



Reflections

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ISSUE 28

The Gift of Life

Most of us have undoubtedly heard this phrase in a variety of contexts. There are even a couple of congregation members who have experienced its reality in a physical way. Organ donation is seen by most denominations as a completely acceptable way of offering a better life to a person with certain conditions. One well-known condition is kidney disease.

Did you know there are more than 95,000 people in the United States who are on the waiting list for a kidney transplant? The average wait time for a kidney from a deceased donor is four years. Think how many people might not live long enough to receive a life-giving kidney.

For several years I have known that I have polycystic kidney disease (PKD). I have just assumed that at some point in the future I would be on dialysis, based on my family history. I have recently been scheduled for an evaluation for a kidney transplant. Since receiving the letter, I have been trying to educate myself and I have learned that

- 1) Receiving a kidney from a living donor is the best option for continuing to live. Not only does it cut down the wait time, but the kidney is in better condition.
- 2) More than half of all people needing a kidney transplant do not ask even one person to donate.
- 3) Family members generally have the best chance of matching the patient.
- 4) Even if the donor's blood type does not match the recipient's type, there can be a "paired exchange."
- 5) During a transplant, a new kidney is placed in the abdominal cavity, but the old, useless kidney is not removed (unless there is a specific reason to – disease, etc.).
- 6) Currently the recipient needs to take anti-rejection drugs for the remainder of his/her life.
- 7) Currently there is a trial [Freedom-1 Research Study] using stem cells from a living kidney donor that are placed in the recipient with the goal of not needing the anti-rejection drugs forever.

This past week I donated my "COVID hair" to "Wigs for Kids," for children who have lost their hair and would just like to look and feel like other kids. For me, that was not a big deal – the pandemic gave me the opportunity to have my hair look like it did when I was a child. I really didn't have to do much but let it grow.

Obviously, donating a kidney takes more thought and preparation, including a few days in the hospital following the surgery. I learned that a person who donates a kidney has no difference in life-span prognosis.

Kidney donors need to be between 18 and 60 years of age. My siblings would not qualify based on that alone. Additionally, PKD is hereditary – all of us inherited the disease from our mother, and it's quite likely that I have passed it on to my sons, who are now at the age the condition might surface.

If my evaluation in August says I qualify for a kidney transplant, I would encourage each of you – and everyone you know – to consider the possibility of donating a kidney (or other organ) to give the gift of life to another person. Thank you for being my family.

Kathleen J. Zwanziger

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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.

Redeemer Serves Dinner at First English July 14.

Redeemer is serving dinner at First English on **Thursday, July 14**. The menu will be sloppy joe sandwiches, individual packages of chips, fruit cups, dessert and granola bars.

Kay Ernsthausen reports that the numbers have been going up so she is now planning on serving 120 dinners (10 dozen).

Still needed are five dozen BelVita bars, 10 dozen bags of chips, 3 dozen fruit cups and one more batch of sloppy joes. Folks who can provide any of the items, please contact Kay by texting or calling her at 614-288-8506 or emailing KayErnsthause@gmail.com.

Sister Act Cancels for July; New Sister Event Set for Aug. 17

Sister Act has canceled the painting project set for **Saturday, July 23**. After some logistical thoughts, it was decided that only a few people can work on repainting the Little Libraries at one time. Therefore, **Donna Voelkel** and **Ruth Murray** have volunteered to clean, repaint, and reseal the Little Libraries. If anyone is artsy and would like to help them, please reach out to Donna.

While one event has been erased from the Sister Act schedule, another event has been added for August. **Dr. Mobin-Uddin** will be leading a discussion on medical ethics and how to make important medical decisions. This informative session will be held on **Wednesday, August 17** at 6:30 p.m. Please watch *Reflections* for more information regarding this special event.

Sunday Morning Drivers Needed

A Redeemer member living at Kensington Place, just north of Bexley, is in need of transportation to worship services. If you would be willing to be part of a transportation rotation, please let the church office know so that a schedule can be put together that works for everyone.

Suzuki Cancels Concert

Due to multiple cases of COVID, the Suzuki Music Columbus has had to cancel its Costa Rica tour Homecoming Concert that had been set for **Tuesday, July 12** here at the church.

Providers of After-Worship Refreshments, Cookies Sought

Individuals or groups within the congregation are encouraged to sign up to provide refreshments following a worship service. It doesn't need to be elaborate: cookies, cold iced or lemonade and coffee will do. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library for those who might be willing to provide refreshments on Sundays through the summer.

In addition, donations of packaged cookies are also needed. If this is something you can do, just put them on the counter in the kitchen off the Narthex. Questions? Contact **Jon Disbro** at 614-451-3642 or at Jon.Disbro@nationwidechildrens.org.

Join the Redeemer Live Stream Team

Tom Mimlitch writes, "We are hoping to add some new faces to our live stream production team. We have some of the most advanced audio and video production equipment in Columbus, outside of commercial studios. There are five high resolution cameras that we remotely aim and zoom to capture the action wherever it is. We have wireless and wired microphones processed by a state of the art 16 channel audio mixer that is also remotely controlled. These are all controlled by software running on a PC and an iPad in our control booth.

"If you would like to learn more please stop by our booth for a tour sometime after a service (we are too busy before a service). Or contact via email at live@redeemerluth.com."

July Book Study: *Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents*

Redeemer is holding its **annual summer book study**, reading and discussing *Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents*, by Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Isabel Wilkerson**. The sessions are running Wednesdays now through **July 27** from 7 to 8:30 p.m. both in-person here at Redeemer and on Zoom.

Pastor Dave writes, "If you're like I am, you associate the word 'caste' with a place like India. People are born into a caste and that caste largely determines who they can marry, the jobs open to them, and the kind of life they will have. I never would have described the U.S. as having a caste system. Sure, I know being a White, wealthy male means I've had a lot more options open to me than a lot of people. But 'caste' isn't a word I would have applied to the U.S. ... *until I read this book*.

"Wilkerson lists eight characteristics of a caste system. And finds all of them are part of our history in the U.S. Central to her argument is the fact that, over time, many White individuals and institutions came to accept treating people differently on the basis of race is part of the natural order of things, even seeing it as God's will. Many of these individuals and institutions convinced themselves that treating Blacks with even extreme cruelty was justified because, well, they aren't 'like us,' they're inferior ... which is another way of saying, they're part of a lower caste than 'we' are.

"It's a remarkable book that feels like it was made to be discussed by people who are open to hearing what Wilkerson has to say, and open to sharing what might be opposing views. We have shown we can talk about hard topics and face hard realities with respect and kindness. This book will invite us to bring those graces together again."

To join the group via Zoom, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 852 9835 6383; Passcode: 482083. 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/85298356383?pwd=WlNpcWRWTCTQd0N2bnptZDZkQ2hWUT09>

School Supplies Sought for Next Food Giveaway

Sign ups are underway for volunteers to help at Redeemer's food giveaway **Thursday, July 21**. 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. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet 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 July 21, the extra items are school supplies: pencils, crayons, paper, etc. Items can be placed in the baskets in the Donation Station in the cloakroom.**

Adult Education Class Moves to 'Sermon Talkback'

For the next several Sundays, the Adult Education Class will be a "sermon talkback," so folks interested in discussing the themes raised by the day's sermon and the biblical text it was based on can gather in Room 2 at 11:15 a.m. to share their thoughts and ideas.

Tuesday Bible Study Concludes for Summer with July 12 Session

The Tuesday Bible Study, which has been studying the book of Esther, concludes this week with the **Tuesday, July 12** session. 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=cTlaaUM5MWl6U29mNGtsQXhuTnlhUT09>.

It will pick up again in the fall.

BREAD Celebrates Success, Launches Investment Campaign

B.R.E.A.D. Network members gathered at Christ United Methodist Church on **Monday, June 27** to celebrate their successes over the past year and their 25th anniversary of working for justice. Because of B.R.E.A.D.:

- City Council invested \$430,000 for contracts with the National Network for Safe Communities to implement Gun Violence Intervention strategies.
- Nine Restorative Justice Circles are in place to prevent children from entering the Juvenile Justice System.
- Franklin County now has an Affordable Housing Trust Fund with \$4 million dollars to finance the development of affordable housing.
- The Franklin County Commissioners continue to approve \$6.5 million for affordable housing.
- **Councilmember and President Pro Tempore Elizabeth Brown** enthusiastically supported the Columbus canopy Restoration Project to reduce the effects of climate change.

While not every campaign has been completed, B.R.E.A.D. is hopeful with the progress that is being made. It will continue to push for One ID Columbus, the release of one-third of the American Rescue Plan dollars to go to the Affordable Housing Trust, and a reconciliation process with the Columbus Police.

"We also celebrated the attendance at the Nehemiah Action on May 10. Columbus had the largest turnout in the country for the various D.A.R.T. organizations which is the overarching organization for all B.R.E.A.D. type justice organizations. Redeemer Lutheran Church met the goal of having the same number of attendees as the number of our weekly worship attendance. Great job, Redeemer folks!" wrote **Michele Disbro**.

Then, B.R.E.A.D. kicked off their investment drive. Network members pledged financial support toward a goal of \$180,000. For every \$1 invested in B.R.E.A.D. in 2021, \$41 was leveraged back into the community! **Redeemer would love to give an additional gift (besides the membership dues) to support the work towards justice. If you would like to support the work of B.R.E.A.D., please make your check out to Redeemer Lutheran Church and note in the memo line that the donation is for B.R.E.A.D.** [Special envelopes are also available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.] The church will gather the checks and send one large donation to B.R.E.A.D. at the end of the summer.

"What an easy way to support the fight for justice in Columbus! Help us build responsibility, equity, and dignity for all!"

RLC's Saturday Garden Giveaways Now Every Saturday

Redeemer's Saturday morning garden giveaways are now underway and will occur every Saturday through the summer. Picking begins at 9 a.m. while the giveaway begins at 10 a.m. and runs until the week's harvest is gone.

Plan to come, help with the picking and the distributing! And if you have extra from your garden, please bring that to share.

LSS Food Pantry Needs Donations

Kathy Zwanziger reports that the LSS Food Pantry needs canned tuna, canned chicken, vegetable oil, and wrapped paper towels as well as cash donations. She reminds folks that donations can be leveraged to purchase more items for the same amount than we can on individual items. Whichever way you choose to donate, it is gratefully appreciated!

Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for dates over the summer. Readers, including youth and children, are encouraged to sign up on the sheet 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. Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate.

RLC Summer Basketball Camp Underway

Redeemer's summer basketball camps, led by former NBA and ABA player **Coach Larry Jones**, is now underway— even as the temperatures are to soar again this week. **Persons interested in donating water are asked to make it the 8 oz bottle size.**

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.**

Noisy Offering to Go to Columbus Diaper Coalition

Redeemer's Noisy Offering – that offering of loose change that is deposited in the offering plate just insider the entrance to the Sanctuary – will now be used to support the Columbus Diaper Coalition.

This coalition began in November 2013 because diapers are not covered by Ohio Works First, SNAP (food stamps) benefits, or any other social-service organization.

The Columbus Diaper Coalition is a diaper bank that currently supports four area food pantries. Since the supply chain for infant supplies has been interrupted and with the added stress of inflation, the diaper bank has more and more demand. The vision of the Columbus Diaper Coalition is to grow into a diaper bank that can serve all of Columbus.

For more information or where to drop off diaper donations go to:

<http://www.columbusdiapercoalition.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

Prayers for comfort are asked for **Shirley Miller** and the **Miller Family** on the death of **Jack Miller** Saturday, July 2. The funeral service was held at the church today, Monday, July 11. Thanks to all who helped with the luncheon following the service.

+ + +

Prayers are asked for all those Suzuki Music Columbus students and adults who contracted COVID.

July Birthdays

11-Evelyn Boreman 12 Payton Amon
13-Renee Glover Oakleaf 14-Chase Friederich
15-Kandice Hoddinott 16-Cora Marquez
17-Jasmin McFarland 18-Kelley (Scott) Frank
19-Leslie Roy 19-Terry Warren
21-Grace Jones 22-Alta Boreman
22-Kim Faulk 22-Noah Gosnell
25-Tracy Hoddinott-Ervin 27-Tom Mimlitch
29-Kathy Mimlitch 29-Becky Trover
31-Marilyn Roberts

The Wider Church

Follow Events at Churchwide Assembly 2022; Churchwide Bible Studies Set Leading Up to Assembly

In less than a month, the Southern Ohio Synod hosts the 2022 Churchwide Assembly in Columbus!

Make sure to follow our social media accounts for information about how God is working through our local congregations and ministries, the synod, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America!

"Through the partnerships of each part of our church, we are Stronger and Better Together ... Joining Jesus for the Restoration of the World."

In addition, the ELCA has Bible studies the entire ELCA can use to learn more about the assembly theme: "Embody the Word."

They are held on Sundays, July 17, 24 and 31 from 3-3:45 Central time. Registration is required.

Information, including registration for the Bible studies, can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/ynzmt3kz>

Follow
Us on
Social
Media



Facebook:
@SOSynodELCA

Current Likes: 1869
Goal: 2000

Instagram:
@SOSynodELCA

Current Followers: 593
Goal: 650

YouTube:
@SouthernOhioSynodOrgELCA

Current Subscribers: 130
Goal: 175

Help us meet our goals by #CWA2022!

Community Beyond

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

The Bexley/Berwick Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Group has returned to meeting monthly in-person here at Redeemer on the **second Thursday** from 6:30 to 8 p.m. That makes the next meeting on **Thursday, July 14**. 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

6th Sunday after Pentecost, July 17, 2022 Lessons

Readings: Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 15; Luke 10:38-42

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Upcoming Churchwide Assembly

Gracious God, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is divided, reunite it; Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by that truth and peace, as this church prepares to gather in assembly. God of grace, hear our prayer.

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 Grace Lutheran Church, Centerburg.
- + For Redeemer community members Brad, Martin, Grace and Trevor Binau.

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, 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 Bulgaria, Kelley (Scott) Frank, Brittany Amon, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, the Skipper family, Shirley Miller and family.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Jon Disbro
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Cantor	Mary Benis
Organist	Kathy Rapp
Pianist	Karen Kent
Verger	Wendy Stoica
Usher	Ruth Murray
Producers	Scott Steiner, Michele Disbro
Communion Set-up	Katie Jacobs, Diane Brobeck
Hospitality	

*Flowers are given by Ranel and Neil Hoddinott in honor of their daughter's birthday
Noisy Offering will go to the Columbus Diaper Bank*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer July 12 – July 18, 2022

<u>Tuesday</u>	1:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON / ZOOM Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith
	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	7:00 p.m.	CANCELLED Suzuki Homecoming Concert
<u>Wednesday</u>	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON / ZOOM Summer Book Study
<u>Thursday</u>	4:00 p.m.	RLC @ First English Lutheran Church
	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	6:30 p.m.	Caregivers Support Group
<u>Saturday</u>	9:00 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
<u>Sunday</u>	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON / LIVESTREAM Worship with Communion
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON / ZOOM Adult Ed
<u>Monday</u>	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp

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