



Reflections

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ISSUE 16

Membership in BREAD Gives Redeemer Ways to Help Make Columbus More Compassionate, Just

Last Tuesday evening, Redeemer's Congregation Council approved a request from the Anti-Racism team to have Redeemer join Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity (BREAD). BREAD is a nationwide organization that focuses the power of people of faith to solve community problems. The Columbus chapter of BREAD has 40 congregations with over 20,000 members.

Redeemer's Anti-Racism team has spent a number of months in conversation with a variety of community leaders about ways to make Columbus a more just, compassionate city. The issues these leaders addressed are exactly those BREAD is working on. These include:

- **Gun Violence:** BREAD recently helped convince the Columbus City Council to contract with the National Network for Safe Communities for a two-year period to implement the Group Violence Intervention. The work of this group in a variety of cities shows violence can be dramatically reduced when community members come together with law enforcement and social service providers to focus an antiviolence message on highly active street groups (i.e. gangs).
- **Police Reform:** BREAD is working to encourage **Mayor Andrew Ginther** to name a proven innovator as the new Columbus chief of police; use trained mental health professionals to respond to emergency calls so they can de-escalate without violence; change some hiring practices and other policies to encourage community policing and closer relationships between police and the communities they serve.
- **Juvenile Justice:** BREAD is working with schools to adopt "Restorative Practices" as an alternative to the 20,000 out-of-school suspensions each year in Columbus. This program brings together teachers, staff, security, and community members in ways that have proven to reduce crime, violence and bullying, improve human behavior, strengthen civil society, provide effective leadership, restore relationships, and repair harm.
- **Affordable Housing:** Over 54,000 families in Franklin County are spending more than half their income on housing. Research by this task force sees an effective solution in a program where the city of Columbus encourages developers to set aside new housing units for families that make less than \$42,000 a year, and increases funding to the Affordable Housing Trust by at least \$5 million per year beginning with a boost of \$32.5 million.
- **Additional priorities involve elder care and targeting areas of especially high unemployment and lower life expectancy rates.**

In these days when we can feel so overwhelmed by the issues we're facing in the community, country, and world, we now have a chance to make a difference. Through BREAD, you can choose to get involved on the local level on a public policy matter you

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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

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

President – Julie Johnson

Vice President – Wendy Stoica

Finance Officer – Margie Frazier

Secretary – Margie Farnham

Worship – Julie Larson

Education – Krista Skipper

Outreach – Sue Watson

Member Support – Elyce Herring

Property – Sue Yehling

Stewardship – Laura Warren

APPOINTMENTS

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland

Emlyn Ott Krista Skipper

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, Chair

Michelle Clemence Nancy Magargal

Jim Riley Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent – Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community

Church Council Update for April: New Livestreaming Equipment, HVAC Unit Coming

President Julie Johnson reports that Redeemer's Church Council approved up to \$10,000 for new equipment to improve the church's live-streaming capabilities and \$5,000 to install it in the sanctuary. She notes that council sees this as "advancing Redeemer's future in worship, justice and building improvement.

"We are on the cusp of a whole new system of technology that primarily has been developed to improve our worship and live-streaming ability but also should provide new ways to support our ministry in general and the development of our ministry in the future."

The plan was largely researched by **Tom Mimplitch** and presented to council in March. They thank Tom for all his work!

In addition, the Southern Ohio Synod referred the congregation to **Jeremy Johnson** who works at Trinity Lutheran in Marysville and who has been to Redeemer twice already to assist in refining and implementing this plan.

The new equipment includes everything from cameras to new speakers to a new sound board, to video control to microphones for the organ and piano - and on and on. "This will create a new foundation of technology - replacing what we now have, which is essentially a patchwork of old equipment, some of which doesn't even work."

In addition, Redeemer will be changing Internet providers, greatly expanding the speed and capability of using multiple devices for Zoom or other connections. For two years these changes will cost slightly less than the church is spending now. "We are making this change in part at the request of Suzuki who will be returning for limited in person but also Zoom calls."

Council also acted on recommendations from the justice team that has been focused on racism to approve Redeemer's joining the BREAD organization as part of our collaborative efforts for justice. (See today's front page article.)

Finally, council voted to replace the AC unit that's currently in the playground (and that young people have used to get on the roof) and put the new unit in the courtyard. The AC units for the basement will also be removed while the crane is there with those basement units replaced perhaps next year.

"And we continue to slowly and carefully reopen. What a joy!"

Redeemer to Serve Dinner at First English on May 13

Redeemer will be providing and serving dinner at First English on **Thursday, May 13**.

Now that it is warmer, **Coordinator Kay Ernsthause**n reports the May menu will include Sloppy Joes, chips, fruit cup and dessert. A Belvita bar for a later snack or breakfast will also be included.

Redeemer will be providing 72 dinners, so Sloppy Joe makers are needed as well as six dozen/72 of the following: hamburger buns, fruit cups, bags of chips, (the multi packs of Doritos, Chips, Cheez-its, etc. are a good choice), and individually wrapped deserts. Please let Kay know what you will provide.

All donations are due at Redeemer by 3 p.m. on **Thursday, May 13** ready to serve. Those making Sloppy Joes are asked to let Kay know and she can have them picked up. Now that it is light later, serving begins at 6 p.m. which means Redeemer's team will need to arrive at 5 p.m. Individuals who are interested in volunteering to serve and who have had both COVID vaccine shots are asked to contact **Kay Ernsthause**n at KayErnsthause@gmail.com. Four servers are needed.

Thank you for considering to help with this ministry!

Racial Justice Signs for Sale

The Racial Justice Team is selling various racial justice and equality lawn signs. (You have probably seen many signs in your neighbor's yard showing their concern for justice.) There are eight different signs available for \$15 each. They can be viewed at this link:

<https://www.redeemerluth.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Racial-Justice-Signs.pdf>

Those interested in purchasing a sign for their lawn OR sponsoring a yard sign for Redeemer's lawn should contact **Kathy Zwanziger** at kzwanosu69@gmail.com. The signs come with the metal support and most are two-sided. Order by letter and indicate the number of each sign desired. Checks should be written to Redeemer Lutheran Church. (Folks can pay when they pick up the signs.) **All orders are due by Sunday, May 9.**

Please Write a Review

When the Redeemer website was updated recently, more attention was paid to how easily strangers can find our site. The website work group developed a description that incorporates a variety of common search terms and also discovered the importance of individual reviews. That's where you come in.

If you haven't already, please post a review of Redeemer to help others know why you've chosen to connect to this congregation. We included in the basic description terms like friendly, welcoming, and diverse. If you think those are accurate, we'd encourage you to use some of them in your own review.

To post a review, simply search for "Lutheran churches Columbus Ohio." A map will appear, along with a short list of possible Lutheran churches. If you click on "View all," a longer list will appear, but you will probably need to go to the second page of lists in order to find Redeemer. When you find it, just click on the church name or the review just below the name. Then scroll through the next screen to find the list of reviews. Click on the "Write a review" button, and follow the directions from there on.

This is a good opportunity for us to reach out to folks we don't yet know and share what it means to have a supportive church home. And happily, it's something we can all do -- both introverts and extroverts, and even in a pandemic.

Musical Reflections

Kathy Rapp reports that Redeemer's choirs will not be returning to a regular schedule until the fall. Hopefully by then, most will have been vaccinated and the need for social distancing will be lessened. We have been so fortunate to have the recordings that **Tom Mimplitch** made for us to use for special music during the pandemic.

However, now we would like to add some "live" music to our worship service. If you would like to share your music by singing or playing an instrument for an upcoming service, please let **Karen Kent** or **Kathy Rapp** know that you are interested. We will find a Sunday that fits your schedule. We look forward to hearing from you.

Women's Fall Retreat Set for October 1-3

Women and friends of Redeemer, the fall retreat will be held **Friday, October 1 through Sunday, October 3** at Lutheran Memorial Camp. The theme for the retreat has not yet been set, so if you have any ideas, please, feel free to share them with **Carol Heacock**.

This year Redeemer will again be staying in the Priebe Center. This facility accommodates up to 20 guests with two per room. There is a full kitchen and large area for gathering.

At this time, Redeemer will be the only ones scheduled at the camp that weekend. As a result, in order to have food service, Redeemer will need to pay for a total of 20 guests for the full weekend. This will include meals Friday evening through breakfast on Sunday. The retreat concludes with the worship service on Sunday.

The cost for the weekend will be \$79. for two nights lodging and meals. For those coming on Saturday only, there is no cost.

As always, scholarships are available for the weekend. Please let one of those listed below or the office know.

Carol notes, "At the present time, we need to know each person's interest in attending the retreat in October. We understand this is early in the year and schedules change, but we are looking to how many are interested." Please let her know.

If there are any questions or thoughts to pass along, please contact with **Carol Heacock, Kay Ernsthansen, Wendy Stoica, or Michele Disbro.**

Noisy Offering to Go to ELCA Disaster Relief Program

This week is seen as the one-year anniversary of the COVID outbreak. The U.S. has hit the 500,000 mark of lost lives. In the last year, tornados hit, snowstorms devastated areas like Texas, wildfires burned out of control in the west. Mother Nature did not let up just because of the pandemic. So for now through Pentecost, Redeemer's Noisy Offering will help replenish the ELCA Disaster Relief fund.

Sunday Adult Ed Class Explores the Holy Spirit: *Source of Life*

This **Sunday, May 2**, the Sunday morning adult education class continues to explore the Holy Spirit -- what do the Bible, theology and mystics say about Spirit, and how might we open ourselves to Spirit's presence and power?

New voices for the class' Zoom conversations are always welcome! It meets Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. if you'd like to dive in with us! Let **Dave Shull** know if you have any questions.

Join the Zoom Meeting ID: 818 8878 2023; Passcode: 630107. By phone call 646-876-9923. If you don't have the Zoom app, you can join the class by copying and entering the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81888782023?pwd=Q2Z2cW9ob3JvR1NSRi9rYVBkMC90Zz09>

Tuesday Bible Study Continues Study of Psalms April 27

The Tuesday Bible Study continues looking at the book of Psalms on **Tuesday, April 27**. If you have Tuesday afternoon 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, April 27** 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>

BREAD *cont'd from p. 1*

care about. You can join others to research cities that are doing a good job addressing these issues, build relationships with committed partners, develop concrete suggestions, and, because of the size of BREAD, have a reasonable chance actually to change policies and laws for the benefit of those who often have no voice around tables where the powerful make decisions.

BREAD's biggest event of the year, the Nehemiah Action, takes place **Tuesday, May 11**, from 6:45-8:30 p.m. Here is the link -- <https://buytickets.at/breadorganization/510270> -- for those who would like to attend. The larger the attendance for this event, the stronger BREAD's voice with the policymakers who truly can make a difference.

I'm excited about the opportunities Redeemer's membership in BREAD will offer us. People who are looking for churches more and more want to see that their involvement can make a difference. We in this community care deeply about making our neighborhoods more joyful and vital places to live and work. I look forward to sharing more with you about ways you can put your faith into action in meaningful ways.

Dave Shull

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 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 are asked for **Madelyn Zimmer's** daughter **DJ Zimmer** who is recovering from successful surgery last week and for **Izzie** and **Sophie Skoog** who each are continuing to recover from a sports injury.

+ + +

Congratulations to **Diane Louangrath** who has been notified that her organization, Renewed Strength, has been granted 501(c)(3) – nonprofit – status. Many Redeemer members and friends received masks from fabric Diane received from Zambia, where there is a branch of her organization which was formed to help heal the wounds of sexual assault.

Well done, Diane, for making a difference in the lives of women and children!

Donations of Shampoo/Conditioner Sought for Next Food Giveaway

While only food is available through the monthly Lutheran Social Services (LSS)-MidOhio Food Cooperative (MOFC) Food Giveaway, there is also a need for personal care items. For the **Thursday, May 20** giveaway here at Redeemer, organizers are asking for contributions of **shampoo** and/or **conditioner** to offer in addition to the items from LSS-MOFC.

Each month, they will focus on a different personal toiletry, but for May, it's "hair stuff." Bring them to the church, or call the church office to arrange a pick up.

April Birthdays

27-Margie Frazier

27-Dora Pinder 28-Edwina Bradley

May Birthdays

1-Daniel Pawlowski 2-Niclolias Amon

2-Trevor Binau 2-Jon Denniss

3-Heidi Sherer 5-Nancy Magargal
8-Kay Ernsthause 8-Kathryn Ott
11-Logan Baldogo 14-Ty Pawlowski
17-Mary Benis 17-Ken Jones
19-Al Debelak 20-Jackson Barbour Harms
21-Paul Voytas 22-Dave Lippert
22-Lea Spang 26-Kathie Ehrich
27-Jeanne Eakin 29-Barbara Willmann

Getting Ready for Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 2, 2021 Lessons

Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; John 15:1-8

Prayer of the Day

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Advent Lutheran Church in Columbus.
- + For Redeemer community members Ed and Carolyn Klopfer.

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 Louanrath, Sue Baker and Cathy Oldham, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their niece and sister-in-law, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's friend MaryAnn, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Barbara and David Hairston, Grace and Ken Jones, Dora Pinder and family, Heidi Sherer's Aunt Mary and Uncle Joel Sherer, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, family of Doretha Holland, family and friends of Pamela Reed, Izzy and Sophie Skoog.

Noisy Offering will be for ELCA Disaster Relief

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, May 2: *Holy Spirit: Source of Life*

Led by Pastor Dave

This Week at Redeemer

April 27 – May 3, 2021

<u>Tuesday</u>	1:00 p.m.	ZOOM and IN-PERSON Bible Study – Room 2
	4:00 p.m.	ZOOM Mutual Ministry Team
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON Journaling Workshop – Narthex
<u>Sunday</u>	10:00 a.m.	LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion on YouTube IN-PERSON by reservation
	11:15 a.m.	ZOOM Adult Sunday School