



Reflections

VOLUME 27

March 27, 2023

ISSUE 13

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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 Assistant - 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

Ashley Bird

Julie Boreman

Nathan Ott

Wendy Stoica

Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

info@RedeemerLuth.com

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



Holy Week Worship

Lenten Wednesday

March 29

noon Soup and Conversation

7:00 pm Evening Prayer

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM



Palm Sunday

April 2

10:00 am Worship

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

11:15 am Sunday School Easter Party



Maundy Thursday

April 6

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

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM



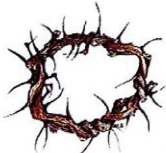
Good Friday

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

Two Worship Services

8:30 am worship

IN-PERSON

9:45 am Brunch

11:00 am Worship

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM



The Redeemer Community

Determining Redeemer Values

Church Council is asking, “Which values do you feel represent Redeemer AND could help us focus our decisions and actions so that we live into our mission and vision?”

They are looking for input from those who were not in church Sunday, March 26. Previously, Council members had identified words that they felt represented Redeemer, and then narrowed those down to the values that were repeated the most. Worshipers on Sunday indicated their top three values from the following: welcoming, inclusive, curious, compassionate, generous, progressive, active, justice-oriented, open (to conversation, minded, hearted).

Those that missed this opportunity can email Krista Skipper this week with their top three. Email her at kristamary5114@gmail.com or the church office at info@redeemerluth.com.

Easter Party for RLC’s Children Set for April 2

This year, the Easter party for Redeemer’s children will be held on Sunday, April 2 during the Sunday School hour following the 10 a.m. worship. There will be snacks, crafts, and an Easter egg hunt.

Next Up for Narthex Art Exhibit: *Surprise!*

The coming of Easter and the change of the church season means the theme for the gallery of member art in the Narthex will change. That theme for Easter/April is *Surprise!* Artwork can be brought in over the next couple of weeks.

“Please look around your home for pieces of art that might fit this theme and consider loaning it to the church for a few weeks,” **Emily Kent** urged the congregation.

She also thanked everyone for the “Respite” art pieces.

Midweek Services Conclude; Good Friday Volunteer Needed

Redeemer’s midweek Lenten services conclude on Wednesday, March 29. The service begins at 7 p.m. It is both in-person and livestreamed.

Good Friday worship, which will be here at Redeemer this year, sees an opening for one person to offer a reflection on “Word Six: *It is finished.*” If this is something you can do, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library or call the church office.

Contributions Sought for Easter Breakfast

Contributions are needed for the Easter Breakfast to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Items needed are egg casseroles, breakfast pastries/bread, fruit juice, milk and a volunteer to make coffee.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library.

2023 LSS/Food Collective Food Giveaways Almost Here!

The season for Redeemer’s Lutheran Social Services (LSS)/Mid-Ohio Food Collective (MOFC) Food Giveaway events rapidly approaches. Redeemer is scheduled for the *third* Thursday of every month from April to October, so that means the first event is on Thursday, April 20! The demand for food assistance remains high, so this ministry effort shared with LSS and MOFC continues to be very important!

Here are the 2023 dates and the “extra” items the congregation will be collecting each month:

- April 20 – Hair care items (shampoo, conditioner, etc.)
- May 18 – Skin care (lotions, sunscreen, etc.)
- June 15 – Soap, dish detergent, laundry soap
- July 20 – School supplies and tissues
- August 17 – Paper items (paper towels, toilet tissue, baby wipes, etc.)
- September 21 – Personal items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, etc.)
- October 19 – Cleaning supplies (wipes, paper towels, sponges, etc.)

Volunteers will follow the processes used the last few years including a drive-thru process where customers stay in their cars and those working the event will follow physical distancing, handwashing, glove and face mask guidelines.

In an effort to gauge the volunteer staffing for these events, and especially the one on April 20, folks are asked to email or call the church office saying if they can help. A sign-up sheet is also available on the bulletin board next to the library.

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!"

RLC Continues Collecting Items for LWR Personal Care Kits

Julianne Johnson reported Sunday that 100 personal care kits have already been assembled for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and believes Redeemer will have no problem reaching the revised goal of 150 kits. Items still needed are soap and nail clippers. She said the collection will continue through Lent. The kits include the following:

1. Light weight bath size towels – should be **between** 20" x 40" and 27" x 52". Please remember they are to be light-weight and preferably dark colors (so they are easy-to dry and won't show dirt as quickly).
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, write a check to Redeemer but in the memo area put "LWR Personal Care Kits." The funds will be used to complete kits. Any balance will be sent to LWR for shipping costs.

Lenten Soup Luncheons Wrap Up This Week

Redeemer's final Lenten Soup luncheon will be held at Redeemer this **Wednesday, March 29**. It will run from noon to 1 p.m. Folks provide soup, bread or a dessert. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Tuesday Bible Study Now Examining Obadiah on March 28

The Tuesday Bible study will explore the book of Obadiah when it meets this week on **Tuesday, March 28**. It runs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and is both in-person and on Zoom. It will then be on hiatus **April 4**, resuming on **Tuesday, April 11**.

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>

Adult Ed Class Concludes Examination of II/Legal Abortion

On **Sunday April 2**, LIC student **Marit Johnson** returns to conclude the conversation on abortion from a Lutheran perspective. The discussions have been based, in part, on articles from the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* February/March issue, titled "II/legal Abortion: Lutheran Ethical Responses post-Dobbs" as well as the ELCA's 1991 Social Statement on Abortion.

To view journal articles, visit <https://learn.elca.org/jle/>.

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=VkrRHYXRiTI10aG9tcjFDRGJFOTJIdz09>

March Council Meeting Update

The March Church Council meeting's "Big Picture Discussion" was on Redeemer's Values (to accompany the congregation's mission and vision).

Treasurer Julie Johnson provided updates on both the Parking Lot Project and the upcoming THRIVE Campaign.

In addition, last October's Active Shooter Training was discussed, focusing on finding ways to keep the congregation informed and engaged in the discussions of safety. The council is looking for a volunteer to provide occasional *Reflections* articles on this topic.

Ashley Bird has been added to the Special Funds Team.

Lastly, as Redeemer is required by the ELCA to review its constitution every five years, the Executive Team nominated **Wendy Stoica, Terry Warren, Eileen Day, and Ruth Murray** to form the team to provide this review.

Redeemer Holds BREAD Network Meeting

Kristi Hildebrand reports that the Redeemer BREAD Network Meeting took place **Monday, March 13**. **Pastor Dave** asked the group of network members "Why are you engaged in this work?" The participants' answers were similar: "I see people in need and think 'Someone should do something' and by participating in BREAD, I can be a someone who does something. I kept learning and getting enraged, but BREAD allows me to get engaged and do something. I like being a part of a group that has a mechanism to get things done. I didn't know how to help, and I wanted to do more than just give money. BREAD is a way to really DO something in a group that really cares, is faith based and is diverse. I like working with an organization that is organized."

Redeemer's BREAD liaison **Rob Sievert-Wagner** reported on several of the current campaigns on the BREAD roadmap:

- **"Families First and Housing Now!"** Columbus and Franklin County are sitting on millions of dollars from the American Rescue Plan. We will continue pushing city and county leaders to spend one-third of those dollars for affordable housing. At a recent Housing Convening in Columbus, they shared that while a number of cities have committed \$2-\$3 million of their American Rescue Plan dollars to programs to expand affordable housing, Louisville has committed \$40 million to affordable housing. BREAD's sister organization in Louisville, called CLOUD, lobbied heavily for that action.
- **"Stop Violence! Build Trust!"** After eight years of pushing for proven group violence reduction strategies, a new initiative is underway called the Columbus Violence Reduction initiative. Under the leadership of **Director of Public Safety Robert Clark**, a team of six have been hired to work weekly with the National Network for Safe Communities to implement the initiative with fidelity. Clark has committed to attend the Nehemiah Action on April 25.

The commissioning of the BREAD network members took place during worship on March 19.

The meeting with the BREAD prayer: O God, to those who have hunger give bread; to those who have bread give a hunger for justice.

Redeemer has committed to bringing 60 people to the Nehemiah Action on April 25. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Dave Shull, Sue Watson, Emily Ott, Michele Disbro, Kathy Zwanziger** or **Kristi Hildebrand** or call the church office.

Upcoming BREAD Dates

Rally: Monday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m. at Congregation Tifereth Israel (1354 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205).

Nehemiah Action: Tuesday, April 25 at the Celeste Center at the Ohio State Fairgrounds (717 E. 17th Ave. 43211).

Justice Ministry Celebration: Monday, June 12 at 7 p.m.

New Worship Response Being Used to First Reading

Now through the season of Easter, the Worship Team is asking members of the congregation to offer a new response to the first reading. At the end of the reading, instead of the reader's 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," **Pastor Dave** explains.

"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.**

Redeemer Book Group to Discuss *The Personal Librarian*

Redeemer's Book Group next meets on Wednesday evening, April 19, at 7 p.m., in-person at the church and on Zoom. They will discuss *The Personal Librarian*. **Donna Voelkel**, who recommended the book, says it is a historical novel by **Marie Benedict** and **Victoria Christopher Murray**. **Belle da Casta Greene** was a young Black librarian who identified herself as White. She was hired by financier **J.P. Morgan** to manage and create a library for his large collections of ancient manuscripts, etchings, and noted oil paintings. After Morgan's death, Belle was successful in encouraging J.P. Morgan's son, Jack, to turn the library into public institution to honor his father.

There is much more to say, but that's for the reader to find out and discuss!

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 are asked for **Ruth Boys** as she remains in Westminster Thurber for rehabilitation following a fall.

Member Directory Update: **Julie Brush** has a new address: 10410 Calle De Flores Dr., Clermont FL 34711-7201.

An Update from Pastor Dave on His Dad

Pastor Dave would like to thank those of you who've asked him about his dad's health. After having low blood-oxygen levels, pneumonia, COVID, and four non-stop days of the COVID cough, Gordon's body had no strength left. So he'll spend the next month or so at a skilled-nursing facility with the goal of getting his strength back so he'll have enough independent movement abilities to return to his assisted-living facility. Dave and his dad are grateful for your love and support!

Looking for Volunteer to Keep Kitchenette, Donation Center Tidy

Redeemer is looking for a volunteer or volunteers to monthly tidy up the kitchenette on the first floor as well as the Donation Center in the cloakroom.

The kitchen has recently been cleaned up so it just needs to be maintained while the donation center/shelves could use a once over. This latter does NOT entail delivering or getting rid of the items, etc. Others in the congregation take care of that. If this is something you can do or if you have questions, please call the church office at 614-237-1263.

Church Office Now Open Four Days/Week

The church office is now open Mondays through Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with **Becky Trover** and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon with **Diane Brobeck**. The office is closed on Fridays.

'Christ in Our Home' Available

The April-June 2023 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.

Worshippers Asked to Wear Nametags Especially at Easter

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.

March Birthdays

27-Margie Farnham 30-Colin Young

April Birthdays

1-Gabriel Reinoehl 3-Chad Eberle
4-Jenny You 4-Wendy Stoica
6-Nathan Ott 13-Steve Boreman
15-Jill Disbro 16-Mike Benis
18-Isaac Marquez 19-Damon Stewart
22-Grayson Ullman 23-Andrew Skoog
24-Michelle Clemence 24-Elaine Disbro
27-Margie Frazier 27-Dora Pinder
28-Edwina Bradley

The Wider Church

Trinity Seminary to Present Haydn Mass in D Minor on March 31

The Trinity Seminary Choir will present the Haydn Mass in D Minor – the “Mass for Troubled Times” – as part of its Choral Evensong on **Friday, March 31**. To be held in the Gloria Dei Worship Center at the corner of Main St. and College Ave., the event begins with the prelude at 7:30 p.m. with the Evensong beginning at 8 p.m.

Performing with the choir is the Trinity Seminary Choir Chamber Orchestra and soloists **Jennie M. Blosser**, soprano; **Katrina Warner**, mezzo; **C. Andrew Blosser**, tenor; **William Schott**, bass; and **Carol Ann Bradley**, organist. Redeemer member **May Schwarz** is the director.

Free parking is available in the adjacent lot off College Ave.

The event is free but donations online to <https://tinyurl.com/bddhs2kd> are welcome. To support the music program, click “other” on this site and write in “Music at Trinity.”

First English Update

Kay Ernsthausen reports there are many things happening at First English:

- **First update - the open pulpit**. Through conversations with the synod office, the council has decided to fill the pulpit in a new innovative way. Instead of doing the normal call process, they are hiring a contract pastor. The pastor will be responsible for specific duties as outlined in the contract. The contract will most likely be a six-month contract renewable at the end of the contract. They have found someone wanting a contract position and they have come to the church and preached on one occasion. The next step is for the council to establish the contract terms and responsibilities.

- **Second update - the building**. A roofing company has been found that not only will repair the tile roof but will also help to maintain the roof. Over the last six months, the roof has been repaired and there are no more leaks into the building and down the walls. The sanctuary walls are being repaired from all the water leaks. The company will also be replacing broken tiles each year.

In addition, handicap accessibility is being looked at more seriously. A way into the sanctuary has been figured out but to get a wheelchair to the restrooms is still a problem. With the generous donation from Lord of Life, the old stove in the kitchen has been removed and a new six-burner stove and a convection oven have been purchased and are being installed. Also, with the help of a \$10,000 grant, the teen room is being updated as a study room for the 22nd Street Cookies kids. They are also buying a new larger freezer for cookie dough.

-- **Third update - meals**. The Sunday morning breakfast continues to be offered. Currently 150 breakfasts are being served every week. Some of the churches providing breakfast periodically need extra help on Sunday morning. The meal coordinators will be sending emails as this becomes known so the partners not providing meals can see if they have people available to help.

The Thursday night meal is being very missed in the neighborhood. The issues around the Thursday night meals were discussed. It was determined that a covenant with the Thursday night providers might help with the issues of help and amounts of food. The suggestion will be if one church can't do it alone they partner with another church. The covenant is the next thing to be developed. The council is hoping to bring back Thursday night dinners sometime after the May council meeting.

“The church council is doing a very good job of keeping the congregation together and serving the neighborhood.”

Getting Ready for Worship

Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Matthew 21:1-11

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, 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 Clinton Heights Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community member Elyce Herring.

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, Karen Kent, Phillip Hall and Kirstin Roberts, Nancy Magargal, Gordon Shull.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister

Assisting Minister

Reader

Cantor

ASL Interpreter

Organist & Senior Choir Director

Pianist & Chime Choir Director

Usher

Verger

Hospitality

Communion Prep

Producers

Pastor Dave Shull

Julianne Johnson

Marit Johnson

Connie Criswell

Bryan Neal/Kiarra Santiago

Kathy Rapp

Karen Kent

Zak Hinkle-Moore

Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica

Michelle Clemence

Becky Trover

Tom Mimplitch, Michele Disbro

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

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

March 28 – April 3, 2023

Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study IN-PERSON and ZOOM
	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
Wednesday	noon	Soup and Discussion
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Lenten Evening Prayer
Next Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Sunday School Easter Party
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
Monday	5:30 p.m.	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