

## Reflections

VOLUME 27 July 3, 2023 ISSUE 26

### **Courageous Dialogue**

The author of this piece, Jennie Telfer, will lead the Adult Education Class on July 16 to talk about her peace work in North Korea and other places. She is a friend of Larry Trover's, who wrote, "I've known Jennie for three years as we meet weekly on Zoom with the Peace Posse, an international nonviolence study group of peace workers, teachers and pastors. Originally part of a larger online introduction to Engaging Nonviolence by Pace e Bene, seven of us continue discussing books, practicing nonviolence and sharing beloved community each Wednesday afternoon. I gladly support Jennie's work in Korea and hope you will be able to attend her presentation at Redeemer.

Last Friday, I was walking door to door in the heat of the Missouri summer to invite business owners, community organizations, and church leaders to support my peace work.

At a life insurance company, two men expressed a lot of interest in North Korean people. They asked questions, and I shared stories from my travel and encounters with people in the DPRK.

"It sounds like we need to tear down the barriers," Ryan reflected.

"We need to find ways to communicate love," added Josh, "At the end of the day, it's all about love."

What most impressed me about my conversation with Ryan and Josh was their openness and interest in North Korean people. Both of them have heard a lot of negative rhetoric about North Korea in the media, but that has only fueled their curiosity to understand, rather than inflaming hatred or disdain for a nation and people far from home.

Their openness and curiosity reminded me of an encounter I had with two middle school students in Pyongyang in 2016. Let me paint the scene for you.

I was standing in the middle of Kim Il Sung Square. You've probably seen news clips of military parades rolling through that square, but it is more often a hang-out place for kids on roller blades. I'm a tall, White girl—quite conspicuous in the DPRK. Also, remember that people in the DPRK live in a state of war. The war we call the "Korean War" (they call it the "Fatherland Liberation War") may have been relegated to history in most American minds, but it never actually ended. The horror and trauma of the war and ongoing fear of their "main enemy," the USA, lives on in the collective conversation and imagination of North Korean people. Let's return to that scene in Kim Il-Sung Square.

Two boys approached me, and one greeted me in English. He asked where I came from. When I said I came from the USA, he responded, "You are from England?" I repeated myself in Korean, "I am from the USA."

When my words sank in, both boys took a step back in shock. The quiet boy turned and ran, but the brave one, who had initiated the conversation, paused. After a

### In This Issue

Courageous Dialogue

The Redeemer Community

The Wider Church

**Prayers & Personals** 

**Getting Ready for Sunday** 

### **OUR CONGREGATION**

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus Pastor - Rev. David Shull

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
Julie Boreman
Wendy Stoica
Ashley Bird
Nathan Ott
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**

### **Some Ways to Connect at Redeemer this Summer**

The following highlights a number of ways that folks can be involved here at Redeemer over the summer:

<u>Wednesday evenings in July</u>, 7-8:30 p.m.: Redeemer Summer Book Study explores the realities of experiences on the Mexico-U.S. border. There's an article about our summer book, *The Line Becomes a River*, elsewhere in this issue. These discussions are safe spaces to explore topics about which those who gather bring a wide variety of perspectives which have no easy resolutions ... and about which you might not have conversation partners to talk.

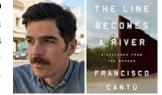
<u>Ongoing on Saturdays</u>: At 9 a.m., Redeemer gives away the produce from the garden. (Harvesting begins at 8:30 a.m.) Volunteers are needed to help for a couple of hours each week. Contact **Jon Disbro** at 614-832-2639 with questions.

Ongoing Sundays: Readers are needed for the Sunday services throughout the summer. A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board next to the Library. Readings are sent out the week ahead of the service. **Readers of all ages are welcome to participate in this ministry.** Also adults are invited to join **Pastor Dave** for the sermon "talkback" session following worship at 11:15 a.m. in Classroom 2. This is both in-person and on Zoom. Also make sure to stop by the latest installment of art in the Narthex to see members' vision of what the theme "Love in Any Language" means to them.

### **Summer Book Study on Mexican/US Border Begins July 5**

Every July, Redeemer spends four Wednesday evenings together discussing a book on an issue that comes out of the day's headlines. Having this amount of time means the discussions on the book are not rushed nor are the conversations short-circuited. Spending four weeks on the book invites a deep dive into a topic that is controversial and complex. And it creates a space where folks can share their opinions and questions while listening to people who likely will have some different ideas and experiences. This July book group offers a rich opportunity to live into Redeemer's mission of *fostering understanding and healing in community*.

This July, the group will read and discuss *The Line Becomes a River* by **Francisco Cantú**. Cantú is a Mexican-American who worked for the U.S. Border Patrol on the Mexican border from 2008-2012. Writing about this book, author **Sandra Cisneros** says, "There is a line dividing what we know and do not know. Some see the world from one shore and some from the other. Cantú brings the two together to a spiritual whole. My gratitude for this work of the soul."



There are a lot of copies in the public library for those who don't want to buy a copy. Please lend your voice and ears to our discussions the four Wednesday evenings in July, beginning <u>July 5</u>, from 7-8:30 p.m. <u>Folks are asked to read the prologue and Part 1 for Tuesday's session.</u>

And invite your friends! Having non-Redeemer people joining us makes our conversations that much richer.

### **Orders Now Being Taken for New RLC T-Shirts**

Orders are now being taken online for Redeemer's new T-shirt. The circular design was selected and shirts are available in a variety of styles and colors. (See attached form for more information and for the link to order.) With tax and card fees, the shirts are \$22.42 for regular sizing. All orders will be done online. Those not comfortable with online transactions should see either **Krista Skipper** or **Michele Disbro.** 

The deadline for orders is **Friday**, **July 14**.

### **BREAD Issues Roadmap Report:** Come Together ... Close the Gap!

Kristi Hildebrand reports that BREAD has a roadmap of issues that they are actively working on. The current roadmap includes:

- Stop Violence! Build Trust! (Violence)
- Don't Ignore! Restore! (Juvenile Justice)
- Trees protect us! We protect trees! (Environment)
- Families first! Housing now! (Affordable housing)
- ID equals...opportunity (Municipal ID)
- Come together...Close the Gap! (Elder Care)

Each issue has a steering committee and research team that is actively working all year on finding solutions that have worked other places or working with Columbus and Franklin County leaders to implement them.

Continuing this series, we will do a deeper dive on the next issue, "Come together...close the gap!"

In 2019, BREAD's Elder Care Committee had just highlighted the negative health effects for older adults who were isolated in their homes, completely unaware that isolation was about to become a part of all of our day-to-day lives. We are still healing from those effects and learning just how damaging COVID-19 was and still is for individuals as well as for our overall life expectancy. Before the pandemic, they were shocked to find out that in Franklin County, life expectancy could be determined by zip code -- meaning that in certain neighborhoods people were dying 27 YEARS earlier than in others. The committee needed to find the root causes for this gap if they were going to change it!

Franklin County Health Commissioner Joe Mazzola agreed to work with BREAD on a Life Expectancy Task Force and they have made and continue to make progress! Mazzola sent his regrets that he could not attend the recent Nehemiah Action, but he thanked BREAD for their engagement with other stakeholders across the county as they helped shape HealthMap 2022 which is the latest community health assessment. This tool can now be used to draw more attention to these disparities and zero in on four health priorities that rose to the top. One of these priority areas highlights how access to basic needs like affordable housing, education, and health care are all social determinants of health. Luckily, BREAD is already pushing for solutions to many of these issues so when they win justice, they are literally saving lives!

Franklin County Public Health is working closely with Columbus Public Health and the four hospitals to identify common metrics as part of their health improvement strategies. It's anticipated a new Community Health Improvement Plan will be completed in Summer 2023 so stay tuned for how to turn that plan into action to restore our community.

While their long-term goal was to learn about the overarching problems leading to the gap, BREAD also pushed for an immediate solution to help people in zip codes with the lowest life expectancy. They had to somehow get services to older adults who were most in need, many of whom make frequent calls to 911, sometimes for very preventable things. The group learned about a pilot program where paramedics and social workers from the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging team up to visit those callers and connect them to services. SPARC or "Specialized Program Assessing Resource Connectivity" was doing amazing work: the only problem was that they only had one social worker at the time. So BREAD highlighted the need and since the 2019 Action, the Columbus Fire Department's SPARC team has grown and has helped over 4,700 people!

Columbus Fire estimates the program has helped reduce calls to 911 by more than 10,000! By freeing up paramedics for other emergencies, we are ensuring that factors like the ones outlined in the health assessment can lead to better outcomes. "We are happy to celebrate these steps toward closing the gap and will continue pushing so that EVERYONE regardless of their zip code gets the care they deserve!"

As a reminder, there are always envelopes on the table at the rear of the sanctuary that folks can use to make an investment in BREAD and support their justice work.

### **RLC Summer Basketball Camp Underway**

Redeemer's summer basketball camp, led by former NBA and ABA player **Coach Larry Jones**, is now underway. Participants can still register by calling 614-237-1263.

Redeemer provides this camp for free to youth ages 8 to 14. The camp runs six weeks, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday. It concludes on **Thursday**, **July 20**.

### **June 15 Food Giveaway Serves 150 Guests**

June 15 was a beautiful day for Redeemer's giveaway, **Kathy Zwanziger** reports. "Thanks to all of you for making it a success – by working and by contributing special items. We were given 10,330 pounds of food, including a skid of milk! (That was 300 pounds more than in May.)

"There were 150 guests, representing 477 individuals: 147 were children and 101 were seniors. There were 55 new families (compared to 39 in May). Again, thanks to all!"

Please note the special items for the July 20 giveaway – in addition to the fans (see separate story, this issue) – are school supplies and tissues.

### Redeemer Safe Church Team Highlights Safety Tips: Severe Weather

If you are in the church building or on the grounds, help all who are present to move safely to the basement and away from any windows or doors. Monitor weather reports as able and do not leave the basement until it is declared safe to do so by broadcasters or first responders.

### What should you know about lightning?

To keep your members and staff safe, your leadership team should be aware of the following tips.

- Thunder can be heard up to 25 miles from the original lightning storm.
- Assume that if you can hear thunder, you can be struck by lightning.
- Thunder and lightning should serve as a final warning to immediately seek shelter indoors or in a vehicle NOT under a tree.
- Wait 30 minutes after the storm to resume outdoor activities.
- Remember, "When thunder roars, go indoors!"

### How can you protect against hail damage?

Hail is produced in strong and severe storms across the country, especially in the High Plains.

- Hail one inch (quarter size) or larger is most likely to cause damage. Roofs, windows, siding, air conditioning units and vehicles are most commonly damaged by hail.
- Look for roofing products that boast a "Class 4" rating or advertise impact resistance.
- Install protective coverings over windows to prevent cracks and shattering and over air conditioning units with exposed fins to prevent denting.

### What about wind damage and tornadoes?

Wind from convective storms comes in two main forms:

- 1. Straight-line wind: Strong, damaging winds that can reach up to 100 mph -- these winds account for one-half of all severe weather reports.
- 2. Tornado: A narrow, rotational wind extending from the base of a thunderstorm to the ground. Winds resulting from convective storms can cause catastrophic damage to buildings and lead to serious injury or death.
- Not all tornadoes have advance warnings, and straight-line winds can be just as dangerous as a tornado.
- All thunderstorms should be treated with respect, and people should seek shelter in the lowest level of a sturdy building whenever a strong storm approaches.
- Pay attention to local weather updates and have a plan to shelter in place in the event of a severe storm.
- Before a storm hits, if you have time to do so safely, secure loose items, such as lawn furniture or other items that may become airborne during high winds and cause damage.

Source: National Severe Storms Library from www.noaa.gov.

### Fans, Fans, and More Fans!

Sister Act has now collected 62 fans to offer families who may need them at Redeemer's July LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway. So, to that end, Sister Act is collecting box fans from now until **Thursday**, **July 20**.

**Julie Johnson** reports that enough funds have been collected to cover the cost of the 50 fans she purchased on sale and she is now on the hunt for another sale to purchase another 25 fans. Folks are encouraged to continue donating to cover the fan costs or to bring in a box fan or two to add to the supply.

Fans, fans, and more fans!

### **Tuesday Bible Study Now on Summer Hiatus**

The Tuesday Bible is now on a summer hiatus. It will resume in the fall after Labor Day, on **Tuesday, Sept. 5.** 

### **Noisy Offering Now Goes to Star House**

Starting in July, Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" will now go to Star House -- a drop-in center for youth experiencing homelessness and the only housing village of its kind in Central Ohio for college-age youth who are exiting homelessness. Young people experiencing homelessness, ages 14-24, are provided a safe location along with basic needs and access to crucial, stabilizing resources.

In addition, Star House, along with the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and Finance Fund, jointly owns and operates Carol Stewart Village, an affordable neighborhood for youth coming out of homelessness. It has 62 studio apartments and onsite access to a wide array of programs and social services.

### Courageous Dialogue cont'd from p. 1



Then come and offer your sacrifice to God."

few thoughtful moments, he stepped forward and thrust his extended hand toward me in a handshake. We continued our conversation.

We all encounter circumstances, people, and conversations that scare us. It is natural for our defenses to automatically kick into gear, preparing us to fight or escape at any cost. This is why I am amazed whenever I meet people who, instead, manage to pause their defense reactions long enough to engage their curiosity and seek to better understand their partner in conflict. This kind of dialogue is truly courageous.

Would you take a few moments to reflect on Jesus' words in Matthew 5:23-24: Jesus said to his followers, "If you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person.

May we each have more courage to seek understanding and connection this month.

Jennie Telfer, Program Director, Peace Catalyst International

### **Important Emails**

<u>Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave.** 

<u>Info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

<u>MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

<u>FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for stewardship campaigns.

<u>Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

<u>Property@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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.

<u>Communications@redeemerluth.com</u> – 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 <a href="mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com">info@RedeemerLuth.com</a> 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 and healing are asked for **Pastor Al Debelak** who is undergoing extensive medical tests and treatment and for **Pastor Keith Wolter**, a friend of **April Smith's**, whose sister **Paula** died. Prayers continue to be asked for **Wayne** and **Charlotte Frank**, parents of **Kelley Frank**. (See story below.)

### Thrive! Pledges Now Exceed \$35,000

**Julie Johnson** reports for the **Thrive**! Team that Redeemer's pledges for the campaign of the Southern Ohio Synod have now reached \$35,020 – well in excess of the \$20,000 goal set by Church Council. Thanks to everyone who has pledged from the **Thrive**! Team of **Wendy Stoica**, **Margie Frazier**, **Dave Shull** and Julie.

### Deadline to Register to Vote for August Special Election Is July 10

The deadline to register to vote in the <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>Aug.8</u> special election is next <u>Monday</u>, <u>July 10</u>. This special election is asking voters to vote on Issue 1, which will change the way amendments to Ohio's Constitution are approved, making it harder.

Not registered? Go online to the Ohio Secretary of State website at <a href="https://olvr.ohiosos.gov/">https://olvr.ohiosos.gov/</a> and register there. To register, folks will need to provide the following:

- An Ohio driver's license or Ohio identification card number.
- Name
- Date of Birth
- Address
- Last four digits of your Social Security number.

If you do not have any portion of the required information, follow this link to register to vote or to update your voting address using secretary of state's paper form (PDF): <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5ce8vpbh">https://tinyurl.com/5ce8vpbh</a> .Once this form is completed, it must be signed and sent it to your county board of elections. Addresses of county boards can be found here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/w57jdmbs">https://tinyurl.com/w57jdmbs</a>. Mailed forms must be postmarked by the July 10 deadline.

Register and then have a plan to have your voice count for this election!

### **Update from Kelley Frank**

**Kelley Frank** writes, "Thank you for the continued thoughts and prayers for my parents, **Wayne** and **Charlotte Frank**. I thought I'd share some updates.

"It is a huge relief that Dad did not need surgery for his C1 neck vertebrae fracture. He will continue to need a neck collar for four to six weeks as his neck heals on its own. My parent's farmhouse is not safe nor accessible for him to return home while healing. After almost a week at Grant, he was transferred to Country Club Rehabilitation Campus in Mount Vernon last Thursday evening, June 29 for therapies and care during this healing period. He is still orienting to this new place and confused at times. Transition continues.

"Meanwhile, the exhaustion and stress has impacted my mom big time. Yesterday, Saturday, July 1, she fainted and fell from a chair at home. We were able to get her to the Knox Community Hospital ER for tests, etc. While nothing is broken, they discovered clots in her lungs and are checking clots in her legs. She has been admitted, at least for a couple of days. Uncertainty continues.

"Watching my parents decline and being the closest child on call is taking its own toll on me and Trina, while still trying to work and take care of our own responsibilities. I know many of you have been there, done that. I am extremely grateful for my brother and sister-in-law's help last week while they were staying with us (previously planned). My brother will return next week. And we are surrounded by love and support from extended family and friends during this very chaotic and stressful time, which is a blessing."

### 'Christ in Our Home' Available

The July-September 2023 edition of "Christ in Our Home" is now available in the Narthex for anyone who would like a copy. Feel free to take an extra copy to share with family or friends. 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 <a href="mailto:info@redeemerluth.com">info@redeemerluth.com</a>

### **July Birthdays**

3-Caroline Ott 5-Sachio In Phillips
7-Diane Montgomery 8-Kathy Zwanziger
11-Evelyn Boreman 12-Payton Amon
13-Renee Glover Oakleaf 14-Chase Friederich
15-Kandice Hoddinott 16-Cora Marquez
17-Jasmin McFarland 18-Kelley 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

### Getting Ready for Worship Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 9, 2023 Lessons

**Readings:** Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 145:8-14; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### **Prayer of the Day**

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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 Hosanna Lutheran Church in Pataskala.
- + For Redeemer community members Emily Kent and Miles Smith.

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, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston, John Caron, Kathleen Zwanziger, Wendy Stoica, Pastor Al Debelak, Earl and Edwina Bradley's niece Tina Monroe, Chris Doss and Adam Howard; Kevin Bailey; and Carolyn Moehring.

### **Worship Leaders**

Presiding Minister Dave Shull Assisting Minister Emily Ott

Cantor Mary Benis

ASL Interpreter Bryan Neal

Organist & Senior Choir Director Kathy Rapp Pianist & Chime Choir Director Karen Kent

**Usher** Nate Ott

Verger Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica

**Hospitality** Katie Jacobs

Communion Prep Katie Jacobs, Wendy Stoica Producers Sue Yehling, Scott Steiner

Flowers are given by Kathleen Zwanziger in celebration of new life Noisy Offering will go to Star House Monday



### **Upcoming Week at Redeemer**

July 3 - July 10, 2023

Basketball Camp

Monday	5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Outreach Team
	5:30 p.m.	ZOOM Executive Team
	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
Tuesday	<b>OFFICE</b>	CLOSED
		Independence Day
Wednesday	12:30 - 3  pm	RLC at Food Pantry
	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Book Group
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
-	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

6:30 p.m.

WOMENS V-NECK

### Click HERE https://www.customink.com/g/amh0-00cr-y8eh to order and pay online

purple frost

fuchsia frost

# REDEEMER T-SHIRT ORDERS: Click HERE for "Custom Ink." Order and pay online (about \$22) District Tri-Blend T-shirt: super smooth and soft fabric. Standard fit: straight fit on body, chest, & arm







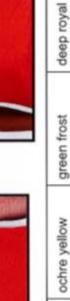












deep orange

red frost











Unisex

Unisex

Womens v-neck Womens crew



Womens crew

Womens v-neck

Womens crew

Unisex

Unisex Youth

Unisex



Fit: Standard fit: straight fit on body, chest, & arms

Hanes Authentic T-shirt

Youth to Adult sizes in blue horizon only

FOR A BIT HEAVIER TEE (not tri-blend) & a bit less \$\$

"DESIGNS WILL BE SIZED AND CENTERED CORRECTLY BEFORE PRINTING"