



Reflections

VOLUME 26

April 11, 2022

ISSUE 15

Visitors from Haiti: Drs. Deshommes, Dimanche

Editor's Note: On Sunday, April 24, **Drs. Johnson Deshommes** and **Stevenson Dimanche** will be Redeemer's guests in worship and for the adult education program. During worship, they will be part of a "conversation" sermon with **Pastor Al Rider**. After worship, they will lead the adult ed class and continue their conversations with Redeemer members. Their theme will be life in Haiti today, and their hopes and dreams for themselves and their country. Invite friends who might be interested in these conversations!

The following, by **Karen Rider**, provides additional background on the mission and the two young men:

In August 2009, I had the opportunity to travel to Haiti with a mission team from Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA), Lexington, KY, the first of my four trips. We arrived in the capital Port-au-Prince (*PaP*), a metro area with an estimated population of 2½ to 3 million people – more than half the total population of the entire country.

This wasn't my first trip to the Caribbean, so I knew to expect heat, humidity, crowds of people, and poverty. I was not disappointed. Most of the streets were potholes, dust, and just two or three lanes wide, depending on who got in the middle first. There were only a couple of stoplights. Trash lined the roads, with crews out shoveling it into containers or trucks. Vendors lined the streets selling fruit, cooked meats, clothes, tires, oil, refilled pop bottles, you name it. Many items were obtained by vendors who'd cross the border from the Dominican Republic, 11 miles to the east, for re-sale in PaP. Even with the poverty, people were generally neat, clean, and, ironically, it seemed as though everyone had a cell phone!

We met **Johnson Deshommes** and **Stevenson Dimanche** in Ranquitte, a small hill town in northern Haiti. Seventh-Day Adventist missionaries had established and supported the school where the young men had just completed their primary and secondary education. The Faith Lutheran mission team were introduced to Johnson by the school principal, who asked us to consider ways to help this promising high school student go to university. We discussed sponsoring him and three other students with the boys and their parents.

With our mission's scholarship support, the young men began pre-med studies at Quisqueya University (QU) in PaP. In 2014, Johnson was selected to participate in a four-week advanced summer anatomy class at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Then upon his return to QU, he was expected to tutor the other students in his anatomy class.

In the summer of 2015, Johnson shadowed **Dr. Mark Stelzer**, a surgeon in LeMars, IA who was another member of our ELCA mission team. There, Johnson developed a deeper interest in surgical procedures and medical ethics. At the end of that summer, Johnson flew to Indianapolis, and stayed with us, **Karen** and **Al Rider**.

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor - Rev. David Shull

L-I-C Student - Adam Howard

Office Manager - Becky Trover

Custodian - Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director - Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chimes Choir Director - Karen Kent

Reflections Editor - Judith Bird

2022

CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Wendy Stoica

Vice President - Michele Disbro

Finance Officer - Nathan Ott

Secretary - Margie Farnham

Worship - Jennifer Young

Education - Krista Skipper

Outreach - Sue Watson

Member Support - Elyce Herring

Property - Sue Yehling

Stewardship - Laura Warren

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Julianne Johnson

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland

Emlyn Ott Karen Collins

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

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

- * Masks are required coming into the building and in the Narthex. Folks wishing to continue wearing masks for worship are encouraged to sit in the pews on the north side of the Sanctuary; those who wish to remove their masks may sit on the south side of the Sanctuary.
- * 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 or folks can now choose to receive communion at the front of the church from masked servers distributing individual cups for the wine/grape juice.
- * 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 silence cellphones.

Redeemer to Hold Two Easter Sunday Services

Redeemer will hold two Easter Sunday services, one at 8:30 a.m. which is in-person only and the second at 11 a.m. which is both in-person and streamed on Redeemer's YouTube channel.

Ahead of that, Redeemer will hold a Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. that will be both in-person and livestreamed. It will include both foot- and hand-washing. Good Friday service is again in conjunction with Christ United Methodist Church. This year, the service will be held in their sanctuary at 1480 Zettler Road.

We have missed those of you who have not yet returned to in-person worship. There are a whole variety of worship opportunities available in the upcoming week. If you feel safe coming back into the sanctuary, your presence and spirit would be a true blessing to us. We are not the same without you.

Volunteers Sought for 2022 LSS/Food Collective Food Giveaways

The season for Redeemer's LSS/MOFC Food Giveaway events is quickly approaching. Redeemer is scheduled for the *third* Thursday of every month from April to October, so that means the first event is scheduled in less than three weeks on **April 21!** As folks can imagine, the demand for food assistance is still high, so this ministry effort shared with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and the Mid-Ohio Food Collective (MOFC) is even more important!

At least for the first month or two, the processes used last year will be followed. To recap, there will be a drive-thru process where customers stay in their cars and we follow all of the current physical distancing, hand washing, glove and face mask guidelines.

In an effort to gauge the volunteer staffing for these events, and especially the one on Thursday, April 21, those who are willing to help are asked to email or call the church office.

Coordinator **Sue Watson** notes, "I know our congregational efforts to combat food insecurity in our communities are very meaningful for many of us, and our outreach means so much to those we serve. So if you can volunteer (or if you'd like more info), please get in touch with the church office asap!"

"We'll take all the help we can get!"

The other giveaway dates are Thursdays May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15 and October 20.

'Extras' of Hair Care Products Needed for LSS/MOFC April Giveaway

As has done in the past, Redeemer is requesting donations of personal items to be included with the produce at the monthly food giveaways. For April's event, hair care products (shampoo, conditioner, etc.) will be given away.

"We are so grateful for the congregation's constant and generous donations. On behalf of our giveaway's guests, thank you, Redeemer members!" Sue said.

Adult Ed on Hiatus for April 17

Because of the Easter services, the Adult Education Class is on hiatus for **Sunday, April 17**. It returns on **Sunday, April 24** with a discussion/dialogue with the two Haitian doctors, **Drs. Johnson Deshommes** and **Stevenson Dimanche**. The theme will be life in Haiti today and their hopes and dreams for themselves and their country. **Invite friends who might be interested in this conversation.**

The class begins at 11:15 a.m. in Room 2, following the worship service.

Tuesday Bible Study on Hiatus for April 12

The Tuesday Bible Study is on hiatus for **April 12**, returning on **Tuesday, April 19** with a new series on encounters Jesus had with women in the Gospels. The group runs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. here at the church.

To join the group via Zoom, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 863 5869 9434; Passcode: 943506. 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/86358699434?pwd=cTlaaUM5MWl6U29mNGtsQXhuTnlIU09>.

Spotlight on BREAD Network Member Sue Watson

BREAD Network Members have been asked to answer a handful of questions: the answers will be shared in *Reflections* over the course of 2022. Up this week is **Sue Watson**.

1. **What is your name?** Sue Watson

2. **What issues keep you up at night?** In this day and in this world, there's no shortage of issues! I think fear of what might be coming keeps me worried: a tsunami of deliberate misinformation, economic landslide, stampeding injustice, flagrant disparity, and indifference.

3. **Why did you join the Justice team at Redeemer?** I wanted to learn more about what justice means, and I wanted to be a little more uncomfortable about injustice in all its forms. Diversity is such a nice word; disparity is not. The more I learned and heard, the more I wanted to make a difference.

4. **What is your favorite kind of bread?** Rye bagels, warm French bread, sourdough anything.

5. **Why did you decide to become a Network Member of BREAD?** I joined BREAD because it is doing what I want to do: make changes that benefit ALL people! BREAD works because they are thorough, persistent, organized, and serious about what matters. I need to be part of that effort because it's time to move from learning to *doing*.

6. **What is your Justice Prayer for 2022?** Heavenly Father, show us the way and give us the strength to prevail so that ALL your creatures are provided for. In whatever way you ask, let me do your will, let me work toward justice for all.

Redeemer has committed to bringing 47 people to the Nehemiah Action on May 10. Secure your free ticket for this event by contacting **Dave Shull, Sue Watson, Emily Ott, Michele Disbro, Kathy Zwanziger** or **Kristi Hildebrand** or calling the church office.

Upcoming BREAD Dates

Rally: Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7 p.m. at Temple Tifereth

Nehemiah Action: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at the Celeste Center 6:15 p.m. (doors open) 7 p.m. (event)

Justice Ministry Celebration: Monday, June 27 at 7 p.m.

Noisy Offering Now Going to 'ReconcilingWorks'

For now through Easter, Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" – that is, the offering of loose or "noisy" change given each Sunday when entering the Sanctuary – will now go to ReconcilingWorks. This is in celebration of Redeemer's 30th Anniversary as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Since 1974, "ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation" has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their church, congregations, and community.

“In relationships built through outreach and education, ReconcilingWorks shares Christ's message, the Gospel, which is for everyone equally. The group advocates for systemic change in policy and practice in church and society, working to alleviate not only the painful symptoms of oppression but also to eliminate its root causes.

“We are Lutherans working with the recognition that racism, sexism, ageism, able-ism, heterosexism, homophobia, and all the other artificial distinctions that seek to raise one group into privilege and preference over another, conspire together to diminish our world and church.

“An independent, Lutheran, membership-supported organization, ReconcilingWorks is committed to strengthen all of God's beloved for authentic, visible, faithful lives and to work for systemic change with the church and society.” For more information check out their website at www.ReconcilingWorks.org.

Visitors from Haiti: Drs. Johnson Deshommes and Stevenson Dimanche *cont'd from p. 1*

We connected him with fellow church members who got him into seminars in public health at Indiana University, and enabled him to scrub to observe a robotic hysterectomy and his first open-heart surgery at St Francis Hospital. He was *pumped!*

Meanwhile, Stevenson studied ophthalmology at Quisqueya and got into an eye program that same summer at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. He also joined us in Indianapolis that weekend to explore our city.

From Indianapolis, Johnson traveled to Lexington KY to stay with his sponsors and tour the University of Kentucky med school and hospital. There he shadowed **Dr. Lee**, a radiologist, and was further fascinated by MRI technology.

Today, both Stevenson and Johnson have their MD's and are taking post-doc courses at Indiana University and the University of Kentucky to prepare for their residencies. Stevenson has already been accepted at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center in Hershey; Johnson is still awaiting his assignment. We are very blessed to have both Drs. Johnson Deshommes and Stevenson Dimanche share with us here at Redeemer on **Sunday, April 24!** They have given many presentations to U.S. congregations about life in Haiti and their hopes and dreams for their careers and their country.

Our good friend **Delette Matheus** of Fort Lauderdale FL is also hoping to visit us and thank Redeemer for our mission support in the near future. She is a board member of Grace Mission and executive director of the Chez Moi Orphanage program for school-age girls and boys in PaP. Delette is Haitian-American and the daughter of the founder of Chez Moi.

Lodging Sought for Haitian Guest April 23

Redeemer is looking for one more host to provide overnight accommodations for one of our Haitian guests on **Saturday evening, April 23** and a light breakfast **Sunday morning, April 24**? **Al and Karen Rider** will drop him off after dinner Saturday evening and pick him up for church Sunday morning.

If you can help out, please contact **Dave Shull**.



Dr. Stevenson Dimanche (left) and Dr. Johnson Deshommes (right)

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 and recovery are asked for **Kelley (Scott) Frank** who had surgery this past week and for **Sue Watson, Kris Kauffman, and Kathy Ehrich**, who have all recently had surgery.

'Christ in Our Home' Available

The April-June edition of "Christ in Our Home" is now available in the Narthex for anyone who would like a copy. Or, it can be mailed. Just contact **Becky Trover** in the church office to request a copy be mailed to your home. Reach her at 614-237-1263 or via email at info@redeemerluth.com.

April Birthdays

13-Steve Boreman 15-Jill Disbro
16-Mike Benis 19-Damon Stewart
22-Grayson Ullman 23-Andy Skoog
24-Michelle Clemence 24-Elaine Disbro
27-Margie Frazier 27-Dora Pinder
28-Edwina Bradley

The Wider Church

Women of ELCA to Hold Spring Gathering

All women of the ELCA are invited to the Spring Gathering on **Sunday, May 1** at Messiah Lutheran Church (1200 Waggoner Road in Reynoldsburg). This year's theme is "Rejoice! We Are Together Again!"

There will be speakers, singing, refreshments and many opportunities for fellowship. Program begins at 2 p.m. with registration at 1:30 p.m.

Volunteers Needed for Churchwide Assembly 2022

The Southern Ohio Synod reports volunteers are needed for the Churchwide Assembly being held this summer in Columbus, OH. Volunteers are needed each day from **Sunday-Friday, August 7-12** in a variety of roles. You can sign up for the days and roles that you prefer by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/mrbxk6jt> . Please note that you are indicating a preference and event organizers may need to assign you a different role so that all responsibilities are covered. Thanks!

An Update on Relief Efforts for Ukraine

Treasurer Julie Johnson reported that Redeemer has collected nearly \$4,685 for Ukraine relief efforts by Lutheran World Relief (LWR). The congregation will continue to collect contributions for those relief efforts. Just note "Ukraine" in the memo section of a check. Redeemer will forward the donations to LWR.

Community Beyond

Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests Available

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 tests. Orders will usually ship in seven to 12 days.

Tests can be ordered online at <https://special.usps.com/testkits> .

Getting Ready for Worship

Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day, April 17, 2022 Lessons

Readings: Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Luke 24:1-12

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Ukraine

For those who are
fleeing: sanctuary

For those who are
staying: safety

For those who are
fighting: peace.

For those whose hearts
are breaking: comfort

For those who see no
future: hope

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of All Shepherds Lutheran Church, Lewis Center.
- + For Redeemer community member Ross Wilson.

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, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Diane Louangrath, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Alyssa Jordan-Bird and Nate Bird, Shirley and Jack Miller, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Grace and Ken Jones, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kris Kauffman, Chad Eberle's mother, Sam Hudson, nephew of Laura and Terry Warren, on being deployed to Poland.

Worship Leaders

	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11 a.m.</u>
Presiding Minister	Dave Shull, Pastor	Dave Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Adam Howard	Mary Benis
Crucifer		Skye Andree
ASL Interpreter		Bryan Neal
Reader	Kathy Zwanziger	Mary Benis
Cantor	Wendy Stoica	Jennifer Young
Organist	Kathy Rapp	Kathy Rapp
Pianist	Karen Kent	Karen Kent
Verger	Michelle Clemence	Wendy Stoica
Ushers	Zak Hinkle-Moore	Mike Benis
Producers		Sue Yehling, Kathy Zwanziger
Communion Set-up	Kay Ernsthause, Kathy Zwanziger	

*The flowers on the altar are given by various members and friends of Redeemer
Noisy Offering will go to ReconcilingWorks*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

April 12 – April 19, 2022

<u>Tuesday</u>	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith via ZOOM
<u>Thursday</u>	6:30 p.m.	Caregivers Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM Maundy Thursday Worship
<u>Friday</u>	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Worship at Christ United Methodist Church
<u>Sunday</u>	8:30 a.m.	IN-PERSON Worship with Holy Communion
	11:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community