October 26, 2020 ISSUE 42

What Are Your Prayers for Our Nation in This Election Season?

As she is so often able to do, Judy Bird found a powerful front-page article last week that helps us listen for the difference between political news that builds up and political news that tears down and divides. It's so easy to parrot what we like and ignore or judge what we don't. To open ourselves to listen to reasonable statements we disagree with can feel like an unreasonable expectation.

We have come to the last full week before the national elections. Most of the elections I remember have been times of energy, excitement, nervousness, and some well-earned pride in the exercise in democracy we were all participating in. This time around it feels so different. Of course, the crushing weight of COVID on so much that gives us life has made it hard to feel much that resembles energy and excitement and pride. It is impossible to know how different we would feel as a nation heading toward the election were COVID not so present, and were we not facing new records of infections throughout the land.

Instead of all the feelings I remember at this point in past elections, this year the feeling I bring is *exhaustion*. Sheer exhaustion. Feeling so ready for it all to be over. For so much to be over.

As we come to the end of this election season, what are your prayers for this nation? What words, songs, sighs, do you find yourself expressing in these days? I would like the front page of our election-eve *Reflections* to include your prayers for our nation in these days. Please send them to me by **Saturday, October 31**. I hope we can bless each other with the prayers we offer.

In the meantime, I offer words from **John O'Donohue** – a blessing for one who is exhausted.

When the rhythm of the heart becomes hectic, time takes on the strain until it breaks; then all the unattended stress falls in on the mind like an endless, increasing weight.

The light in the mind becomes dim.

Things you could take in your stride before now become laborsome events of will.

Weariness invades your spirit. Gravity begins falling inside you, dragging down every bone.

The tide you never valued has gone out. And you are marooned on unsure ground. Something within you has closed down; and you cannot push yourself back to life.

You have been forced to enter empty time. The desire that drove you has relinquished.

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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
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Vice President – Julie Johnson
Finance Officer –
Secretary – Chad Eberle
Worship – Julie Larson
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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

Time Change Coming

Daylight Saving Time will end on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 1</u> at 2 a.m. that morning. Plan now to set your clocks *back* one hour when you go to bed on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>October 31</u> or you could end up being an hour early for the online streaming of the church service!

Online Worship Continues; Light a Candle for All Saints' Day

As Redeemer continues to conduct its worship online as COVID cases continue to rise in the state and the temperature to go down, folks are asked to consider to plan to light a candle at home this coming <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 1</u> – All Saints' Sunday. At that time, Redeemer will be honoring those who have been baptized (**Isaac Marquez** and **Carson Spahn**) and those who have passed on (**Rose Varga**, **Bob Eakin**, **Gerry Stokes**, **Don Williams**) since last All Saints' Day. We will take time for people in the congregation to light candles to remember their own loved ones.

Consider this a "heads-up" to get candles and matches ready if you plan to attend virtually. The service will be livestreamed on YouTube. Please join us or it can be viewed later by going to Redeemer's channel.

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.

Volunteers Sought to Write for 2020 Advent Devotional Booklet

Redeemer, under the leadership of **Connie Criswell,** will be doing an Advent devotional booklet again this year. In this time of uncertainty, it is more important than ever that we stay connected and this would be a way for people to "be together" through reading what each other has been thinking about and feeling and praying this year.

Because we won't be in the church building for the foreseeable future, we've devised a virtual sign-up sheet to replace the paper one that usually is posted on the bulletin board. To sign up, please go to the Redeemer website at http://www.redeemerluth.com/news and click on the NEWS SERMONS AND DEVOTIONS tab. Choose a set of readings (or more than one) and contact the church office by phone (614-237-1263) or email info@RedeemerLuth.com to have your choices posted.

About half the days remain to be claimed by anyone wishing to write a devotion or two.

Write your devotion and email it to **Mary Benis** for editing no later than <u>Monday, November 9</u>. The booklets will be available on <u>November 22</u>, the Sunday before the first Sunday in Advent.

Additional Volunteers Needed for RLC Food Pantry Team

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 a 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 <u>Thursday</u>, <u>November 12</u> 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 if 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.

1-16oz bag Frozen broccoli floret, 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)

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.

Tuesday Bible Study Now Looking at Book of Genesis

The Tuesday Bible Study continues its study of the book of Genesis on <u>Tuesday, October 27</u>. 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 <u>Tuesday, October 27</u> 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 begin discussing the *What does the Bible say about conflict resolution?* at 11:15 a.m. on **Sunday, November 1** after the 10 a.m. worship.

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 1** 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!

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!

What Are Your Prayers for Our Nation in This Election Season? cont'd from p. 1

There is nothing else to do now but rest and patiently learn to receive the self you have forsaken in the race of days.

At first your thinking will darken and sadness take over like listless weather. The flow of unwept tears will frighten you.

You have traveled too fast over false ground; now your soul has come to take you back.

Take refuge in your senses, open up to all the small miracles you rushed through.

Become inclined to watch the way of rain when it falls slow and free.

Imitate the habit of twilight, taking time to open the well of color that fostered the brightness of day.

Draw alongside the silence of stone until its calmness can claim you. Be excessively gentle with yourself.

Stay clear of those vexed in spirit. Learn to linger around someone of ease who feels they have all the time in the world.

Gradually, you will return to yourself, having learned a new respect for your heart and the joy that dwells far within slow time.

(To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessings, © 2008, Doubleday)

Dave Shull

Important Emails

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

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

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

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

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

<u>Property@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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.

<u>Communications@redeemerluth.com</u> – 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 <u>info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> 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 A Note from Kathy Mimlitch

Dear Redeemer Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, notes, prayers and messages of sympathy on the death of my brother. George was such a caring influence in my life and I have wonderful memories of him.

Kathy Mimlitch

Families Invited to Share Pictures of Children in Halloween Costumes

Redeemer members and friends are invited to share pictures of your children in their Halloween costumes with Redeemer. Just email them to info@redeemerluth.com. It will be fun to see what everyone dresses up as for Halloween!

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.

Final Food Giveaway Serves 426

Lutheran Social Services reported that the final joint food giveaway with Redeemer on October 22 served a total of 426 individuals. That included 126 children and 196 seniors. There were 48 new people and 20 volunteers. A total of 12,121 pounds of food was distributed. Thanks to all who helped over the summer!

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.

October Birthdays

26-Kennedi Jacobs 26-Avery Martin 26-Krista Skipper 27-Brad Phillips 29-Brittany Amon 29-Jeremy Davis 30-Martin Binau 31-John Caron

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

+ + +

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

2020 Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge Continues This Week

In an increasing polarized world, biblical citations do not always serve their primary intent of reflecting God's love. Under the theme "The Bible – Word, Not Weapon," the 2020 Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge will address how Bible verses taken out of context can become weapons that discredit others or justify cruel treatment of those portrayed as different.

Presented by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the annual Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge seeks to enliven the biblical engagement of the whole church by encouraging the development of faithful, innovative and effective ways to teach and learn Scripture. The event is sponsored by the seven ELCA seminaries, the Hein-Fry planning team and the ELCA Book of Faith Initiative.

Every year, one student from each seminary is invited to develop and present a class or series for people both familiar and unfamiliar with biblical texts. In follow-up, the students are invited to report their findings.

This year the challenge comprises four online events, the first of which was October 21. The remaining events are as follow:

- **Taylor Berdahl** from United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg, Pa., will present "Biblical Responses to COVID-19: Lament, Bodies, Breath" on **Monday, October 26**, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern time.
- **Karl Anliker** from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago will present "Look for the Women: A Virtual Bible Study in Search of Hope" on <u>Wednesday</u>, October 28, at 2:30 p.m. Central time.

- **Christopher Shealy** from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir-Rhyne University, Columbia, S.C., will present "How Scripture Is Weaponized, and What We Can Do About It" on **Friday**, **October 30**, 2 p.m. Eastern time.

Rev. Susan R. Briehl serves as online host.

The public is invited to attend these free online events, but registration is required. Registration information is available here.

The Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge is an endowed theological lecture series established after the American Lutheran Church (ALC) and the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) merged into the ELCA in 1988. The series combines the ALC's Dr. Carl Christian Hein Memorial Seminary Lectures and the LCA's Franklin Clark Fry Theological Lectures.

The Community Beyond

Columbus Public Health Sponsors Community Flu Shot Clinics

Columbus Public Health announced that it is now sponsoring a series of "drive-thru" flu shot clinics throughout the city because, "Getting a flu shot is more important than ever this year to protect health in our community as we continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic." They are scheduled as follows:

October 26-30

Ohio Expo Center & State Fair Celeste Center, 717 E. 17th Ave. M-F: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

October 27 - 28

Worthington Community Center, 345 E. Wilson Bridge Rd. T: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

W: Noon-6 p.m.

Friday, October 31

Columbus Public Health (Loop Drive-thru) 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Anyone 6 months of age or older can visit the clinics to get a flu shot at no cost. (Registration is not required and participants should bring their insurance card if they have one.) Flu shots are also available at the Columbus Public Health Immunization Clinic, health care providers and retail pharmacies.

For more information and to see the full list of clinics go to www.columbus.gov/flu.

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

All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2020

Lessons

Readings: Hebrews 12: 1-3; Psalm 146; Matthew 9:18-26

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

O God, generous and supreme, your loving Son lived among us, instructing us in the ways of humility and justice. Continue to ease our burdens, and lead us to serve alongside of him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Hope Lutheran Church in Columbus.
- + For Redeemer community members Kurt and William Goshen

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, 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, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Ranel and Neil Hoddinott, Kathleen Zwanziger's brother Mark Zwanziger, Larry Trover, Earl Bradley's brother Fay Bradley, Kathy Mimlitch and family on the death of her brother George Nieman, family and friends of Amy DeLorenzo, Linda Williams and family on the death of Don.

Noisy Offering will be for Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, October 25: What Does the Bible Say about

Conflict Management and Resolution?

Led by Pastor Dave Shull

This Week at Redeemer October 27 – November 2, 2020

Tuesday 1 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study

7 p.m. ZOOM Journaling Workshop

Wednesday 10 a.m. Stewardship Team

Sunday Standard Time Returns! Fall back one hour.

10 a.m. Livestream Worship with Holy Communion on YouTube

11:15 am ZOOM Adult Education