When Getting There Is NOT Half the Fun!

It's because I leave for a three-week getaway the day after I'm writing this that I'm thinking about the last vacation of this length that I took. It was almost exactly three years ago. And while the Cunard travel agency became famous (and wealthy) trying to convince us *Getting there is half the fun*, even the most adventurous traveler could never describe my experiences of getting there *or* coming back as *fun*.

I was flying to France to spend a week biking with a long-time friend around Bordeaux, and then about two weeks visiting a college friend who lives in Lyon. It was my first flight out of CMH since I moved here in August 2017. My itinerary was Columbus to Chicago, Chicago to Dublin, Dublin to Bordeaux. I'd given myself three hours for making my connections, which certainly would be more than sufficient.

We took off from Columbus on the one-hour flight to O'Hare over two hours late. This is why I only travel with carry-on luggage. At O'Hare, I needed to go from Terminal 1 to Terminal 5 for my Aer Lingus flight. By the time I got through security at Terminal 5, I had five minutes to make my flight to Dublin. I was in line for yet *another* security screening when someone with an Irish accent shouted, "Is there a Dublin passenger in line?" I screamed, "Here!" probably deafening the person in front of me for life. I was going to make my flight! The Aer Lingus person ordered, "Move to the front of the line." I got through security, grabbed my backpack, and ... then my shamrock-clad savior tells me the plane has left the gate. So off to United customer service in, you guessed it, Terminal 1 to see how else I might get to Bordeaux.

The United clerk took pity on me. She found a Lufthansa flight going through Frankfurt that would get me to Bordeaux only an hour after my original flight. I did a little Irish jig. Her fingers danced over the computer keyboard that was my pathway to really starting my vacation. Then her face took on that expression you *never* want to see from someone who holds your life in her hands. She said, "The computer thinks you're on the flight to Dublin. So I can't book you on another flight." I must have looked like I was about to cry. She picked up the phone and pushed some buttons. She waited a while and hung up in disgust. "No one's answering at Aer Lingus. Yours was their last flight for the night so they've all gone home."

An hour and two supervisors later, the computer let go of its certainty that I could be in two places at the same time. With a fresh boarding pass in hand, I head for the Lufthansa gate. And even have time to stop at McDonald's for a soft-serve cone. Try telling anyone I don't know how to celebrate!

The flight is uneventful. Then an hour outside of Frankfurt, one of the pilots makes an announcement: "Though it's against regulations, a passenger on this flight opened the container her cat was traveling in. The cat has gotten away. Please

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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

Update on Worship Protocol

Given the latest guidance by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the rate of increase in COVID infections due to the Delta variant, the Redeemer Church Council strongly encourages all people attending worship services or other large group gatherings at Redeemer to wear masks. "Our shared safety remains our first priority."

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 <u>Thursday</u>, <u>August 19</u>. 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.

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 is the Recruiting Sergeant for the Columbus Division of Police. He will talk with the group about some of the realities police face, ideas about police reform, and other topics the group would like to explore with him.

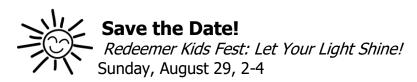
Please join us – and invite your friends!

Sunday Adult Ed Class on Hiatus until Sept. 12

The Sunday Adult Education Class concluded its study of the Lord's Prayer on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 1</u> and is now on hiatus until <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 12</u>. 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.

Tuesday Bible Study on Hiatus for August

The Tuesday Bible Study has concluded its study of the First Letter of John and is now on hiatus for the month of August, resuming on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>September 7</u>. At that time it will return to meeting in-person here at church and on Zoom from 1-2:30 p.m.



On <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 29</u>, 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 <u>kristamary5114@gmail.com</u> or **Michele Disbro** at mddisbro@gmail.com) to volunteer. Lists of donation opportunities for the snack station to come.

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: Redeemer's traditional five-evening **Vacation Bible School**. Because younger kids can't be vaccinated, and the church is not yet ready to open Fellowship Hall to groups, it was decided this summer to offer a full-on KidFest out on the lawn on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 29</u> 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.

According to **Pastor Dave**, "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."

Good Neighbors Picnic Coming Sept. 25 to Wolf Park

The Good Neighbors Picnic will be held this year on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 25</u> 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.

Second Quarter Statements Emailed

Margie Frazier reports that second quarter giving statements have been emailed to the Redeemer community. "If you do not see your statement in your inbox, please check your spam folder, and look for Marissa@wellscpaoh.com. If you have any issues with your statement, please email margie.frazier@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support."

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!

Sign-Up Open for Oct. 3 CROP Walk

The CROP Walk, scheduled for <u>Sunday</u>, <u>October 3</u> 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.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/redeemer-lutheran-church-2.

Reconnecting by Connie Criswell



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 <u>so</u> good to be back, and to participate in making a joyful noise unto the Lord!

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.

When Getting There Is NOT Half the Fun! cont'd from p 1

look around your seats to see if you can find the cat." We laugh. Such an amusing little event. Forty-five minutes later, the pilot makes the same request, this time with an edge to it.

We land. Frankfurt is a huge airport. I have an hour-and-a-half to make my connection. Then we hear our gate has another plane at it. So we pull over to wait. Then the pilot makes a third announcement: "International aviation regulations prohibit anyone from leaving the plane until we find this cat. Please keep looking!" You've never seen a crowd's mood shift so rapidly. This 747-full of people are even looking in the seat pocket in front us as as we're cursing the cat's owner and all her relations.

Fifteen minutes later our gate opens. But no cat. So we sit ... for 45 minutes. Fearing a riot, the pilot finally lets us leave the plane. Acting like the Ugly American, I sprint through customs and to my gate ... just when the door down the jetway was about to close.

My time in Bordeaux and Lyon are fantastic.

At the Lyon airport for my flight to Dublin, the Aer Lingus people tell me I can't carry on the carry-on bag I've carried on flights for the past 20 years. So, I have to check it in. The Dublin to Toronto flight leaves a half hour late. But that still means I'll have 2-1/2 hours to make my connection in Columbus. Even if I have to go to baggage claim before customs since they made me check my backpack, things should be fine. I do feel *some* anxiety, though. Mine is the last Columbus flight that night ... and the next morning I am picking up a U-Haul at 8 a.m. ... so seven friends can help me load it up and move me into my new house in Clintonville ...

We get to Toronto an hour late. Two hours for baggage claim, customs and the trip to the gate for my Columbus flight should be plenty of time. Except when it takes 75 minutes to get my backpack. And 25 to get through customs. I looked on the airport map to see where the gate for my Columbus flight was. It was so far away I think it had a different weather system and was in a different time zone. Again, the Ugly American sprint, another security check, panting as I get to my gate, greeting by the clerk who says with smile, "Thirty seconds later we would have left without you."

Now, as I prepare to leave my house for CMH at 4:30 Monday morning to begin my vacation, I hope my travel experiences are such a joy that, as I walk to through the airport to meet my ride, I'll be singing at the top of my lungs, *Getting there IS half the fun*.

Anyone want to make a bet ...?

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 stewardship campaigns.

<u>Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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.

<u>SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

<u>Transportation@redeemerluth.com</u> – 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 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 recently had surgery. Prayers are also asked for **Bob Gray** who is deciding treatment options and for **Kristi Hildebrand** whose grandmother has died.

+++

A Note to the Congregation from Marshall Edgington and Family: "Thank you very much for helping make my brother's 60th a terrific evening. From my whole family with love. God bless you all."

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Dave will be on vacation <u>August 2-23</u>. During his absence, <u>Pastor Julianne Smeck</u> 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 <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 8</u> and <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 22</u>. <u>Doctor Cheryl Peterson</u> will preach and preside on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 15</u>.

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 6

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. Karen Bass
- 2. Keisha Lance Bottoms
- 3. Ruby Bridges
- 4. Sharice Davids
- a. Civil rights activist
- b. Native American, born in Germany
- c. Mixed Martial Arts practitioner
- d. Mayor of Atlanta
- e. Her shadow with current vice-president
- f. One of Joe Biden's possibilities for v-p.
- g. Politician and lawyer
- h. Worked for Robert Kennedy's election
- i. Introduced George Floyd Justice in Policing Act
- j. First LBGTQ Native American in Congress
- k. Integrated a New Orleans school

The Wider Church

Convention of ELCA Women Meets Virtually This Week

The 11th Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA meets virtually this week, <u>Tuesday-Thursday</u>, <u>August 3-5</u> from 2-6 p.m. EDT (1-5 p.m. CDT). Besides various reports, the agenda also includes election of officers. To see the agenda, go to https://tinyurl.com/3hd4fs3y.

Getting to Know LSS' New President/CEO

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) has released a video message on YouTube from its new president and CEO, **Stacy Martin**. She recently succeeded **Larry Crowell** who retired after 10 years leading the organization. That video can be found at https://lssnetworkofhope.org/message/.

The Community Beyond

Berwick Joins 'National Night Out' Set for August 3

The Berwick community joins with thousands of neighborhoods across the city and nation on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>August 3</u> for the "38th Annual National Night Out" (NNO) crime and drug prevention event. NNO, which is sponsored by National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by Berwick Civic Association (BCA), will involve over 17,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world.

NNo is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Join neighbors at Berwick Elementary School (2655 Scottwood Road) from 6-8 p.m. to celebrate the neighborhood! There will be games, food, and drinks! Line dancing anyone?



IACO Sponsors Event Featuring Young Adults

The Interfaith Association of Central Ohio (IACO) will sponsor "Responding to Religious and Racial Prejudice: Perspectives of Young Adults" on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 22</u>, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Columbus (444 E. Broad St.). It will be both in-person and on Zoom.

The program will feature a discussion with young adults from diverse religious and racial backgrounds on their perception of prejudice and discrimination and the path toward social justice.

Cost is \$25/person for in-person attendance (limiting seating) and \$10 person to participate via Zoom. Registration deadline is **Thursday, August 12**. To register go to https://tinyurl.com/yz2ptu5p.

Free Lunches for Students Available at Columbus Libraries

For now, through <u>Friday</u>, <u>August 20</u>, 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

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 8, 2021

Lessons

Readings: 1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25–5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus
- + For Redeemer community members Emily & Nathan Ott, Kathryn and Caroline

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, Dottie Odrosky, and Bob Gray.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister Rev. Dale Linder **Assisting Minister** Karen Collins Interpreter Bryan Neal Reader Karen Collins Cantor Wendy Stoica **Organist** Kathy Rapp **Pianist** Karen Kent Verger Wendy Stoica Usher Ruth Murray

Producers Tom Mimlitch, Sue Yehling

Flowers are given by Laura and Terry Warren Noisy Offering will be for ELCA Disaster Relief

Sunday Faith Exploration Class

The class is on hiatus until Sunday, Sept. 12.

This Week at Redeemer August 3 - 9, 2021

Tuesday 5:00 p.m. Outreach Team

Wednesday1:00 p.m.RLC at LSS Food PantrySaturday10:00 a.m.RLC Garden Give Away

Sunday 10:00 a.m. **IN-PERSON** and **LIVESTREAM** Worship with Holy Communion

Bold Women Answers: 1=a, f, h, i; 2=d, f, g; 3=a, e, k; 4=b, c, j