



# Reflections

VOLUME 24

October 5, 2020

ISSUE 40

## **Renewing, Repairing and Restoring: *our commitments to God, to one another and to all of creation***

*Editor's Note: Over the last several weeks, Reflections has reported on the "Season of Creation" devotions offered by church leaders of four denominations including the ELCA's Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. Below is her devotion:*

### ***The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul***

Psalm 19:7

In the story of creation God provided a paradise. All of creation was in balance and was a delight. And God set clear boundaries so that balance could be maintained and all created things could flourish. These boundaries provided definition that made possible the amazing diversity of the created world. Far from being a constraint, these boundaries provided freedom and, paradoxically, real connection.

But humankind rebelled and continues to rebel. It is almost as if we view boundaries as an offense and limits as an affront. Creation is ours to use! But that denies the truth that we have this one earth and this one temporal life.

As I write this, we are living in a pandemic. The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 has spread throughout the world, bringing sickness and death. Viruses are strange creatures. They have no nucleus or membrane; they are unable to differentiate like normal healthy cells and are completely dependent on a host cell to survive. They will use up that cell even if it means the death of the host.

So God, through the law, gave us the gift of limits. God is God and we are not. We are responsible to each other. Our actions have consequences. We are not to live as membrane-less viruses.

The law of the Lord is perfect, sure, right, clear, pure and true. It brings wisdom, rejoicing, enlightenment and righteousness.

*Creator God, help us to accept your boundaries so that all created things can flourish. Amen.*

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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

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

[www.redeemerluth.com](http://www.redeemerluth.com)



## The Redeemer Community

### Next Outdoor Worship Tentatively Targeted for Oct. 11

#### *Wednesday's 'Staying Connected' to Have Details*

The Safe Worship Team meets Monday evening, October 5, to plan Redeemer's next outdoor worship service which is anticipated to be this coming Sunday, October 11, at 10 a.m.

After the team has had a chance to discuss input from the outdoor service on September 27, they will finalize plans for the next such service. Please look for an update on that in Wednesday's "Staying Connected" all-church email.

Feel free to contact **Dave Shull** at 206-725-3785 if you have comments or questions.

Thanks to all who felt safe attending the outside service on the 27th. We were filled by a truly festive spirit!

*Dave Shull*

### 2020 CROP Walk Set for October 11, Goes Virtual for 2020

The CROP Walk is next Sunday, October 11! A big thank you to everyone who has so generously donated so far. For those who wish to donate online please go to the following link:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/columbusoh/Team/View/134358/Redeemer-Lutheran-Church>

Another way to support CROP Walk and Redeemer's walkers to mail or give a check **made out CWS/CROP to Connie Criswell, Kathy Zwanziger or Wendy Stoica**. We are fighting hunger together!

### Adult Sunday Education Class Moves to 11:15 a.m. on October 11

The Sunday Adult Education class, *What Does the Bible Say about \_\_\_\_\_?* is moving its start time to 11:15 a.m. Sunday mornings, after the 10 a.m. outdoor worship. People who want to come to worship and then participate in the Zoom class are asked to bring a device and they will be given a place in the building for socially-distanced participation.

The group will continue looking at the variety of ways the Bible might address whatever 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 is currently exploring how to talk about hard topics in a loving way, using John 8:1-11, Mark 7:24-30; Mark 10:17-22 and Mark 12:28-31 as a basis for the discussion. We'd love to have your voice and your questions! So join us Sunday, October 11 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=S3hqd1dQR3lUbjdvYU9nWGk3MnI0dz09> .

You would bless us by your participation in this!

### RLC to Discontinue 'Blessing Boxes'

Due to the misuse of items in the box, the blessing boxes will be discontinued until further notice. For any questions, please contact **Kathy Mimplitch** at [kathymimplitch@yahoo.com](mailto:kathymimplitch@yahoo.com) .

### Daily Word Update

For the past two years, **Dora Pinder** and **Connie Criswell**, as part of Redeemer's Member Care Team, have distributed a Daily Word by email (Connie Criswell) and text message (Dora Pinder). This is done on a daily basis. It has been an uplifting and rewarding experience for all involved.

It has come to our attention that we may be missing a distinct group who are only accessible by telephone. We would love to expand the "Ministry" by calling members and friends and sharing a short Bible verse or short prayer. The intent is to share and uplift; not to force or engage in lengthy conversations.

We are trying to get an idea of interest in this additional ministry. Please give Dora a call or text at 614-563-8155 if you would like to share in this ministry by calling and/or receiving the Daily Bible Verse by telephone.

We look forward to sharing God's word and are excited by enhanced worship in these uncertain times.

## **Saturday Produce Giveaway Done for Season**

Redeemer's weekly Saturday morning produce giveaway from our own garden has now concluded for the season. Thank you to all who helped tend the garden and staff the Saturday distribution.

## **Sister Act Holds Mini-Retreat**



A number of the women of Redeemer who are members of Sister Act gathered **Saturday, October 3** at the home of **Sue Yehling** for a mini-retreat. It was a gorgeous day, filled with socially distanced and masked fun, fellowship and inspiration.

## **Redeemer Social Media Photo Policy 'Opt Out'**

RLC's social media presence is growing on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We have great stories to tell about who we are and what we're doing to help our community neighbors, while providing inspiring worship opportunities. In addition, we're excited to be rolling out a new and improved website, full of useful information for members and for those trying to find a new place of worship.

We tell our online stories with many photos of the life of Redeemer. It's inspiring for us, and we hope for others, to see the fellowship and the joy we have in serving. It's in that spirit we approach our social media presence.

The team collaborating on the social media strategy in association with RLC's Council, also understands that some may be sensitive to having photos online. We're asking that you read the information below and discern what is right for you and your family:

*Redeemer Lutheran Church utilizes photos to educate and inspire people with the goal of strengthening and growing our church community. We take care to post photos accordingly by never publishing names of children or others who may express vulnerabilities online. We assume that we have blanket permission to use photos **unless** we are contacted by email or mail to "opt out" of having photos*

used in our materials, website, or social media posts. **TO OPT OUT**, send an email request to [info@redeemerluth.com](mailto:info@redeemerluth.com) with your name or the name(s) of those in your family you do not want appearing in photos. You may also send a letter to the church office with the same information. (We just need to have this request in writing. Thank you for understanding.)

We look forward to growing our social media presence and appreciate your help!

## **Tuesday Bible Study Now Looking at Book of Genesis**

The Tuesday Bible Study will begin studying the book of Genesis on **Tuesday, October 6**. 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, October 6** 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>

## **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](http://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](mailto:DShull@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

[Info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with **Financial Secretary Brad Phillips**, and for stewardship campaigns.

[Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

[Property@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Property@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

[SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

[Transportation@redeemerluth.com](mailto:Transportation@redeemerluth.com) – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

[Communications@redeemerluth.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 of thanksgiving are asked for the birth of **Kathy** and **Rich Pautsch's** grandson **Lucas Foster** on **Tuesday, September 29!**

Congratulations also go out to former Redeemer member **Bonnie Hopkins** who is retiring after 11 years as superintendent of the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical Schools!

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Prayers are also asked for **Ed** and **Carolyn Klopfer** on Ed's admittance to a memory care facility in Clearwater FL. "It's a place where all his needs could be met ...."

## Christ in Our Home Devotional Booklets

The October – December edition of *Christ in Our Home* devotional is available. If you would like to have a copy, the church office will be happy to mail one to you. Call 614-237-1263 or email [info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com)

If you prefer, you may receive Christ in Our Home devotionals via email by going to <https://go.augsburgfortress.org/christ-in-our-home-email-subscription>

## October Birthdays

6-Tammy McFarland 7-Randy Kuklinski  
8-Julie Larson 9-Bill Boys  
9-Thea Barbour Harms 11-Sue Watson  
15-Jessie Jimison 16-Eileen Day  
17-Shari Ayers 19-Renee McFarland  
19-Miles Smith 23-Skye Andree  
23-Cason Day 23-Sandra Keaton  
24-Bret Day 24-Leyton Wolfe  
25-Madeline Gosnell 25-Madelyn McGurer  
26-Kennedi Jacobs 26-Avery Martin  
26-Krista Skipper 27-Brad Phillips  
29-Brittany Amon 30-Martin Binau  
31-John Caron

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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

### ELCA Provides Guidance on Political Activity for Churches, Leaders

With election season in full swing, **ELCA General Counsel Tom Cunniff** asked the Southern Ohio Synod to share the following reminders regarding what churches and church leaders can and cannot do in regard to political activity. Highlights of the materials are the following:

- Congregations cannot support or endorse candidates for office, but can do issue advocacy and neutral political activity (non-partisan registration drives, being a polling place, etc.)
- Pastors and other church employees can endorse or support candidates, but only if it is clear that they are acting in their personal capacity and not in their capacity as a leader or employee of the congregation (pastor cannot endorse from the pulpit, for example).

Two documents provide additional information. "Being a Public Church" can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/yyxetfhs> and "Political Activity and Tax Status" can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y2ea3qe3>.

### St. Philip to Hold Produce Giveaway on Oct. 24

St. Philip Lutheran Church (1506 E. Long St.) will hold a free produce giveaway on **Saturday, October 24** in the East High School parking lot which is across from the church. It will run from 9 to 11:30 a.m. or until they run out of food.

Drive-thru and walk-up options will be available. Folks are asked to bring their own heavy duty bags.

### Survey to Assess Pastoral Needs for Ministry in Multireligious World

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is conducting a survey to collect the experiences and needs of the church for ministry in a multireligious world. The survey is a first step in the development of guidelines for the church as outlined in *A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment: A policy statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, adopted by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly and which can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/y4xax7pq>. The declaration reflects the longtime inter-religious commitments of the church.

The policy statement acknowledged that "there are many pastoral considerations beyond the scope of this declaration, for example, the common reality of multireligious family life. Therefore, the church recognizes the need for the ongoing development of appropriate pastoral aids, including guidelines for inter-religious marriages, pastoral counseling, religious education, and joint prayer services." Recently, **ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton** appointed an ad hoc committee to undertake the development of such guidelines.

In the survey, issued September 12, respondents are asked questions about their participation in pastoral situations such as inter-religious prayer services, responses to tragedy, social ministry work with partners, and pastoral care for inter-religious couples and families.

"In these challenging times of COVID-19, racism and injustice, our inter-religious partnerships have been as important as ever," Eaton said. "As we seek to live out our inter-religious commitments, all of us are encountering new areas of pastoral need. Participation in this survey will help us to grow as we serve Christ's church together in a multireligious world."

One version of the survey will be emailed directly to active rostered ministers. Another version is available online for participation from ELCA laity, retired rostered ministers, and ecumenical and inter-religious partners. The intention of the survey is to learn from all who participate in ELCA ministries in a multireligious world what their experiences have been, and what guidance and resources they need for the future. The survey will be open for one month, from **September 12-October 12**.

To participate in the survey go to <https://tinyurl.com/y5rv5drs>. Active rostered ministers should take the survey emailed to them.

## The Community Beyond

### Boards of Elections Accepting Applications for Absentee Ballots; Local Issues on Ballot

Boards of elections are currently accepting applications for absentee ballots for the November 3 election. Persons requesting absentee ballots must remember that this, for the most part, ties them to voting either by mailing in the ballot or dropping it off at the dropbox at the board of elections. If a person who has requested an absentee ballot decides to vote in person, they will vote a provisional ballot so the board so can verify that they only submitted one ballot.

The absentee ballot request form can be found online at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballot/>. Follow the directions on this secretary of state's website. The application must be downloaded, signed and mailed to your local board of elections. (A link to find the address for all boards of elections is also on this page.)

Another option is to call your local board of election and request the ballot application. Phone numbers for the local boards can also be found at the above link.

For those who don't want to vote by mail, beginning **Tuesday, October 6**, individuals can vote in person at the board of elections. For Franklin County, that address is 1700 Morse Rd.

The following is a roundup of important voting dates leading up to and after the **Tuesday, November 3** General Election.

**Monday, October 5** - Deadline for **voter registration** for the Nov. 3, 2020 General Election (30 days before the General Election).

**Tuesday, October 6** - First day voters can **cast absentee ballots** for the November 3 General Election -- first day after close of voter registration. First day boards of elections can begin mailing absentee ballots to voters.

**Saturday, October 31** - Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for the November 3, 2020 must be received by boards of elections by noon -- three days before the General Election.

**Monday, November 2** - Absentee ballots sent using the U.S. Postal Service must be postmarked by this date in order to count.

**Tuesday, November 3** - General Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

#### Ballot Issues

Besides the city of Columbus ballot issue creating the independent civilian police review board (Issue #2) which is addressed on the front page of this *Reflections*, there is also on the ballot a second city issue proposing the creation of an electric service aggregation program (Issue #1). A countywide issue, Issue #24, renews and increases the tax levy for mental health, alcohol and drug addiction programs for children, adults and families including residential and outpatient treatment programs, school and community based prevention programs and patient housing.

## Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost, October 11, 2020 Lessons

**Readings:** Philippians 4:1-9; Psalm 23; Matthew 22:1-14

### Prayer for the Times

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life in all its diversity and beauty. Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we praise you that you came to redeem all of creation. Holy Spirit, we rejoice that you breathe in the life of the world. Grant us faith and courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus as caretakers of, and justice-seekers for, your beautiful and bountiful creation. For the blessing of your people, the sustaining of the earth and the glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Grace Lutheran Church in Pickerington.
- + For Redeemer community members Elizabeth George and Paul Voytas.

*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 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, Larry Trover.

*Noisy Offering will be for Kaleidoscope Youth Center.*

## Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, October 11: What Does the Bible Say about \_\_\_\_\_?

Led by Pastor Dave Shull

## This Week at Redeemer

October 6 – 12, 2020

### Tuesday

1 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study  
3:00 pm ZOOM Member Care Team

### Sunday

10:00 am Worship on the Lawn with Holy Communion  
11:15 am ZOOM Adult Education