



Reflections

VOLUME 26

May 30, 2022

ISSUE 22

Moving beyond 'Thoughts, Prayers'

"Thoughts and prayers" just doesn't cut it any longer with this latest mass shooting that took the lives of 19 students and two teachers at the school in Texas. There is this yearning to *do* something.

A teacher – the daughter of a friend of **Judith Bird's** – wrote the following:

"Gun violence is not an unsolvable issue, though it does pose a 'wicked problem' which is complex. 'Wicked problems' are social problems that are highly complex and require complex, multi-layered solutions.

"Don't be paralyzed by anger or grief. Use your anger and grief to fuel action.

"Here is what we can do:

"Educate yourself on the facts and research around gun violence This helps you to understand the complexity of the problem and work towards actionable solutions .

"Write your legislators. Even better organize with fellow citizens to visit their offices and meet with them in person. Demand legislative hearings and testify at them. Ask them to propose common sense and reasonable gun control legislation Be a squeaky wheel and encourage your like-minded friends to do the same. Host a letter writing party.

"Put your money where your mouth is. The NRA and other gun lobby groups rely on donations from people and they funnel crap tons of it to politicians for re-election. We need to counter that financing with our own and help financially support candidates who will support reasonable gun legislation.

"Vote. Switch parties if you have to in order to ensure moderates are elected. We need elected officials who will take action or work with others on this issue. Minimally vote to make sure extremists are shut out of elections. We need elected officials who will place nice in the sandbox and actually do something rather than worry about a primary challenge. [Ohio's primary for the state legislative races is Aug. 2.]

"Support school districts in including social emotional learning and anti-bullying efforts in schools Volunteer in local schools. Spend time with kids. Students who have healthy adult connections are far less likely to commit these atrocities. Teachers can't do it alone; this requires an entire community effort. And ... kids are pretty fun.

"Support social welfare programs (health care, food programs, rent assistance, minimum wage increases, etc.) that allow families to have a little economic stability. Poverty causes high levels of stress in families and is destabilizing to families. Kids are not immune from these stressors. Stress leads to a whole host of emotional and behavioral issues which can play out in homes and schools. In all of the shootings studied by the Secret Service, 100 per cent of the attackers experienced intense stressors (abuse, neglect, loss of loved one, familial drug or alcohol abuse, family mental health issues, divorce, parental job loss) in the months leading up to the attacks.

"There are things we can do. Take action." Here's one resource: "Protecting America's Schools" from the U.S. Secret Service:

https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/2020-4/Protecting_Americas_Schools.pdf.

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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/Chime 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.

We have missed those of you who have not yet returned to in-person worship. There are a whole variety of worship opportunities available. 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.

Two More Volunteers Needed for June 1 Food Pantry Team

Two more volunteers are needed for Redeemer's team to serve at the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Food Pantry this **Thursday, June 1**. Volunteers work from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the pantry which is located at 1460 S. Champion Ave. – the corner of Frebis and Champion. If you can help, please call the church office at 614-237-1263.

After-Worship Refreshments Return

As noted in the May 23 issue of *Reflections*, Church Council has decided to try to go back to having refreshments on Sunday mornings. Starting on **Pentecost, June 5**, the Sunday morning time of hospitality returns after the service and the celebration of the rite of confirmation. The Education Team will provide cupcakes and hot and cold beverages. The doors going out into the garden and parking lot will be open to supplement the air filter system the church has had installed. Folks can feel free to go outside or to take the refreshments to go!

The church continues to encourage everyone to get vaccinated and boosted and to follow public health protocols.

A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library for those who might be willing to provide refreshments on other Sundays through the summer.

Registration Open for RLC Summer Basketball Camp

Registration is now open for Redeemer's summer basketball camps. Led by former NBA and ABA player **Coach Larry Jones**, they will begin **Monday, June 13**. A parent/camper orientation is set for this **Thursday, June 9** at 6 p.m. in the church. To register, call 614-237-1263.

Redeemer provides these camps for free to youth ages 8 to 14. The camps run six weeks, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for either the Monday and Wednesday camp or the Tuesday and Thursday camp. They conclude on **Thursday, July 21**.

Join RLC Members on Poor People's March June 18

On **Saturday, June 18**, people from across the country will gather for the Mass Poor People's and Low-Wage Workers' Assembly Moral March on Washington and to the Polls! Both **Pastor Dave** and **Larry Trover** are planning to go. Larry reports, "I have booked my trip on the bus from Columbus, and have

been following the Poor People's Campaign (PPC) since I participated in their huge online event in 2020. You can find out more about the PPC at <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/>

“The campaign is using a crowdsourcing charter bus service called [Rally.co](https://rally.co) where you can reserve a seat on a bus shared with your local PPC family. This link will take you directly to information and sign-up for the bus from Columbus: <https://rally.co/poor-peoples-assembly/from/columbusoh-oh> .

Some important things to remember:

- “A credit card is required for reserving your seat but won’t be charged until the ride is confirmed closer to the date of June 18.
- “If you don’t have a credit card or don’t feel comfortable entering it on the website, contact ohio@poorpeoplescampaign.org, and they will help get you on the bus!
- “If you have any questions at all, please contact ohio@poorpeoplescampaign.org. They will do everything we can to make sure you can join in this historic event!

“All reservations need to be made by **Friday, June 10**; bus trips will be confirmed by **Saturday, June 11**.”

PRIDE Is Back

The Columbus Pride Parade returns in person this year. The date is **Saturday, June 18**, at 10:30 a.m. The ELCA effort is being coordinated by **Pastor Jacqui Buschor** of the Church on Oakland Park.

The t-shirt color this year is blue, and the cost to register is \$18 with a t-shirt, or \$5 without a t-shirt. The deadline to register is **Wednesday, June 1**. This registration link allows us to register together or individually: <https://tinyurl.com/ELCApride2022>. **Please let Mary Benis know if you’re planning to participate so that arrangements can be made to connect and/or to travel together.**

“The Pride Parade is always a good experience for the marchers. It’s a wonderful opportunity to say out loud what our shirts proclaim: ‘This is Christ’s church; there’s a place for you here.’ So if you can spare the time and you’re up for a slow walk, make plans to join with other Columbus Lutherans to celebrate both our diversity and our unity.”

Next Food Giveaway Set for Thursday, June 16

It is time to sign up to help at Redeemer’s next food giveaway on **Thursday, June 16**. A total of 15-20 volunteers are needed to help with set-up, the food distribution and then clean up. The distribution itself runs from 3 to 6 p.m. Set-up begins at 1 p.m. and clean up runs until approximately 6 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library.

The giveaway is run in conjunction with Lutheran Social Services and the Mid-Ohio Food Cooperative.

Routinely, Redeemer supplements the food items with personal care items or other supplies. For June 16, those are personal items for summer care – sunscreen, kids’ sunscreen, body lotion and insect repellent. Items can be placed in the baskets in the Donation Station in the cloakroom.

A total of 691 people were served at the May giveaway. That included 136 seniors and 229 children. All 10,466 pounds of food that Redeemer received was given away.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Begins at Redeemer

Whether they are called prayer shawls, comfort shawls, peace shawls or mantles, shawls have been made for centuries. They are universal and embracing, providing comfort as they enfold, wrap and warm, shelter and hug. It is a ministry that blesses both those who knit or crochet the shawls and those who receive them.

Eileen Day received a prayer shawl before her surgery in March and is encouraging those who knit/crochet to join her in this new ministry. We will gather the completed shawls in multiple sizes to share with those in need.

The only difference between a prayer shawl and any other shawl is in the process of making it. When making a prayer shawl, the crafter is very intentional about infusing the piece with prayer. If you are interested in joining this new ministry, please contact Eileen or **Kathy Mimplitch**.

Thinking on the Edge Concludes Sunday, June 5

Don Luck has been leading a series in the Adult Education Class that focuses on traditional themes in Christian self-understanding that have been making him uncomfortable for some time. He is sharing how and why he's been "fussing" with them and invites you to enter his internal conversation. On **Sunday, June 5**, Don concludes the series with an examination of **What Does It Mean to Be the "Church?"** Late theology professor—and Redeemer member—**Walter Bouman** saw a threefold pattern of how people see the church. Some see it primarily as a "salvation institution" that rescues believers from alienation from God and its consequences. Others see it as a "chaplaincy," a useful resource serving the religious needs of persons and society. On Sunday, the class will trace some implications of his third model: the community that sees the final triumph of the Reign of God.

The class begins in-person after worship service at 11:15 a.m. in Room 2 in Redeemer's education wing. It is also available on Zoom. Click this link to join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81411790303?pwd=cGNGMHo2K2d1WEIzUHRHekRQWUo2dz09>; Meeting ID: 814 1179 0303; Passcode: 645662; Phone only: 312-626-6799. The discussion will certainly be thought-provoking and there is always room for more voices!!

Sister Act Schedules June Event: 'A Joyful Retreat'

On **Saturday, June 11** at 11 a.m., Sister Act will gather at the home of **Sue Yehling** (9770 Taylor Road SW, Reynoldsburg) for its June retreat "A Joyful Retreat."

The day will include devotions, praise, and prayers as well as a potluck lunch. There will be a number of stations and options for activities. Sue has a beautiful yard for walking and exploring nature or for finding a quiet space for reflection. Other areas will be set up for writing notes or exploring with paints and other art materials.

During the devotional time, the group will explore the "*ELCA's 2022 Liturgy to Celebrate Bold Women*". This will be a time to remember and celebrate women in at Redeemer, in workplaces, neighborhoods, family and friends "as we look to grow in **our** faith and boldness."

Tuesday Bible Study Returns on May 31

The Tuesday Bible Study returns this **Tuesday, May 31** to continue its discussion of the 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=cTlaaUM5MWl6U29mNGtsQXhuTnIiUT09> .

May Council Updates

The following are updates from the May RLC Church Council meeting:

- African International Lutheran Church is a 14-year-old congregation in the Southeastern Ohio Synod seeking new worship space. They are currently worshipping at First English. The Executive Committee met with **Pastors Alexander Sumo** and **Varney Yarkpazuo** to tour the building and discuss the logistics.
- Property Team has been very busy repairing windows, doors and preparing the Fellowship Hall for use again. The Internet is now available in the basement and duct cleaning will be completed soon. The swings have returned to the playground and basketball camp is right around the corner.
- In worship, Redeemer returned to hybrid communion with individual cups in pews or coming forward for bread and wine. The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Sunday, June 5**.

Noisy Offering Now Going to 'ReconcilingWorks'

For now through the Easter season, 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.

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

June Birthdays

1-Rachel Day 3-John Eyster
3-Malcolm Highland 3-Rob Skoog
4-Ruth Boys 4-Scarlett Brush

6-Nancy Steiner 11-Cassandra Reinoehl
13-Jim Riley 16-Jil Williams
18-Jessica Fisher 20-Katie Jacobs
23-Nathaniel Bird 24-Andy Day
24-Bobby Jimison 25-Ron Willmann
26-Eric Reinoehl 27-Mike Shugert
30-Julie Brush

The Wider Church

ELCA Bishops Urge Congress to Support Funds for Augusta Victoria Hospital

In a May 18 letter, bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) urged congressional leaders to support the transfer of much-needed funds to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to cover debt owed to Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) in East Jerusalem.

AVH is owned and operated by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and supported by the ELCA and several other member churches of the LWF. Located on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, the hospital provides lifesaving health care to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. The hospital's cash flow problems stem from the inability of the Palestinian Authority (PA) to make regular payments on the fees for cancer patients it refers to the hospital.

"AVH is the first and only hospital to provide radiation therapy for cancer patients in the Palestinian territories and the only medical facility in the West Bank offering pediatric kidney dialysis," the letter states. "On a daily basis, these and other specialty services touch countless lives, both young and old, from communities across the Palestinian territories. . . .

"Please support the transfer of \$120 million to the USAID to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people in 2022. These allocations are needed to cover the PA's debt to AVH and the other East Jerusalem hospitals," the letter continues.

"From the Holy Land, our Lutheran Palestinian siblings are crying out, asking us to step into the breach and renew funds to Augusta Victoria Hospital," said Rev. Laurie Larson Caesar, bishop of the ELCA Oregon Synod. "Due to no fault of their own, the situation has become an urgent humanitarian crisis. Let's not close our ears and eyes. We are proud of the crucial role this Lutheran medical center has played in the West Bank, but when funds are threatened, so are the lives of refugees, children, elders and more." Caesar is chair of the ELCA Conference of Bishops Middle East Ready Bench.

LOMO Taking Registrations for Summer Camp

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio (LOMO) is now taking registrations for summer camps at Camp Luther and Lutheran Memorial Camp (LMC). These include the following:

Youth Summer Camps – Youth Summer Camps are offered at Lutheran Memorial Camp (near Mt. Gilead). These camps are for children in grades K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th as well as confirmation.

Family Camps – The majority of family camps are offered at Camp Luther, on the shores of Lake Erie. In addition, Family Camp weekend is offered at LMC.

More information on each of the camps as well as registration information can be found online at www.lomocamps.org . A flyer with the dates, types of camps and availability is also posted on the kiosk in the Narthex.

In addition, LOMO leadership is encouraging folks looking to honor or remember a loved this year to consider a gift to LOMO, Camp Luther or LMC. "By honoring the lives of those who have been an important part of your life, you also are able to give the life-giving and Christ-centered gift of a camp or retreat experience to a young person or family." For more information on donating, go to www.lomocamps.org/donate .

LMC Hiring Summer Staff

Lutheran Memorial Camp (LMC) at HopeWood Pines is still hiring staff for this summer. They especially need cabin counselors and a lifeguard.

They are seeking young adults (18+). They can apply at www.lomocamps.org/employment.

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!

Community Beyond

Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease Support Group Returns to In-Person Meetings

The Bexley/Berwick Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Group has returned to meeting in-person here at Redeemer on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. **Dottie Odrosky** leads the group.

Wearing a mask is no longer required but is very much acceptable for those who prefer to continue to do so. Those who have not attended before are asked to register by calling 800-272-3900 or by going online to www.alz.org.

Getting Ready for Worship

Day of Pentecost, June 5, 2022

-- Folks are encouraged to wear red on Sunday --

Lessons

Readings: Acts 2:1-8, 12-18; Psalm 104:24-28, 30-34, 35b; John 14:15-17, 25-27

Prayer of the Day

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 Epiphany Lutheran Church, Pickerington.

+ For Redeemer community member Pamela Andrews.

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, 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, Kelley (Scott) Frank, Brittany Amon, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Terry Warren, Jim Riley and family on the death of his mother Carolyn.

Worship Leaders

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Presiding Minister | Pastor Dave Shull |
| Assisting Minister | Kay Ernsthansen |
| ASL Interpreter | Bryan Neal |
| Cantor | Mary Benis |
| Organist | Kathy Rapp |
| Pianist | Karen Kent |
| Verger | Wendy Stoica |
| Usher | Helen Brunston |
| Producers | Tom Mimplitch, Michele Disbro |
| Communion Set-up | Becky Fisher, Nancy Magargal |

*Flowers are given by Julianne Johnson in memory of her parents, Dody & Oscar Johnson
Noisy Offering will go to Reconciling Works*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer May 31 – June 6, 2022

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|---|
| <u>Tuesday</u> | 1:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON / ZOOM Bible Study |
| | 4:30 p.m. | Education Team |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | 12:30 p.m. | <i>Redeemer at LSS Food Pantry</i> |
| <u>Sunday</u> | 10:00 a.m. | IN-PERSON / LIVESTREAM Worship with Confirmation |
| | 11:15 a.m. | IN-PERSON / ZOOM Adult Ed |
| <u>Monday</u> | 6:00 p.m. | ZOOM Executive Team |

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