



Reflections

VOLUME 25

July 26, 2021

ISSUE 29

The Decision To Be 'In-Person' at Redeemer

We began re-gathering in-person for Easter Sunday worship.

Now, each Sunday, the north side of the sanctuary is socially distanced, while the south side folks can sit as close to each other as they wish. We want unvaccinated people to wear masks, and any vaccinated people who wish to wear masks to do so. Passing the peace happens as each person wishes: embraces, waves, offering each other the Namaste greeting of palms facing each other and bowing, which conveys *the God in me sees the God in you*.

We're getting an average of 40-something in the sanctuary on Sundays, with about 80 others viewing each week on YouTube.

The Tuesday Bible study, Sunday morning adult education class, Wednesday evening book group, anti-racism group, and coffee and conversations group are meeting in-person and on Zoom. Our ministry teams are meeting in various ways, though most are in-person. The Brewing Faith small group remains on Zoom.

After COVID cases had been going in a positive direction, the news is now full of stories about the spread of the Delta variant. In this state and in this nation, it seems it is only a matter of time before those who choose to refuse the vaccination will become infected. More and more previously unvaccinated people who have become seriously ill now want to go on public service announcements to urge everyone to love themselves and their neighbors enough to get the vaccine.

Your church council has talked a lot about how we can be faithful in our commitment to be a safe space while also **following the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which state that fully vaccinated people can gather without masks or distancing**. Throughout the pandemic, that is what we have tried to follow. That is what has led us to open up to face-to-face gatherings in the ways we have. At the same time, **we want everyone who returns to in-person and feels better about wearing a mask to do so without fearing anyone will assume you're not vaccinated or accuse you of being overly-cautious**.

At the same time, we know there are good reasons a number of you are choosing not to be "in-person" at Redeemer right now. We know people under 12 cannot yet be vaccinated. Some of you have health conditions that keep the vaccine from being as effective in you as it is in most people. Some of you have caregiving responsibility or are friends with medically-vulnerable people, so you need to minimize contact with others. There are a host of other reasons that lead you to avoid groups of any size. **We in the leadership support you for making the choices that seem best for you and those you love.**

What we ask of those who haven't yet returned to Redeemer in-person is this: if we are doing some things that are keeping you from feeling like it's safe to

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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



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The Redeemer Community

Redeemer Anti-Racism Group Hosts Police Sergeant for Conversation about Race/Policing

The anti-racism group at Redeemer invites folks to an evening with **Sergeant Christopher Smith-Hughes** on **Wednesday, August 25**, from 7-8:30 p.m. Sergeant Smith-Hughes works as the Recruiting Sergeant for the Columbus Division of Police. He will talk with the group about some of the realities of police work, ideas about police reform, and other topics the group would like to explore with him.

Please join us -- and invite your friends!

Sunday Adult Ed Class Concludes Study of Lord's Prayer Aug. 1

The Sunday Adult Education Class will conclude its study of the Lord's Prayer on **Sunday, August 1** and will then be on hiatus until **Sunday, September 12**. At that time it will begin a four-part series "Reintroducing Jesus" which will be led by Redeemer member and Trinity Seminary emeritus professor **Don Luck**. The class will run from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. here at church and on Zoom.

Sister Act to Meet July 26

On **Monday, July 26**, Sister Act will meet at Redeemer Lutheran Church for its July event beginning at 6:30 p.m. **Michele Disbro** will lead the group as they continue delving into its 2021 topic, *Being Bold*. The evening will begin with a short discussion of *Bold Women In Ohio* and continue with a challenge to ourselves to be bold in our daily lives.

Michele will share a short video and conclude with a tool to help us each move forward in our boldness.

Tuesday Bible Study Meets July 27, to Go on Hiatus for August

The Tuesday Bible Study meets **Tuesday, July 27** to conclude its study of the First Letter of John. It will then be on hiatus for the month of August, resuming on **Tuesday, September 7**. It meets in-person here at church and on Zoom from 1-2:30 p.m.

To join the group **Tuesday, July 27** either come to church for in-person participation or 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>

Being Mortal Book Study Concludes July 28

The churchwide book study on **Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End?***, concludes this **Wednesday, July 28** so folks are asked to finish reading the book.

This week, the group will watch a 2015 "Frontline" episode on the book and author. It shows some of the folks Gawande talks about in the book. A discussion will follow.

This group meets from 7-8:30 p.m. both in-person and virtually on Zoom: Meeting ID: 860 2312 1785; Passcode: 987835. By phone, call 646-876-9923. If you don't have the Zoom app, you can join the group by copying and entering the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86023121785?pwd=azNZeXBVZ0I5YTBIQUViY2tWZUdBz09>

LSS-MOFC Food Giveaway Set for August 19, Paper Products Sought

The next Lutheran Social Services (LSS)-Mid-Ohio Food Cooperative (MOFC) Food Giveaway is scheduled for Redeemer's parking lot on **Thursday, August 19**. This month, to supplement the giveaway, contributions of **paper goods, such as paper towels, toilet tissue, baby wipes, etc.** are being

requested. “The giveaway guests appreciate these extra items so much, and we are grateful for the generosity of this congregation! And as always, we are indebted to our volunteers who make the whole process look seamlessly easy.”

Those considering volunteering for the August 19 event can just call the church office! All are welcome.

Reconnecting **by Connie Criswell**

Redeemer's Impact
IMPACT

What a joy it was to see that the Redeemer community is still alive and vibrant after I'd been absent for over a year! It felt like coming home the first time I attended a worship service at Redeemer, after staying away due to the COVID-19 lockdown and restrictions. As I looked around the sanctuary, with its beautiful stained-glass windows and handmade hangings, it seemed like I'd never been away. The wording of the service and the music by our superb musicians were so familiar, yet so comforting, as was the presence of friends I hadn't seen for months.

Reconnecting after a long time of enforced separation is not always easy, especially after the rigid rules of social distancing and disinfection that we endured this past year became second nature to avoid exposure to the virus. Going to a store or a doctor's appointment required planning and vigilance, and meeting friends was put on indefinite hold. It's amazing how we can become accustomed to living in a strange new way.

Since I don't have a cell phone or Zoom capability, the tri-weekly “Staying Connected” emails from Redeemer and the occasional notes and phone calls from the Care Committee and **Pastor Dave** became my lifeline. I was glad to see that younger and/or braver members continued to serve those in need with the LSS/Mid-Ohio Food Bank produce giveaways and the First English meals. In addition, the IT Group made marvelous improvements in the sound system and online broadcasting of services, so those of us who were “temporary shut-ins” were not completely excluded.

Yet after the long separation, it is so good to be back, and to participate in making a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Redeemer Garden Giveaway Continues This Saturday!



For now through every Saturday this summer, Redeemer Lutheran Church will be picking the produce from its community garden and sharing it with neighbors throughout the summer.

The garden giveaway begins at 10 a.m. and is available until it's gone (sometimes by 10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.!). Picking begins about 9 a.m.

If you have any extra produce from your garden, we encourage you to bring it over to share.

Our garden produce is available for anyone who would like some fresh produce! Check us out!

Good Neighbors Picnic Coming Sept. 25 to Wolf Park

The Good Neighbors Picnic will be held this year on **Saturday, September 25** at Wolfe Park on the east side of Columbus. Redeemer members and friends are invited to begin donating new or gently used blankets and cold weather clothing and accessories to help provide for our homeless brothers and sisters in the Columbus area.

This all-day event was started in 1999 by Redeemer member **William McCully** along with a few volunteers as part of the National Make a Difference Day. On the day of the Good Neighbors Picnic, volunteers work to provide a day of celebration including food, music, games, books, family photos, crafts, and shopping at a Free Store for blankets and winter clothing. In 2019, close to a thousand guests, men, women, and children of all ages from local shelters, were transported to the park for this day of celebration and fun.

Redeemer, along with other faith organizations, community leaders, local businesses and organizations will work to gather in items for those who are homeless or in shelters.

Donations may be placed in the bin located in the Narthex. Cash donations or gift cards are welcome and may be dropped off at the church office.

To learn more about the Good Neighbors Picnic, contact **Carol Heacock** at Heacock.Carol@gmail.com.



Save the Date!

Redeemer Kids Fest: Let Your Light Shine!
Sunday, August 29, 2-4

On **Sunday, August 29**, the Education Ministry Team is planning an afternoon of crafts, story time, music, snacks, activities and games on the lawn for Redeemer's kids and families, as well as Redeemer's community kids and families. But, of course, all are welcome! It will run from 2 to 4 p.m.

Due to the uncertainty of health mandates, Redeemer was unable to schedule its traditional Vacation Bible School. This is a way to slowly start rolling out the children's ministry and include the community in the safest way possible.

A few more volunteers are needed -- especially for storytime. This just involves reading a picture book, at two different scheduled times. Because there are two books, two readers are needed. Other volunteers could be used as backup at the different stations and as general floaters to help where needed.

If interested, contact either **Krista Skipper** at kristamary5114@gmail.com or **Michele Disbro** at mddisbro@gmail.com to volunteer.

Lists of donation opportunities for the snack station to come.

Sign-Up Open for Oct. 3 CROP Walk

The CROP Walk, scheduled for **Sunday, October 3** this year, is only two months away! If you wish to sign up as a walker or to donate, the Redeemer Team page can be found online at <https://events.cropungerwalk.org/2021/team/redeemer-lutheran-church-2>.

Slots Available to Sponsor Flowers for Sunday Services

Since Redeemer has returned to in-person worship, there are lots of openings for folks to sponsor flowers for the Sunday services now into early fall. The flowers, a beautiful addition to Redeemer's livestream, are a great way to recognize a loved one's birthday, an anniversary or to honor an individual important in your life.

A wide choice of dates are available. Cost is \$20/bouquet. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall next to the Library along with the payment envelopes. For those not yet coming in to the church, just call **Office Manager Becky Trover** to sign up. Flowers can be taken home after the Sunday service or picked up later in the week.

Noisy Offering to Go to ELCA Disaster Relief Program

Redeemer's Noisy Offering – that offering of loose “or noisy” change made during communion – continues to be designated for the ELCA Disaster Relief Fund. Not only has Lutheran Disaster Relief responded to the COVID-19 pandemic here in the United States but it has also responded in places around the world, most notably now turning its attention to the coronavirus outbreak in India where it works with partners and companion churches throughout the country. They are supporting communities by distributing food and hygiene kits, conducting livelihood training for migrants, sharing information about COVID-19 and promoting prevention practices.

The Decision To Be 'In-Person' at Redeemer *cont'd from p. 1*

come back in-person, please let me or someone else on council know (the names of members of council are on the front page of *Reflections* each week). **We want to know your concerns and respond to them with as much sensitivity and creativity as we can. So please let one of us know what we might do that would make it more likely for you to return in-person.**

Looking Ahead to Fall

A couple things about scheduling the rest of the summer and fall.

Redeemer's attendance for in-person worship leads the Worship Team and council to decide to **stay with one 10 a.m. worship service through December**. All of us felt strongly that we enjoy the vibrant feel of more people in worship. And we know any visitors will sense that we are a more vital, healthy congregation when they see more people in a service. We'll look at in-person attendance numbers later in the fall and see what they indicate.

Also: we've reimagined our traditional five-evening **Vacation Bible School**. Because younger kids can't be vaccinated, and we're not yet ready to open Fellowship Hall to groups, we decided this summer to offer **a full-on KidFest out on the lawn on Sunday, August 29 from 2-4 p.m. Please invite younger folks you know to come.** (See separate story, this issue.)

The Education Team is also responding to feedback from parents and so are planning for **one Sunday School gathering each month for children and youth** that will engage them in a wide variety of ways and not ask for weekly commitments from adults who are still feeling stretched in so many ways.

We continue to need to be nimble, creative, and willing to do things in ways we haven't imagined before. As the people are about to leave their long exile in Babylon, God proclaims, "I'm doing a new thing! Don't you see?" We ask you to try on the new things we are offering this fall, as we seek to be the most faithful body of Christ we can be.

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 **Arnell Comstock** who is having surgery this week. Prayers are also asked for **Bob Gray** who is deciding treatment options and for **Kristi Hildebrand** whose grandmother has died.

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Dave will be on vacation August 2-23. During his absence, **Pastor Julianne Smeck** from Hope Lutheran Church will be covering pastoral emergencies. She can be reached at 734-972-6126. **Rev. Dale Linder** will preach and preside on both Sunday, August 8 and Sunday, August 22. **Pastor Cheryl Peterson** will preach and preside on Sunday, August 15.

July Birthdays

27-Tom Mimlitch
29-Kathy Mimlitch 29-Becky Trover
31-Marilyn Roberts

August Birthdays

3-Kathy Pautsch 5-Julie Denniss
5-Clayton Ullman 6-Bret Jimison
8-Jessica Marquez 9-Justin Marquez
15-Seth Harms 15-Sarah Kirkman
16-Diana Gordon 16-Cathy Oldham
16-Madelyn Zimmer 17-Thelma Johnson
18-Jasper Glover-Oakleaf 23-Scott Steiner
25-LaVerna Reinoehl 26-Brad Binau
27-Matthew Bird 27-Jon Disbro
29-Heather McGurer 31-Lynn Belhorn

Sister Act Presents

BOLD Women Quiz: Part 5

The Sister Act theme for the year is “*Bold Women*.” At a recent meeting, **Kathleen Zwanziger** led a quiz on “Notable Bold Women” that the group thought would be fun to share with the congregation over the summer months. Note that all answers will be used; some of them more than once as some women are noted for more than one thing! All have been in the news since December. [Answers can be found at the end of *Reflections*.]

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Tiffany Haddish | a. Sometimes called most influential woman in the world |
| 2. Rita Moreno | b. Part of the foster care system when mother was injured |
| 3. Oprah Winfrey | c. One of the stars of the first film to feature Puerta Ricans |
| 4. Lola Carmichael | d. Los Angeles justice-seeker judge |
| | e. Great philanthropist |
| | f. EGOT winner |

The Community Beyond

Vaccination Clinic Set for July 27

Registration is now open for a free COVID-19 Vaccine Community Clinic that will be held on **Tuesday, July 27** at Community Development for All People (946 Parsons Ave., Columbus 43206) from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is for anyone 12 years of age or older. Folks are asked to bring their IDs and insurance cards if they have them. "No one will be turned away." This clinic is sponsored by the city of Columbus and Columbus Public Health.

While walk ins are welcome, appointments can also be scheduled by going online and copying/pasting this link bit.ly/CDVax727 for July 27 into the browser; calling 614-645-1519; or emailing health@columbus.gov. First doses of Pfizer and the Johnson and Johnson vaccines will be offered. Appointments for the second Pfizer dose will be scheduled when the first dose is received.

Free Lunches for Students Available at Columbus Libraries

For now, through **Friday, August 20**, free lunches are available for students at 15 library locations throughout the city. The lunches will be distributed as "grab and go" meals for kids to take home weekdays. The hours vary by location (and are all during lunch time except for the Barnett Branch which is 3-4 p.m.) so go to <https://tinyurl.com/xn9tj3cw> to check out the time for the branch library closest to you.

In Redeemer's area, meals will be available at the Driving Park Branch, Barnett Branch, Main Library, Whitehall Branch and Reynoldsburg Branch.

The meals are made possible in conjunction with the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Getting Ready for Sunday

10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 1, 2021 Lessons

Readings: James 1:12-15, 18; Psalm 78:23-29; John 6:27-35

Prayer of the Day

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Faith Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon.

+ For Redeemer community member Cathy Oldham.

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, 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, 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, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kris Kauffman, Karen Kent, Beatrice Watts Young, Arnell Comstock, Cathy Oldham and family of Sue Baker, Dottie Odrosky and Bob Gray.

Worship Leaders

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Presiding Minister | Dave Shull, Pastor |
| Assisting Minister | Emily Ott |
| Interpreter | Bryan Neal |
| Reader | |
| Cantor | Emily Kent |
| Organist | Kathy Rapp |
| Pianist | Karen Kent |
| Verger | Michelle Clemence |
| Usher | Helen Brunston |
| Producers | Tom Mimlitch, Sue Yehling |

*Flowers are given by Larry and Becky Trover in honor Rose's birthday
Noisy Offering will be for ELCA Disaster Relief*

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

Sunday, August 1: Conclusion of Study of Lord's Prayer
Led by Pastor Dave

This Week at Redeemer July 27 – August 2, 2021

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|--|
| <u>Tuesday</u> | 1:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON AND ZOOM Bible Study |
| | 7:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON AND ZOOM Journaling Workshop |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | 7:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON AND ZOOM Book Group |
| <u>Saturday</u> | 10:00 a.m. | RLC Garden Give Away |
| <u>Sunday</u> | 10:00 a.m. | IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion |
| | 11:15 a.m. | IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Adult Education class |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Mutual Ministry Team at Dave Shull's house |

Bold Women Answers: 1=b; 2=c, f; 3=a, e; 4=d