



Reflections

VOLUME 27

February 20, 2023

ISSUE 8

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor - Rev. David Shull

LIC Student - Marit Johnson

Office Manager - Becky Trover

Office Staff - Diane Brobeck

Custodian - Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director -

Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chime Choir Director -

Karen Kent

Reflections Editor - Judith Bird

2023

CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Michele Disbro

Vice President - Krista Skipper

Finance Officer - Nathan Ott

Secretary - Sue Watson

Worship - Jennifer Young

Education - Katie Jacobs

Outreach - Diane Brobeck

Member Support - Elyce Herring

Property - Sue Yehling

Stewardship - Laura Warren

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Julianne Johnson

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland

Emlyn Ott

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, Chair

Julie Boreman

Nathan Ott

Wendy Stoica

Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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2023 Lenten Worship



Ash Wednesday

February 22

7:00 am Worship

IN-PERSON

7:00 pm Worship

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM

Lenten Evening Prayer

Wednesday evenings

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

7:00 pm

IN-PERSON

Maundy Thursday

April 6

7:00 pm Worship with Foot- and Hand-Washing

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM



Good Friday

April 7

7:00 pm Worship - Seven Last Words of Christ

Hosting Christ United Methodist Church

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 9

8:30 am

IN-PERSON

11:00 am Worship

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM



The Redeemer Community

Two Ash Wednesday Services Set for Feb. 22

Lent begins this **Wednesday, February 22**, with Ash Wednesday worship services at BOTH 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Redeemer will have Wednesday sung evening prayer services the next five Wednesdays, from **Wednesday, March 1** through **Wednesday, March 29**. Additional information on those services is found in other articles in this issue of *Reflections*.

Trying New Worship Response to First Reading during Lent

Starting this Sunday, February 26, and going through the season of Easter, the Worship Team is asking you to offer a new response to the first reading. At the end of the reading, instead of the reader saying, “Word of God, Word of Life,” to which the congregation responds, “Thanks be to God,” the reader will say, “May we listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church,” and the congregation will respond, “Amen.”

The reason for this change has to do with the fact that a number of Bible readings contain images of violence, cruelty, and hatred. If we want to take these texts seriously, and wrestle with the hard issues they raise, we believe we can’t simply declare them to be “word of God, word of life.” We believe responding to such texts by saying, “May we listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church. Amen,” names the reality that these are hard texts, and that their meaning for today is not at all clear. So we ask for the Spirit’s guidance to help us listen for what they may be saying to us who live in a very different time and reality than when they were written.

Please let any of the Worship Team members know what your experiences using this new response are. Your feedback will help guide our decision about continuing to use it after Easter.

The members of the worship team are **Michelle Clemence, Jennifer Collins, Karen Kent, Don Luck, Kathy Rapp, Dave Shull, and Wendy Stoica**.

Livestream Issues Continue; Link Available for Sunday Service

Problems with Redeemer’s livestream continued Sunday, according to **Tom Mimitch**, who believes it is a problem with the church’s Internet provider. He noted that they are working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, he uploaded the local recording to Redeemer’s YouTube channel. That link is the following: <https://tinyurl.com/yhbpunnu>.

An Invitation to Offer Five-Minute Reflection for Lenten Sung Evening Prayers

The final blessing of Redeemer’s new Service of Lenten Evening Prayer is a traditional prayer of Palestinian Christians:

Let your peace rain upon us, O living God of peace.

Let your peace rain upon us, Lord, fill our hearts with your peace.

Pastor Dave asks, “When you hear the word *peace*, what comes up for you? Do you go toward international conflicts? Or toward the need for peace among people divided by race, religion, gender and identity politics? Do you think of tensions among families, or even ways we struggle to be at-peace within ourselves and our hearts?”

“If you would like to prepare a five-minute reflection on some aspect of peace and what this sung blessing brings up for you, I know your words would be a blessing to all of us. Please sign up for the March Wednesday evening that works best for you on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Library.” Those dates are March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Contact **Dave Shull** with any questions.

In addition, cantors are needed for the Wednesday evening services. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Soup Luncheons Planned for Lent

Beginning **Wednesday, March 1**, soup luncheons will be held at Redeemer for the Wednesdays through Lent. They will run from noon to 1 p.m. Folks are asked to sign up to provide soup, bread or a dessert. The sign up sheet for March 1 is on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Volunteers Needed to Help at Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed to fill our Redeemer's team serving at the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Food Pantry (1460 S. Champion) on **Wednesday, March 1**. The hours are 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Four more people are needed. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library.

RLC Collecting Items for LWR Personal Care Kits

As the death toll from the earthquake and aftershocks in Turkey and Northern Syria continues to climb, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has sent quilts, personal care kits, baby care kits, heating stoves, tents, and other critically needed supplies to trusted local partners in the affected areas, **Julianne Johnson** reports. This is possible because of ongoing efforts to prepare quilts and kits by Lutheran churches on a regular basis so that a supply is on hand when disaster strikes.

Redeemer has in the past sent personal care kits, and in response to the earthquake the congregation will do so again. "I am setting a goal of 75 personal care kits, and a challenge goal of 100 personal care kits," she added. The following items are needed:

1. Light weight bath size towels – maximum size 52" x 20" (light or medium weight towels are easier to hang dry!)
2. Bars of soap equaling 8-9 ounces in original packaging.
3. Adult toothbrushes.
4. **Sturdy** combs.
5. Metal nail clippers.

Please avoid items with religious symbols or messages or the camouflage, military symbols or American flag. No additional items will be included. For those who prefer to give money, it will be used to complete kits. Any balance will be sent to LWR for shipping costs. "We will collect these items throughout Lent. Thank you!"

Narthex Art to Change Theme for Lent

The changing of the church season means it's time to change the gallery of member art in the Narthex. The theme for Lent is "Respite." Any kind of art, from photographs to quilts and everything in between, from members' home to be loaned to church for the season is welcome! Please bring the items in in the next week or two. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on **February 22**.

Front Door Damaged by Wind Now Sticks

After being knocked about by the wind last week, the front outer door, while fixed, now does not tend to close completely on its own.

Please make certain all the doors are completely closed entering or leaving the building.

Time to Order Easter Flowers

Easter lilies as well as red, purple, pink and yellow tulips are on sale! Orders need to be placed by **Tuesday, March 7**. Those purchasing flowers can dedicate them to the memory of someone or in honor of someone. Envelopes are on the table as you enter the sanctuary and on the bulletin board next to the Library.

To order, complete the envelope, include a check or cash in the envelope and leave it in the offering plate.

If not at church, please email the office at info@RedeemerLuth.com. Let the office know the number and the dedication. Then drop your check in the mail. Lilies are \$12/pot while the tulips run \$7.

Adult Ed Class Concludes 'Everything, Everywhere, All at Once'

Sunday, February 26 will see retired Trinity Lutheran Seminary Professor **Brad Binau** conclude his series on "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once: God and the Cosmic Story." The final topic that will be discussed during the Sunday education hour beginning at 11:15 a.m., will be "And Evermore Shall Be: The Future and a Big-Enough God." Folks have been asked to submit questions/comments that have come up over the last three weeks to him at bbinau@capital.edu.

The class is both in-person and on Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 869 2869 1370; Passcode: 603299. To participate via phone, call 312-626-6799.

For those who don't have the Zoom app, they can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in the browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86928691370?pwd=VkrRHYXRiTI10aG9tcjFDRGJFOTJldz09>

March Adult Ed Class to Examine Il/Legal Abortion

Over the first three Sundays in March (5, 12, and 19) **LIC student Marit Johnson** will lead discussions on articles from the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* February/March issue, titled "Il/legal Abortion: Lutheran Ethical Responses post-Dobbs." Together participants will read articles from the journal, look at the ELCA's 1991 Social Statement on Abortion, and share insights on ways to talk about this divisive topic from a Lutheran ethics perspective.

To take a sneak peek at articles that may be included, visit <https://learn.elca.org/jle/>.

The class is both in-person and on Zoom.

Reminder: Redeemer Takes Ongoing Safety Measures

The ushers are locking the front doors soon after worship starts. During worship, an usher will check the Narthex from time to time to make sure no one who wants to attend the service is locked out and to check the parking lot. (Members are reminded to lock their cars while at worship)

Ushers will unlock the front door after worship ends. When the Narthex empties after worship, the front doors will be locked again.

According to **Pastor Dave**, "As Council members review what we learned at the active shooter training, they will offer more information, guidance, and opportunities for conversation."

Tuesday Bible Study Looks at Judges on Feb. 21

The Tuesday Bible study continues exploring the book of Judges when it meets this week on **Tuesday, February 21**. According to **Pastor Dave**, this is the chance to learn everything there is to know about **Samson and Delilah!** ... as well as a host of others! It runs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and is both in-person and on Zoom.

To join the Zoom meeting, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 898 1666 2484; Passcode: 072258. To participate via phone, call 646 876 9923.

For those who don't have the Zoom app, they can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89816662484?pwd=UnpVZHV3M2ZTSW14K1R1VnRySXliQT09>

Spotlight on BREAD Network Member Al Rider

Kristi Hildebrand reports that BREAD Network Members were asked to answer a handful of questions. The last of their answers are being shared in Reflections. Here is the latest installment featuring **Al Rider**.

1. **What is your name?** "Alan' is what my mother named me because she liked it. But I've gone by 'Al' since middle school when **Al Kaline**, the Detroit Tigers all-star, was my baseball hero. Crazy thing ... His son later married my cousin in Detroit, so in a way, I became family with the guy I admired as a kid. How about that?"

2. **What issues keep you up at night?** "Lots of them. The degrading of our environment is one. Flagrant dishonesty in public life is another. The brutal bullying by social groups in power over others who are not

is a third, and that spreads out in all directions: gender suppression, wealth vs. poverty, racism, intellectual class, etc. etc. We are all One in Christ Jesus. Why can't we act like it?"

3. **Why did you join the Justice team at Redeemer?** "I've always felt called by the Gospel to stand up and be counted in the Church's prophetic mission on behalf of people and the planet, which are under attack by forces of greed and self-justification that we usually label as 'sin.' It's a life-long struggle to wrestle with the 'sin' in myself and in our culture."

4. **What is your favorite kind of bread?** "Since living in Germany years ago, I'm tied between German 'Brötchen' breakfast rolls and the honey-wheat communion bread recipe from the monks at the Trappist monastery in Virginia."

5. **Why did you decide to become a Network Member of BREAD?** "Number one, **Pastor Dave** asked me to. But number two, I'm strongly motivated to make a difference for my kids and grandkids by championing the environment of God's creation, and that's really what did it."

6. **What is your Justice prayer for 2023?** "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me."

Upcoming BREAD Date:

- Redeemer Network Meeting: **Monday, March 13, 2023**, at 7 p.m. in Room 2 and on Zoom.
- Rally: **Monday, March 27, 2023** at 7 p.m.
- Nehemiah Action: **Tuesday, April 25, 2023** at the Celeste Center (Ohio State Fairgrounds).

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.**

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

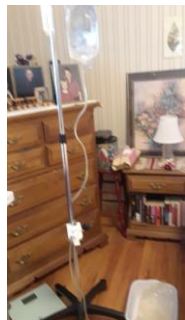
The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

Welcome Diane Brobeck to Church Office Staff!

Welcome to **Diane Brobeck** who has joined the team that, along with **Becky Trover**, staff the church office! She will be working on Thursdays and the office will be closed on Fridays.

An Update from Kathy Z: A Transition!



Before

Kathy Zwanziger periodically provides an update of her journey with dialysis. Here is the latest: “More new words have been added to my vocabulary – and new sounds to my house! I have transitioned from the IV-pole and exchanges four times a day to a **cycler** with all four exchanges during the night while I sleep.

The cycler has a screen to tell me how to set up for the night. I hear the motor as it begins. If I kink the tube, there will be an alarm to awaken me to unkink it. When I wake up in the morning (if I went to bed at a reasonable hour!), I just unhook everything and I am ready to go for the day. Since there is no longer about a half gallon of extra fluid in me all the time, I enjoy eating again!”



Now

Worshippers Asked to Wear Nametags

Worshippers are asked to wear their nametags for the next several weeks – not only for the sake of newer folks but also for the sake of those among the congregation whose memories aren't what they used to be!

Nametags can be found on the rack near the entrance to the Sanctuary. Can't find yours ... or never had one ... write your name on the pad provided and one will be made.

February Birthdays

24-Linda Williams

24-Sue Yehling 26-Diane Brobeck

26-Wally Jacobs 28-Colton Day

The Wider Church

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY

- 7.8 magnitude quake struck early February 6
- Hundreds of lives lost and buildings destroyed
- Urgent needs include food, shelter and water

YOU CAN HELP NOW!

lwr.org/quake

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

See the separate article, this issue, about Redeemer's efforts to collect items for personal care kits to send to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Or donate to LWR's efforts at the above online address.

Getting Ready for Worship

1st Sunday in Lent, February 26, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Matthew 4:1-11

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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 All Saints Lutheran Church in Lewis Center.
- + For Redeemer community members Kurt and William Goshen.

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, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Kay Ernsthausen
Reader	Marit Johnson
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal/Kiarra Santiago
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ruth Murray
Vergers	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	Judith and Ashley Bird
Communion Prep	Eileen Day, Nancy Magargal,
	Michelle Clemence
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Sue Yehling

*There are no altar flowers during Lent
Noisy Offering will go to CHOICES.*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

February 21 – February 27, 2023

Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study IN-PERSON and ZOOM
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship
Next Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM

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