



Reflections

VOLUME 27

August 21, 2023

ISSUE 33

We Finally Redeemed Your Wedding Gift!

Almost exactly a year ago, there was a Sunday-after-church potluck where you had a chance to meet my then-fiancé, **Mike Allen**. Because some folks at Redeemer knew Mike and I really enjoy cooking, you gave us a gift card for a cooking class at Sur La Table at Easton.

A week ago last night, we redeemed it. And we had a blast! There were 11 of us around three food preparation tables. The main chef-teacher put us by ourselves. Maybe they'd gotten some advance intelligence about my knife skills and wanted to be sure no one besides me was at-risk!

The theme was "French Bistro." We made ratatouille (a vegetable pie with no crust that involves TONS of chopping); a tart with a small pie crust, shallots and a slice of tomato at the bottom, a "custard" made of eggs and Greek yogurt, topped with goat cheese and a special salt with thyme; and boneless chicken thighs with a dressing that had a vinaigrette of balsamic, olive oil, Dijon mustard, that same special salt, and more thyme, all cooked on a bed of asparagus. To end the meal, there was a raspberry souffle with two small pieces of citrus fruit on top whose name I forget. (We haven't gotten the recipes from them yet so I can't tell you what it is!).

There are photos of everything but the plate of chicken and asparagus. I didn't take a photo of that dish because I think it disappeared from the plate too quickly! Neither Mike nor I had ever made anything like this before. Both of us thought the tart was one of the best things we'd ever eaten – which goes to show that sometimes that simplest things are the best. We also loved the souffle – super light and tasty.

Your thoughtful, creative gift gave us an experience we never would have thought about doing on our own. We totally enjoyed it. It was a fun way to remember that day with you last summer, and to mark the approach of our first anniversary. Thank you!

Pastor Dave



In This Issue

[We Finally Redeemed Your Wedding Gift!](#)

[The Redeemer Community](#)

[The Wider Church](#)

[The Community Beyond](#)

[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 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 as Summer Comes to Close

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**.)

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.

Parking Lot Closed through Friday; People Reminded to Park on Ivanhoe

Work is underway on the parking lot repairs even as this issue of *Reflections* is being prepared. What that means is that the parking lot is not available for parking this week, through **Friday, August 25**. **It will be open for Sunday events.**

This is the first phase of a project that 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," explained **Julie Johnson** in the article in the August 14 issue of *Reflections*. 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."

For those who need to come to the church August 21-25, please park on Ivanhoe. Thank you for your patience and support!

'All about Redeemer' Booklet Provides Overview of Congregation

Why is September 8, 1957, important to Redeemer Lutheran Church? This and many other questions are answered in the new "All About Redeemer" booklet.

The Outreach Team created this booklet to help new and seasoned members learn about Redeemer's history, guiding principles and what it means to be a Redeemer member. Folks are invited to pick one up. It can be found on the shelf next to the Library, just off the Narthex.

CROP Walk Coming Up!

This year, the CROP Walk is scheduled for **Sunday, October 1** – a little earlier than in previous years. Once again, the Redeemer Lutheran Church Team is gearing up to do the walk to raise funds for alleviating hunger, both here in the Columbus community and around the world.

So far, **Wendy Stoica, Kathy Zwanziger, Heidi Sherer** and **Connie Criswell** have signed up to walk. Anybody who would like to join them would be more than welcome.

Contributions to support Redeemer's walkers can be made on the team's webpage at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/redeemer-lutheran-church-2>. Ch

Food Giveaway Serves Most Ever

Kathy Zwanziger reports, "What a lovely day we had for the August Giveaway! The breeze was delightful as we worked to distribute ALL of the 9,971 pounds of food (except for a few bananas), as well as ALL the paper products which you had contributed plus a few leftover toothbrushes and toothpaste!



"The 214 guests just kept moving through the parking lot – yes, quite a jump from July! That included 707 total people (220 children and 163 seniors), including 65 new families.

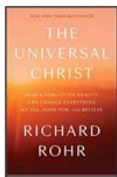
"We keep improving on our methods: with the help of colleagues at the Food Pantry. Michele devised an information questionnaire (English and Spanish) so the new families could fill it out themselves and not take time from the registration process for the established families. (Forms were entered later.) That helped move the lines of cars along



faster.

"THANK YOU SO MUCH for all the contributions you made, whether paper products or time donated to help with the success of the day!"

Rider Concludes Adult Education Class August 27



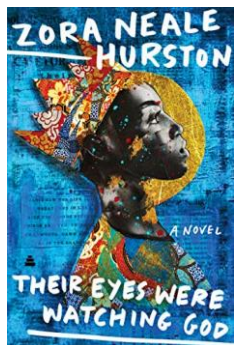
The Adult Education Class on a book by Father Richard Rohr's book, *The Universal Christ* that has been led by Pastor Al Rider, concludes on **Sunday, August 27**. The class begins about 11:15 a.m. in Classroom 2. The class is both in-person and on Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82689102919?pwd=V0NSY0c1SDBWUXZlMWFzbnh1WZHpPdz09> 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.

Book Group to Read Hurston Work

The Redeemer book group on **Wednesday, September 20**, 7-8:30 p.m., will read and discuss *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, by Zora Neale Hurston. When she was writing in the 1920s and 30s, Hurston was faulted by many Black male writers of her day because they didn't believe she was taking the realities of racism seriously. She died in 1960 impoverished.



Then the University of Illinois Press reissued this book, and she has come to be seen as among the most important Black writers in the 20th century.

Alice Walker, author of *The Color Purple* and other works, says, "There is no book more important to me than this one."

Be patient with the dialect! Hurston writes dialogue as she hears it. Though it might be a challenge to many ears initially, one gets used to it. And it rings with authenticity and beauty.

We are always blessed by new readers!

Sister Act Sets Next Event for Sept. 10

The September Sister Act Event will be **Sunday, September 10** at 12:30 p.m. (after church) in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. The activity will be preparing lunch together and then enjoying it.

Kay Ernsthause and **Michelle Clemence** are leading this event. They will be determining the menu and creating a list of ingredients for participants to bring.

Due to the nature of this activity, it is important to have an accurate count. Please RSVP by **Wednesday, August 30** by contacting Kay. Please include any food allergies that the cooks should be aware of.

Good Neighbors Picnic Set for Sept 23; Donations, Volunteers Sought

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

Carol Heacock reported Sunday that she has already taken two carloads of donations to the picnic's drop-off location.

She also encouraged folks to consider volunteering at the event, noting the website includes information about the different types of assistance that is needed from setting up/tearing down to working in the "store" to serving food.

'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 Kattrick** 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.

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, September 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

Congratulations to **Sarah** and **David Kirkman** on the birth of their second son **Evan Michael**. He joined brother **Dylan** on **Sunday, August 13**. Evan is the grandson of Redeemer members **Eileen** and **Bret Day** and the great-grandson of **LaVerna Reinoehl**.

Basketball Camp Concludes Successful Year

According to **Mike Benis**, Redeemer's 2023 Basketball Camp under the leadership of former NBA player **Larry Jones** ended the season with an average of 25 boys and girls ages 8 to 14 participating nightly in the camp which ran Mondays through Thursdays on Redeemer's parking lot.

Benis also reported tremendous support this year from the parents who often stayed to watch the practices and who contributed to the new hoops that will be installed in the coming days.

August Birthdays

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)”

Getting Ready for Worship

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 27, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Exodus 1:8—2:1; Psalm 124; Matthew 16:13-20

Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, 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 Reformation Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community members Jessica, Justin, Cora and Isaac Marquez.

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, 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	Karen Rider
Cantor	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Mike Benis
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	Ashley and Judith Bird
Communion Prep	Lynn Belhorn, Kathleen Zwanziger
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Sue Yehling

*Flowers are given by Judith and Ashley Bird to celebrate Matt Bird's birthday
Noisy Offering will go to Star House*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer August 22-28, 2023

Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Outreach Team
	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
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

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

Kids Fest a Success!!

A total of 16 kids participated in Redeemer's Kid Fest this year on **Sunday, August 13**. This included two families from the neighborhood. A big thanks to **Katie Jacobs** for spearheading the event and for everyone who helped in one capacity or other!

