



# Reflections

VOLUME 25

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ISSUE 46

## For Thanksgiving Week: An Invitation to Practice Gratitude

It was only in this past year that I realized how important joy is in the ministry of Jesus. In John's Gospel, after he tries to give the disciples the encouragement and wisdom they need to carry on after he is killed and is no longer physically with them, Jesus says to his disciples, "I've told you all these things so that my joy can be in you, and your joy can be complete" (John 15:11).

In other words, more than anything, Jesus wants his followers to be people who bring joy to the world. Everything he says and does is for the purpose of bringing joy alive in us, and freeing us to let joy flow through us to a world that is hungry for it.

Joy isn't happiness. Joy isn't a "get out of jail free" card that protects us from struggle or depression or loss or anxiety or any other human experience.

Joy is a deep sense that, in spite of anything we're dealing with in the moment, we are grateful to be alive.

So when Jesus says he's telling the disciples how to carry on without his physical presence leading them so his joy can be alive in them, he's saying any community that comes together in his name will be a community that knows how to nurture joy and keep joy alive.

How might we do that?

**Brené Brown** is a social work researcher whose company consults with organizations around the world about how to create work environments that are healthy, effective, and courageous. Her researchers have discovered that the one thing people who bring joy to their lives and workplaces have in common is *gratitude*. Brown says people who bring joy to the world *practice gratitude*. She says, "It's not an attitude of gratitude – it's an actual practice." These people keep a journal or make a note of what they're grateful for on their phones or share that with others.

Brown writes, "The research is clear. ... Embodying and practicing gratitude changes everything. It connects us with each other. It's allowing yourself the pleasure of accomplishment, or love, or joy – of really feeling it, of basking in it. It's allowing yourself to be grateful that you have something you want, in your hand, that it feels good to hold and recognize. Something as simple as starting or ending a meeting with a gratitude check, when everyone shares one thing they're grateful for, can build trust and connection, and give your group permission to lean into joy."

Because Brown's research made this connection between joy and practicing gratitude, her husband and their two kids are trying to practice at home. At dinner, after they sing a favorite church camp-style grace, each person in the family shares a specific thing from that day they're grateful for. She says it's a super simple thing to do – and "It's changed us. It's given – [me and my husband] an invaluable window into our kids' lives and hearts." (References are from **Brené Brown's** book *Dare to Lead: Brave Work, Tough Conversations, Whole Hearts*, Random House, 2018, which I read during my recent study leave.)

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



## The Redeemer Community

### RLC's Current Worship Protocol: *Love Your Neighbor*

- \* Masks are required in worship and in other larger group settings.
- \* Both sides of the sanctuary are set up for social distancing.
- \* Those who wish may stand during the opening and closing hymns and the reading of the Gospel.
- \* During the passing of the peace, we suggest you wave or place your palms together under your chin in the "namaste" posture as a way to share the peace in a distanced way.
- \* Individual communion elements are available to pick up inside the Sanctuary door.
- \* If you wish to use one of the first-floor bathrooms, please follow instructions in the bathroom about disinfecting it after your use. Only one person at a time in the restrooms.
- \* **Please put cellphones on "airplane mode."**

### Congregation Elects Officers for 2022-23

The following were elected Sunday to serve on Redeemer's Church Council for 2022-23: Finance Officer – **Nathan Ott**; Member Care – **Elyce Herring**; Property – **Sue Yehling**; Worship – **Jennifer Young**; and Special Funds Team – **Dave Engel**.

The election of vice president was deferred until the January annual meeting as they continue to search for a candidate.

Others returning to council for the second year of their terms are **Wendy Stoica**: president; **Margie Farnham**: secretary; **Krista Skipper**: Education; **Sue Watson**: Outreach; and Stewardship: **Laura Warren**.

### Looking for Volunteers to Share 5-Minute Reflection This Advent

At the beginning of the Holden Evening Prayer service which Redeemer does Wednesday nights during Advent, the cantor sings, "Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world," and the congregation responds, "the light no darkness can overcome." It is the promise that moves us through this Advent season: Light.

There is a place in this service for a member or friend of the congregation to offer a brief story – five minutes or so. This Advent, consider sharing a story that speaks to this opening sentence. When is a time in your life you needed light – a time you were lost, stuck, confused, afraid, overwhelmed? How did light come for you? What difference did that light make? What was possible that wasn't before? How does the coming of that light affect how you move through this season of Advent?

If this topic stirs a memory or story, please contact **Dave Shull** or sign up on the sign-up sheet in the hallway outside the Library.

"Don't underestimate the power your story has to touch us deeply and bring this season alive for us!"

The first Wednesday evening Advent service will be held on **December 1**.

### Poinsettia Orders Due Sunday

Christmas Eve Poinsettias are now on sale. Red, white, and pink poinsettias run \$7 per pot. The deadline to order is **Sunday, November 28**.

To order, please complete the form on the envelope (which can be found on the bulletin board next to the library) and put the money, check or cash in the envelope and place in the offering plate. Flowers can be dedicated in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a person or event. If there is no dedication, they will be listed "to the Glory of God." Questions should be directed to **Kay Ernsthausen** at 614-288-8506 or the church office.

### St. Nick Returns to Lead Worship on Nov. 28

After a COVID-imposed restriction in 2020, **Bishop Nicholas of Myra**, affectionately known as St. Nick, will return to preach and lead the children's time on **Sunday, November 28** – the first Sunday of Advent – at the 10 a.m. worship service. Welcome back, Nick!

## **Sister Act Adopts Two Families for Christmas**

Sister Act is coordinating gift cards for two families of students at Berwick School for Christmas. Details about the families will be available next Sunday morning, November 28, and in next week's *Reflections*.

## **ELCA Good Gifts**

ELCA Good Gifts catalogues will be available in the Narthex each Sunday in Advent for members to consider making a gift that can make a change in others lives. There are both familiar gifts such as \$10 for chicks for a family, a blanket for a disaster survivor, or a mosquito net - and new gifts like \$25 for a hygiene kit or personal protective equipment - or \$100 for a couple of goats or one month of Internet connectivity; \$160 for a week of trauma counseling; , \$220 for a community garden and honeybees; \$350 for a week of shelter for a vulnerable LBTQI+ youth; or \$800 for a computer for a community center.

That is just a taste of the possible Good Gifts. People can give online at [goodgifts@elca.org](mailto:goodgifts@elca.org).

## **Advent Devotional Booklets Now Available**

Redeemer's 2021 *Advent Devotional Booklet* is now available for pick up in the Narthex. It can be found in both regular and large print versions. The devotions are also available for download on the Redeemer website: [www.RedeemerLuth.com](http://www.RedeemerLuth.com).

Those who would like to receive a daily email with that day's devotion should contact the office. If anyone would like a print version mailed to them, please let the office know.

## **Adult Ed Resumes**

The Adult Education Class resumes **Sunday, November 28** to discuss *How do the Gospels talk about the advent and birth of Jesus?* It begins at 11:15 a.m. and will be held both in-person and on Zoom.

To join the group via Zoom, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 822 5653 9706; Passcode: 804399. To participate by phone, call 312-626-6799. If you don't have the Zoom app, you can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82256539706?pwd=Yjd4Q2VPWk93RVczSng4NE5GOURmQT09>.

## **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Good Neighbor Picnic Serves Hundreds**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Good Neighbor Picnic held this past September served over 350 individuals through its Free Store, according to a report from event leaders. There, folks shopped for coats, blankets, winter clothes, shoes, socks, underwear, and personal hygiene items. And this year, thanks to the generosity of one of the sponsors, Rocky Brands, Inc., the Free Store was also stocked with 246 pairs of brand new boots.

At the picnic, over 200 pairs of glasses and sunglasses, 80 backpacks filled with school supplies, and nearly 700 books for children and adults alike were distributed.

Throughout the afternoon, the 400+ attendees received a hot meal fresh off the grill, which included hamburgers, hotdogs, mac-and-cheese, beans, pasta salads, and chips. And thanks to the local Dairy Queen, attendees received a Dilly Bar for dessert.

The children who attended had games, crafts, superheroes, and princesses galore! Live music and other entertainment echoed throughout the park from 12 – 4 p.m., allowing everyone the opportunity to enjoy a fun, free, celebratory day for the whole family.

## **Noisy Offering Will Now Go to ELCA World Hunger**

For now until Epiphany, the "Noisy Offering" – that is the offering of loose or "noisy" change made during communion – will go to ELCA World Hunger.

Working with and through ELCA congregations (in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal

husbandry, community meals to advocacy, gifts to ELCA World Hunger enable the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, ELCA World Hunger meets basic needs and recognizes the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change is fostered. To learn more, go to [elca.org/hunger](http://elca.org/hunger).

## **Tuesday Bible Study Continues Nov. 23**

The Tuesday Bible Study continues its study of Jesus' parables on **Tuesday, November 23**. It meets both in-person here at church and on Zoom from 1-2:30 p.m.

To join the group via Zoom, 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 pasting the following web address in your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87137366983?pwd=T0NoUU5ORmNYN1YrajhpZ2hGR09pdz09>.

## **2022 Flower Chart Available**

Have an event to celebrate or remember? Somebody's birthday to recognize? The chart to sign up for flowers for Sunday services in 2022 is now on the bulletin board next to the library.

Flowers run \$20 and can be paid ahead of the date by using the envelopes that are also available on the bulletin board. The envelope provides additional space for spelling out the designation – information that is shared in *Reflections* and the Sunday bulletin.

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.

## **Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services**

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for dates now through the end of the year. **Youth are also encouraged to volunteer.** The sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Readings are sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings.

## **For Thanksgiving Week: An Invitation to Practice Gratitude** *cont'd from p. 1*

**Wendy Stoica** and I have built this into our confirmation gatherings. We ask the youth to share a “Pow! Wow! How!” time since we last met. The “Wow” is something they're grateful for.

We tried this out at our church council meeting last week. The stories of gratitude people shared brought laughter and wonder and tears. I think it helped us work really well together that night.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, maybe it's a good time to check in and see where gratitude shows up in your life. How freely do you express it? Might you try a gratitude moment each day with a family member or friend, to share what each of you is grateful for. This Advent, we prepare our Christmas-time celebration of the Joy who comes into the world. If we commit ourselves to practice gratitude as we enter this new church year, perhaps Redeemer will become a place where we bring joy alive and bless a hungry world with it.

Happy Thanksgiving. And Happy Advent.

*Dave Shull*

## Important Emails

[Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

[Info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Info@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

[MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

[FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for stewardship campaigns.

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

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

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

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

[Communications@redeemerluth.com](mailto:Communications@redeemerluth.com) – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

## Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

### For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to [info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com) and put *Reflections* in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

### For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

## Prayers and Personals

Prayers for comfort are asked for **Nancy Stinson** on the death of her brother. Prayers for healing are asked for **Ashley Bird** who will be having cataract surgery this week. They are also asked for **Nancy Steiner**, **Emily Kent** and **Bruce Collins** who are recovering from surgery and for **Bill Boys** who is recovering from a fall.

## Furniture Available

**Karen Kent** has an assortment of gently-used furniture that just doesn't fit in her small condo, available FREE to anyone who needs it. All you have to do is pick it up! If you're interested in any of these items, call Karen at 614-604-6960.

- Loveseat - Green/Burgundy/Tan plaid
- Loveseat cover - Solid Green
- Rocking Chair and Footstool - Dark Wood with Green cushions
- La-Z-Boy Recliner - Tan (with flip-up arm and secret compartment!)
- Bar-Height Chair - Burgundy with Black legs
- Massage Chair - Black
- Bathroom Floor Cabinet - White
- Round 4' Patio Table - Tan with partially painted mosaic-look top, with center hole for umbrella
- (2) 14-inch Square Wicker Baskets
- Car Booster Seat - Spiderman (Miles has outgrown it 😊)
- Rolling Laundry Sorter with 3 detachable laundry bags and hanging rod
- Dog Crate/End Table Combo - Dark Brown with Silver
- Dog Crate - Black Metal
- Dog Cushion that fits in either Crate
- 2 sets of pet steps (one is 3-steps/fleece-covered, one is 4 steps/plastic with stair treads)



### **Updated 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](mailto:info@redeemerluth.com). Hard copies are available at the church and can be found under the bulletin board in the hallway off the Narthex.

### **November Birthdays**

23-Chelsea Gordon  
23-Carolyn Moehring McMeans 24-Judith Bird  
24-Sarah Highland 25-Dereck Stewart  
26-Grace Montgomery 28-Dave Shull  
29-Mary Bowling

## **The Wider Church**

### **A Pastoral Message on Rittenhouse Acquittal**

Dear church,

In the book of Leviticus we read: "You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor" (19:15).

Our social message on [Community Violence](#) urges us to become more involved in countering the reality and fear of violence in our communities and our neighbors' communities, pursuing justice and seeking peace no matter how long the journey or complex the challenge.

When a child is allowed to become a vigilante in our society without recourse, we are forced to confront the idols of our society: guns, violence and white supremacy. To be sure, this is not about one person, but indeed about all of us, together.

Today's acquittal is an injustice. It points to the disorder in which we all live. As we seek to restore justice, so also will we restore God to God's rightful place at the center of our life together.

In Christ,  
Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
ELCA Presiding Bishop

## **The Community Beyond**

### **BECA Meeting Set for Nov. 30**

Berwyn East Civic Association's (BECA) last meeting of the year is set for **Tuesday, November 30** at 6:30 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church on Zettler Road. This meeting will include the election of trustees for 2022.

## **Getting Ready for Sunday**

### **First Sunday in Advent, November 28, 2021**

#### **Lessons**

**Readings:** Jeremiah 33:14-15; Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 21:25-36

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Dublin.

+ For Redeemer community member Krista Skipper.

*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, Shirley and Jack Miller, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, 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, Damon Stewart, Kathie Ehrich's sister Betty Weaver, Chad Eberle's mother, Nancy Stinson and family on the death of her brother Tom Starkey.

## Worship Leaders

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Dave Shull
<b>Preacher</b>	Bishop Nicholas of Myra
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Michelle Clemence
<b>Reader</b>	Kathy Zwanziger
<b>Interpreter</b>	Bryan Neal
<b>Crucifer</b>	Skye Andree
<b>Cantor</b>	Connie Criswell
<b>Organist</b>	Kathy Rapp
<b>Pianist</b>	Karen Kent
<b>Verger</b>	Wendy Stoica
<b>Usher</b>	Ashley Bird
<b>Producer</b>	Michele Disbro, Scott Steiner

*Flowers are given by Kathy Zwanziger in honor of her mom's birthday  
Noisy Offering will be for ELCA World Hunger*

## Sunday Faith Exploration Class

*Adult Education: How do the Gospels talk about the advent and birth of  
Jesus?*

Led by Pastor Dave

## This Week at Redeemer November 23 – November 29, 2021

<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	1:00 p.m.	<b>IN-PERSON &amp; ZOOM</b> Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>		<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
<b><u>Friday</u></b>		<b>Native American Heritage Day</b>
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	8:45 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	<b>IN-PERSON &amp; LIVESTREAM</b> Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 a.m.	<b>IN-PERSON &amp; ZOOM</b> – Adult Education
	11:15 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal