soon as possible so that it can be included in the total, which is important for planning purposes. If you need a replacement, just contact the church office or a Stewardship Team member (**Ruth Murray, Dave Lippert, or Mary Benis**).

Please be sure you've done your part to keep Redeemer's ministries strong as we walk together by faith into 2021.

Tuesday Bible Study Now Looking at Book of Genesis

The Tuesday Bible Study continues its study of the book of Genesis on **Tuesday, November 3**. 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, November 3** from 1-2:30 p.m., go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 871 3736 6983; Passcode: 619946. 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/87137366983?pwd=T0NoUU5ORmNYN1YrajhpZ2hGR09pdz09>

Adult Sunday Education Class Meets at 11:15 a.m.

The Sunday Adult Education class will conclude its discussion on *What does the Bible say about conflict resolution?* at 11:15 a.m. on **Sunday, November 8** after the 10 a.m. worship. The class will then be on hiatus the next two Sundays, **November 15** and **November 22** while Pastor Dave is on vacation.

The group looks at the ways the Bible addresses various questions and topics people in the class want to examine. You can bet the Bible won't just have one opinion on anything! The group continues to explore questions around what the Bible says about conflict management and resolution. We'd love to have your voice and your questions! So join us **Sunday, November 8** from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Join the Zoom Meeting ID: 837 8326 6885; Passcode: 043099. 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/83783266885?pwd=S3hqdl1dQR3lUbjdvYU9nWGk3MnI0dz09>.

You would bless us by your participation in this!

Previous Sunday Worship Services Available on YouTube

Previous Sunday worship services are available at <https://tinyurl.com/r6mk2xh>. For the current 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

DShull@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

Dave Shull on Vacation November 9-22

Pastor Dave Shull is taking a vacation BU. Preaching and presiding on **November 15** will be the **Rev. Dr. Brenda Buckwell**. Brenda has served as a parish pastor and now works as a spiritual director and life coach. Since she is new to the Redeemer community, you can find out a bit more about her at www.livingstreamsflowingwater.com.

On **November 22**, **Dr. Cheryl Peterson**, a very familiar and beloved presence at Redeemer, is preaching and presiding.

If you have emergency pastoral care needs while Dave is gone, please contact **the Rev. Julianne Smeck** at 734-972-6126 or smeckj@mac.com. Julianne is the pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Columbus.

Member Directory Update: Faith Wick is now living with **Heidi Wick** and **Don Hustead** at 35936 Johnson Lane, Cohasset, MN 55721; 218-999-5828 (home), wickwater11@gmail.com .

Redeemer’s CROP Walk Team Raises Over \$4,000

Many thanks to all who donated so generously to this year’s CROP Walk. Team Redeemer raised \$4,005 for alleviating hunger both here at home and around the world.

Even though the walkers did not go in a group to the Scioto Audubon Metro Park as in previous years, Redeemer’s CROP Team – **Connie Criswell**, **Kathy Zwanziger** and **Wendy Stoica** – walked in their own neighborhoods on October 11. The funds raised go to buy food and clean water for those in need.

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 at 614-237-1263 or via email to info@redeemerluth.com . Hard copies are available at the church and can be found under the bulletin board in the hallway off the Narthex. This edition corrects Pastor Dave’s office number which is 614-237-1686 or he can be reached on his cell at 206-725-3785.

November Birthdays

2-Barbara Connors 2-Neil Hoddinott
2-Danica Denniss 2-Barbara Hairston
3-Bryce Harms 4-Gage Gosnell
9-Ruth Murray 13-Emily Ott
16-Karen Collins 18-Carla Baldogo
19-Carolyn Klopfer 20-Zak Hinkle Moore
21-Andy Jacobs 23-Chelsea Gordon
23-Carolyn Moehring 24-Bobby Jimison
24-Judith Bird 24-Sarah Highland
25-Dereck Stewart 26-Grace Montgomery
28-Dave Shull 29-Mary Bowling

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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

Bishop Eaton Issues Election Statement

"God's care for human society calls us to rise again each day ... to appreciate — and do — the work of self-government."

(From the ELCA social message "Government and Civic Engagement in the United States.")

ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton participated **Sunday, November 1** with other religious leaders in the "Holding on to Hope National Prayer Service" at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. to pray for the good of the nation on the eve of Election Day. "Even as we pray, we are called to participate in our nation's electoral process as one way God works through us to love and serve the neighbor (Matthew 22:39). Our vote is a choice about what will make our society a more just, more whole community where human dignity is honored and rights are upheld.

"Throughout our church, many are experiencing heightened anxiety around the 2020 election. I confess that I feel it, too. Elections often raise tensions, but this season more than half of Americans say they are stressed over the future of our nation. We are beset by negative ads, targeted by misinformation campaigns and worried by reports of foreign interference. We are seeing unprecedented numbers voting early and many concerned for safety on Election Day. There are concerns about voter suppression and voter fraud, the near-certainty of delayed results and fear of election-related unrest or violence. We

experience all of this under the weight of a pandemic, in a year that has been filled with many crises, especially the ongoing scourge of racism and white supremacy.

“But as an American, I am hopeful. Commitment to the common good is embedded in the ideals expressed in our nation’s founding documents. These have assisted our country to transcend its bleakest moments, and I trust they will help us to do so now. We remain committed to fair and equitable voting as a bedrock for democracy. Respectful vigorous debate is part of the foundation and strength of our nation and an important step in our pilgrimage toward the horizon of ‘a more perfect union.’

“As a member of Christ’s church, I am hopeful. We are stewards of public life for the common good. ‘The ELCA holds to the biblical idea that God calls God’s people to be active citizens and to ensure that everyone benefits from the good of government.’ ([‘Government and Civic Engagement,’](#) p. 14). Aware of the urgent need for a ‘public life worthy of the name,’ the 2013 ELCA social policy resolution ‘Voting Rights to All Citizens’ acknowledges that many people of color and other minority groups face barriers to their right to vote. Our church has long held that it is our responsibility to act to ensure the right to vote without intimidation or interference. Our public leadership as disciples of Jesus Christ matters at this important time. Our civic engagement is not motivated by politics or partisanship. It is a call to genuine service of the neighbor in need. It recognizes that we can disagree about political means yet become ambassadors of hope, healing, reconciliation and justice.

“As I stated recently, it is imperative that we allow the election process to take place and ensure that every voice be heard and every vote counted. Our church is speaking up on the importance of free and fair elections. There are many ways we can all be involved responsibly in stewarding the gift of government, including as poll workers and election monitors, by feeding those waiting in long lines, by disseminating accurate information about voting, by sharing our appreciation with all those who serve to uphold our rights and responsibilities, by promoting patience so that every vote is counted, by planning ahead to address tensions and promote nonviolence, and through our fervent prayers.

“Let us pray together for our nation: O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Help us in these days to elect trustworthy leaders, participate in wise decisions for our common life and serve our neighbors. Bless those we elect, that our nation may grow toward peace among ourselves and be a blessing to other nations of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.”

The Community Beyond

Curbside Voting Available for Those with Physical Handicaps

Individuals with a physical handicap who wish to do early voting at the Franklin County Board of Elections at 1700 Morse Road can go to curbside voting at the east end of the building around the corner from the Payless Shoe Store. A team of election workers will assist you from your vehicle.

Getting Ready for Sunday

23 Sunday after Pentecost, November 8, 2020

Lessons

Readings: Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 78:1-7; Matthew 25:1-13

Prayer for the Times

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Help us in these days to elect trustworthy leaders, participate in wise decisions for our common life and

serve our neighbors. Bless those we elect, that our nation may grow toward peace among ourselves and be a blessing to other nations of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Hosanna Lutheran Church in Pataskala.
- + For Redeemer community member Gage Gosnell.

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, Val Farnham, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's friend MaryAnn, Laura Warren's brother Walter Hudson and his wife Jan, Doretha Holland, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Kathleen Zwanziger's brother Mark Zwanziger, Larry Trover, Earl Bradley's brother Fay Bradley.

Noisy Offering will be for Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, November 8: What Does the Bible Say about Conflict
Management and Resolution?
Led by Pastor Dave Shull

This Week at Redeemer October 27 – November 2, 2020

<u>Tuesday</u>	1 p.m.	ZOOM Bible Study
<u>Saturday</u>	10:00 a.m.-noon	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
<u>Sunday</u>	10 a.m.	Livestream Worship with Holy Communion on YouTube
	11:15 am	ZOOM Adult Education