



Reflections

VOLUME 27

August 14, 2023

ISSUE 32

Phase 1 of Parking Lot Repairs to Begin

Julie Johnson writes that, “For the past two to three years there has been planning for several projects that involve the parking lot. The first phase of that work will begin **Monday, August 21**, weather permitting. The parking lot will be closed to all traffic and parking that week.

“The entire project encompasses cement work, including repair and expansion of sidewalks, replacement of the basketball hoops, grinding and repaving of the asphalt and replacement of the fence that holds Duarte’s artwork. All projects are much needed...” She reports they have been discussed with contractors to determine the order in which to tackle them, and the costs of each project.

On Monday, the entrance to the parking lot will be replaced with cement.

“By the end of August, we hope to have the cement work AND the replacement of the basketball hoops done! You will notice that the dumpsters will be moved to the cement pad at the front of the lot, and the curb cut for wheelchair access will be expanded to meet ADA standards.”

“The budget we passed for this year includes the cost of the cement work which is much less if it is all done at one time and we have been notified that the total cost for the basketball hoops will be covered by a couple in the congregation! We hope to celebrate in mid-September when the new basketball hoops will be dedicated to **Larry Jones**, friend of Redeemer, and leader and coach of our summer basketball camps.

“Next year we hope to be able to complete the asphalt work – the most expensive part of the project. The costs of asphalt are rising and we may need to wait until the following year to afford it. The fence – probably the most dire need – has to be done after the asphalt work is completed.

“Our parking lot has become a vital part of our ministry to our community – from our monthly food giveaways when we receive and giveaway tons of food to those in need to our basketball hoops which have been up for over 20 years. If you were to record the use of our lot, you would find everything from school buses awaiting pick up of students at Scottwood Elementary to utility and city construction vehicles staging for the day’s work to Suzuki staff and students to a variety of trucks pulling in. That is in addition to parking for all the activities and worship at the church.

“If you need to come to the church August 21-25, please park on Ivanhoe. Thank you for your patience and support!”

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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 Rich Pautsch

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

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:

Ongoing on Saturdays: 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. A reader is still needed for August 27.** Also adults are invited to join the adult education sessions following worship at 11:15 a.m. in Classroom 2. This is both in-person and on Zoom. (See separate article this issue for information on the August series to be led by **Pastor Al Rider**.) **A volunteer to provide refreshments Sunday, August 20 is also needed.**

First Wednesdays: Redeemer serves at the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry on the first Wednesdays, with the next day on **Wednesday, September 6**. It runs from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Questions? Call the church office at 614-237-1263. Or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Flower Sponsorships: Each Sunday, a bouquet of flowers graces the Sanctuary, often sponsored by an individual or family in honor of an event or in memory of a loved one. There are several open dates coming up including **August 20**. Let the church office know if this is something you can do or fill out the envelope that can be found on the shelf in front of the bulletin board, next to the Library and place it and the payment in the offering plate.

Volunteers Needed for August 17 Food Giveaway

Volunteers are needed to help this week with Redeemer's next food giveaway on **Thursday, August 17!** Set up begins at 1 p.m. with the giveaway itself beginning at 3 p.m. It runs until 5:30 p.m.

The special items this month include paper products such as paper towels, toilet paper and baby wipes, etc.

Book Group, Sister Act Combine to Discuss *Book of Longings*

The monthly book discussion group will be joined by Sister Act on **Wednesday, August 16** to discuss *The Book of Longings* by **Sue Monk Kidd** – both in-person on Zoom. Copies are available in public libraries. The discussion runs 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 2 at Redeemer. To join the discussion via Zoom, go to the following link:

<https://us02zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYIFuZz09>

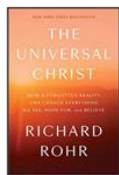
The Meeting ID is 865 8150 4887; Passcode 274918. To join via phone, call 1-312-626-6799.

Kids' Fest Set for Sunday, August 13

Two neighborhood families turned out for Redeemer's Kid Fest on **Sunday, August 13**, swelling the number of children participating to an estimated 20. A big thanks to **Katie Jacobs** for spearheading this year's event and for everyone who helped in one capacity or other.

Rider Leads Adult Education Class during August

The Adult Education Class on **Sundays in August** will be a book study on **Father Richard Rohr's** book, *The Universal Christ*, led by **Pastor Al Rider**. The class begins about 11:15 a.m. in Classroom 2. The class is both in-person and on Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82689102919?pwd=V0NSY0c1SDBWUXZlMWFfZbXlWZHpPdz09> Meeting ID: 826 8910 2919; Passcode: 430914; phone only+1 312 626 6799.



Calling All Ringers, Singers

Yes, it's that time of the year to begin planning to include rehearsals for Redeemer's Senior Choir and Bell Choir in the schedule! Beginning **Sunday, September 3**, Senior Choir rehearsals will now be held Sunday mornings from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. Then beginning **Thursday, September 7**, the Bell Choir will rehearse Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Good Neighbors Picnic Set for Sept 23

The Good Neighbors Picnic will be held this year on **Saturday, September 23** at Wolfe Park on the east side of Columbus. Redeemer members and friends are invited to begin donating new or gently used blankets and cold weather clothing and accessories to help provide for homeless brothers and sisters in the Columbus area.

This all-day event was started in 1999 by **Redeemer member William McCulley** along with a few volunteers as part of the National Make a Difference Day.

On the day of the Good Neighbors Picnic, volunteers work to provide a day of celebration including food, music, games, books, family photos, crafts, and shopping at a Free Store for blankets and winter clothing.

Redeemer, along with other faith organizations, community leaders, local businesses and organizations work to gather items for those who are homeless or in shelters. Donations may be placed in the bin located in the cloakroom. Cash donations or gift cards are welcome and may be dropped off at the church office. To learn more about the Good Neighbors Picnic, go to www.goodneighborspicnic.org

'Ordinary Is Extraordinary' Artwork Now Up

The new exhibit of members' artwork in the Narthex – "The Ordinary Is Extraordinary" – is now on display. It recognizes that the church is now in the "ordinary season." The theme also ties into the Adult Ed Sunday Class that **Al Rider** is leading over the Sundays in August. (See separate article, this issue.)

Journaling Workshop Coming This Fall

Saturday, October 14 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., **Mark Katrick** will facilitate a journaling workshop here at Redeemer. Mark is a semi-retired UCC pastor and a spiritual guide. The theme of the workshop will be "Blessing". Come. Write. Share. Watch *Reflections* for further information. Contact **Rich Pautsch** with questions.

Volunteers for Sunday Refreshments Needed

Volunteers to set-up refreshments Sundays after worship are needed. **Sunday, August 20** remains open. It need not be elaborate. Coffee is stocked and just needs to be made. Cookies, too, are in the kitchen off the Narthex and just need to be put out. To volunteer, sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Redeemer Safe Church Team Highlights Safety Tips: Fire Safety

Here are some general fire safety tips to think about while you are in the church building or in any public gathering space. Stay alert and stay safe!

- **Take a good look.** Locate exits immediately. Find the FIRE EXIT signs above doors. When you enter a building, you should look for all available exits. Some exits may be in front and some in back of you. Be prepared to use the closest exit. You may not be able to use the main exit.
- **Check for clear exit paths.** Make sure aisles are wide enough and not obstructed by chairs or furniture. Check to make sure the exit door is not blocked or chained.
- **React immediately.** If an alarm sounds, you see smoke or fire, or some other unusual disturbance, immediately exit the building in an orderly fashion. Help others as you are able who may be mobility challenged.

- Get out, stay out! Once you have escaped, stay out. If you have to escape through smoke, get down low to the ground. **Under no circumstances should you ever go back into a burning building.** Let trained firefighters conduct rescue operations.

The Redeemer Safe Church Team has plans to create exit maps for each room of the building and will also do an updated fire preparedness and prevention risk assessment.

Stay tuned for more information!

BREAD Campaign Updates

Redeemer's BREAD liaison, **Rob Sievert-Wagner**, recently shared updates on four campaign items:

Stop Violence...Build Trust!

The Columbus Violence Reduction (CVR) program - the National Network for Safe Communities program that we pressed for and won - had its first call-in this week. This marks a major step forward in saving lives from senseless gun violence. The *Columbus Dispatch* had some great coverage of this important event.

Environmental Justice

While committee research may be on hiatus, work to increase the tree canopy is not! The Recreation & Parks Department released an update on the implementation of the Urban Forestry Master Plan, which reported that nearly 2,000 trees were planted along streets and in parks this spring to expand the tree canopy. This planting targeted priority neighborhoods like the Far South that have much less tree coverage than other Columbus neighborhoods. The update also shared that American Forests, a national nonprofit, will be developing a Tree Equity Score Analyzer (TESA) for Columbus. Those interested in staying in the know about the UFMP can sign up for their newsletter [here](#), or visit their [website](#).

Housing

The housing committee continues to urge the Columbus City Council and Franklin County Commissioners to dedicate \$146 million towards affordable housing. Just before Independence Day, Housing Committee leaders spoke at both the city council and county commission meetings with miniature versions of the United States flag for each official and a note that read, "How can people truly be independent if they don't have an affordable place to live?"

Juvenile Justice

In June, BREAD leaders were able to visit Walnut Ridge High School to see restorative practices in action! Columbus City Schools acknowledge that the implementation of restorative practices is the result of BREAD's efforts, and we will continue to press for all schools to have this life-changing practice in place. To read more about the visit, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/27h7m8ck>.

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.

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

It was good to see both **Bill Boys** and **Bruce Collins** in church Sunday, following recent heart procedures! Prayers for healing and a quick recovery are asked for **Nathaniel Bird** who is having his gallbladder removed on Tuesday.

Redeemer Team Serves 161 Families at Food Pantry

Lutheran Social Services reports that Redeemer's team served a total of 161 families on Wednesday, August 2. The total number of people in the families was more than 560 individuals, including 184 children and 71 seniors.

Pastor's Email Has Been Hacked

Once again, **Pastor Dave's** email has been hacked by a scammer. Please know that members will never be asked to provide money or gift cards via email. Check the return email address carefully and **DO NOT** reply or open any attachments.

If the email says not to reply by phone or the usual email, that is a red flag - you should always check via a reliable source if you have questions. You can learn more about avoiding scams at these websites:

<https://www.bbb.org/article/tips/8767-bbb-tips-10-steps-to-avoid-scams>

<https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scam>

August Birthdays

15-Seth Harms 15-Sarah Kirkman
16-Diana Gordon 16-Cathy Oldham
16-Madelyn Zimmer 17-Thelma Jonson
18-Jasper Glover-Oakleaf 23-Scott Steiner
25-LaVerna Reinoehl 26-Brad Binau
27-Matthew Bird 27-Jon Disbro
29-Heather McGurer 31-Lynn Bellhorn

The Wider Church

An Update on Lutheran Churches in Hawai'i

Redeemer member **April Smith** provides this update on the Lutheran churches in Hawai'i:

“The ELCA has 10 congregations in Hawai'i, spread across four islands. My friend and Westerville native, **Pastor Keith Wolter**, is the Dean of the Hukilau Conference, which is the assembly of these 10 congregations as a region of the Pacifica Synod. The Pacifica Synod is now accepting donations for Hawai'i relief efforts following the devastating fires on the islands of Maui and Hawai'i (The Big Island).

“The ELCA churches on the islands are safe although they have members and friends who have suffered losses of life and property. Kehei Lutheran Church writes: ‘We have been deeply grateful to witness how Aloha shows up: Native, Local, resident, transplant, etc. We're all individual threads that create this complex twine, binding together all who live here on Mother Maui.’

“Your gifts in their entirety will be used to support emergency relief efforts on the Hawaiian Islands of Maui and Hawai'i in response to the August 2023 wildfires that have claimed lives and destroyed homes and businesses. All funds received will be sent to organizations and agencies providing direct relief to those affected by the fires.

“Should the Spirit lead you to do so, please prayerfully consider making a donation to these relief efforts. Here is the link to make secure donations through the Pacifica Synod:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ82/campaign/C-149JR>

“Please continue to pray for all of Hawai'i as these tragedies will impact everyone statewide.

“Mahalo (Thank You)”

Prayer Concerns for Week from ELCA

The ELCA publishes “Prayer Ventures” for folks to consider throughout the week. The following are the prayer suggestions for the week **August 14-21**.

14 Give thanks for nurses, who care for the needs of body, mind and spirit. Lift up the names of nurses in your congregation, in other Lutheran congregations and in other faith communities. Pray for the Lutheran Faith Community Nurse Association and its work to equip faith-community nurses and to foster health and wellness ministries in congregations.

15 Remember in prayer and give thanks for ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) volunteers serving with our companion churches in Senegal, the United Kingdom, Argentina/Uruguay and Jerusalem/West Bank.

16 Give thanks for God's amazing ways of getting our attention, from the earth-shaking to the silence Elijah experienced on a mountaintop.

17 Pray that, through Scripture and the example of Jesus, we will learn to be generous with our time, money, resources and lives for the sake of our neighbors in need, supporting special ministries and the growth of our church.

18 Pray for strength and faith to proclaim boldly our redemption through faith alone, independent of our work, saying the right words or living a good life.

19 Ask the Spirit to give us wisdom and discipline to care for wildlife and natural resources, for the well-being of creation and humankind.

20 Pray that our Lutheran theology, traditions and practices will not present obstacles for our neighbors and people from other faith traditions. Ask the Spirit to guide what we do and say so that we communicate our faith clearly and simply, reflecting God's boundless love and forgiveness and demonstrating respect for our neighbor.

21 Pray for companion synod relationships, which connect ELCA synods and congregations with international companions, enabling them to nurture and strengthen one another for life and ministry through prayer, study, communication, exchange of visitors and sharing of resources.

Getting Ready for Worship

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 20, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Matthew 15:21-28

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through 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 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Dublin.

+ For Redeemer community member Nancy Magargal.

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, Skye Andree, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston, Kathleen Zwanziger, Philip Hall, Kirstin Roberts, Pastor Al Debelak, Chris Doss and Adam Howard; Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kaufman, Mary Watts, Bruce Collins.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Kay Ernsthausen
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Judith Bird
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	
Communion Prep	Lynn Belhorn, Kathleen Zwanziger
Producers	Sachio Phillips, Toshi Phillips

*Flowers are given by members of Redeemer
Noisy Offering will go to Star House*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

August 15-21, 2023

Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Book Group/Sister Act
Thursday	1-3:00 p.m.	Set-up Food Giveaway
	3-5:30 p.m.	LSS / MidOhio Food Giveaway
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
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Congregation Council

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