



Reflections

VOLUME 27

September 11, 2023

ISSUE 36



Come Celebrate!

Join Redeemer **Sunday September 17** as the congregation celebrates its **66th Anniversary**, having been officially organized on September 8, 1957.



It will also be **Choir Sunday** with both the Chime Choir and Senior Choir providing music for the 10 a.m. service.



This Sunday will also see the dedication of the new basketball hoops, honoring long-time Redeemer Basketball Camp leader **Larry Jones**. Larry has been the inspiration and coach of Redeemer's annual six-week basketball camp since the program began.



And, of course, there will be a potluck luncheon in the Fellowship Hall as members get to share their creative culinary skills. *Who knew there were so many ways to make devilled eggs?*



Plan to come as we feast together and celebrate the remarkable variety and number of ways Redeemer is God's hands and feet here at Scottwood and James!

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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

Cookies Needed for Trinity Days at Seminary

Trinity Seminary has reached out to Redeemer asking for support of a special event they are hosting on **Thursday** and **Friday, September 21-22**. They need approximately 20 dozen cookies for coffee breaks during Trinity Days.

Those who can bake some cookies for this event please contact **Michele Disbro**. Cookies will need to be brought to church by **Wednesday, September 20** since the cookies will be taken over to Trinity Seminary on Thursday morning.

Thank you for supporting Trinity Seminary!

This year, Trinity Days features **Rev. Dr. Julie Faith Parker**, former assistant professor of Old Testament at Trinity and currently visiting scholar at Union Theological Seminary. Her lectures will explore the topic of children in the Bible. She will speak on both days with all sessions held in the Gloria Dei Worship Center.

In addition, Parker will be signing copies of her latest book *Eve Isn't Evil: Feminist Readings of the Bible to Upend Our Assumptions*.

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** will be walking. 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>.

Enjoying Fall at Redeemer

Tuesdays at 1 p.m.: Exploring the Bible. This fall the group will explore The Acts of the Apostles. Not too familiar with it? Come and change that! Join Zoom Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622; Passcode: 435549; at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTW11bHRON1FHbFRZdStqb9Bdz09> Phone only: 301-715-8592.

Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.: Chime Choir rehearsal. There's a unique joy in making music together – and folks can be surprised at the beautiful tunes they will help create, even if they've never done anything musical before! Reach out to director **Karen Kent** at 527780KK@gmail.com or 614-648-8393 with questions.

Sundays at 8:45 a.m.: Senior Choir rehearsal. Ditto the above, but instead of using a chime, folks will use their God-given voice to help lead worship in ways that touch and delight all. Contact **Kathy Rapp** with questions: arapthing@hotmail.com ; 614-565-2945.

Sundays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 & 8: Adult education class on the theology of "Womanism." In the August 28 *Reflections*, Trinity Seminary student and Redeemer member **Naomi Morgan's** front-page article described what she plans to cover in this four-week offering. It's something that's new to most, so there is a lot to explore and ask about. And womanism may open up new, meaningful ways to experience God and connect to Scripture.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m., and every second Tuesday: A Brewing Faith: Redeemer's Zoom theology pub. If you've ever wanted a super-informal, non-threatening place to explore questions about life and theology, this is for you. We often eat and drink at home while we're discussing whatever topic(s) we choose for the evening. It is a

really great way to get to know a small, lively group of people. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81765916972?pwd=bjJ0T1JlbG1keXpsV205TWNHVUFpQT09>

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.: Monthly/Third Wednesday Book Group: The joy of a book group is that someone in the group always picks up something the rest of the group missed! This group meets in-person and on Zoom. For September, they're discussing *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by **Zora Neale Hurston**. There are plenty of copies in the library. (See separate story, this issue.)

Thursdays, Sept. 21 and Oct. 19, between 1-4: The last Mid-Ohio Food Cooperative/Lutheran Social Services Food Giveaways of the year. Watching the transformation of an empty parking lot into a drive-through fresh produce market where love and joy are real enough to touch is only one of the reasons to be part of this ministry. Another is to connect with other members of this community as folks bag cucumbers and put boxfuls of amazing stuff into backseats and trunks. Just show up and you'll be put to work. **The September giveaway "extras" are personal items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, etc.** These items can be dropped off in the coatroom.

Saturday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-noon: Journaling Workshop led by Mark Katrick. The facilitator of Redeemer's monthly journaling group, **Rich Pautsch**, invites journalers and non-journalers to this exploration of the variety of ways we can be stimulated to journal blessings. The monthly journaling group meets the **fourth Thursday** of the month at **7 p.m.**

Sunday, Oct. 15, 11:15 a.m.: BREAD conversation. Redeemer is part of Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity (BREAD), a Franklin County-based interfaith justice advocacy group. Participants in this conversation will learn about the latest BREAD successes, what our involvement is making possible, and what justice issues you care about.

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 fall. 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. Readers are needed for Sunday, September 17.**

First Wednesdays: Redeemer serves at the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry on the first Wednesdays. 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.

Closing a Chapter

Julianne Johnson reports that over 20 years ago, during the time Redeemer renovated the building, the congregation went through a legal battle with the original architect/contractor who walked off the job.

The details are many, and some painful, but Redeemer emerged from the renovation stronger and with a very real lesson that the church is more than the building that holds the members. The contractor lost his architect license after Redeemer filed a complaint with the state architect board. The legal battle went to trial and the court found for Redeemer and the contractor was ordered to pay the congregation \$110,000. In all these years Redeemer has never received any money from the contractor.

This summer, the church was approached by the contractor's attorney about settling this case. Council authorized the executive team to negotiate and an agreement was reached for \$25,000. Last week that payment was received. Papers will now be filed with the court to dismiss Redeemer's various claims against the contractor. Council has designated these funds to go toward building expenses.

Good Neighbor Picnic Donations of Blankets, Coats 'More than Ever'

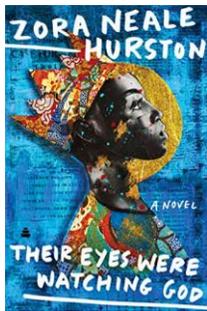
Redeemer's Good Neighbor Picnic Coordinator **Carol Heacock** reported Sunday that folks have donated more blankets and coats for this year's Good Neighbor Picnic than ever and that Redeemer has been large part of that. The deadline has passed to drop items off here at church but they can still be taken directly on the day of the picnic which is set for: **Saturday, September 23** at Wolfe Park on the east side of Columbus.

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 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.

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!

'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.

LWR to Provide Update on Ukraine Efforts

On **Tuesday morning, October 3**, from 10-11:30 a.m., the **Rev. Tim Krick**, manager of congregational relations with Lutheran World Relief (LWR), will be at Redeemer to talk about his recent visits to Ukraine and Turkey. He will also discuss whatever folks would like to hear about.

Everyone is welcome to join the group for doughnuts and coffee/tea in the Narthex. Feel free to invite others who'd be interested in this to join the group.

Journaling Workshop Coming This Fall

The following was written by **Mark Katrick**, who will be leading the journaling workshop **Saturday, October 14** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. here at Redeemer. Folks planning to attend are asked to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. Contact **Rich Pautsch** with questions.

Mark writes:

I LOVE TO WRITE!

"At a high school journalism camp, an instructor advised me to "not let my head hit the pillow before writing something!" Since that day and time, I've done my best to follow this good advice as a sports reporter (my first job), religion columnist and high school journalism teacher. This is not to mention 40 plus years of writing sermons, meditations and prayers as a pastor.

“Perhaps a better way of putting it is I LIVE TO WRITE. and in a spiritual sense I write to live. As a trained and certified spiritual director, I'm blessed to comb the depths of my spiritual connection with the Holy One, living learning and growing through prayer, contemplation and journaling, and helping others to do the same.

“It is my great joy and blessing to be able to spend time with you, whether you are curious about journaling or dedicated to journaling. The workshop will be on **Saturday, October 14, 2023** from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. During this time, through various forms of imagery like music, art, photography and the written word (of course) we'll explore ways to journal our blessings (given and received). The spiritual guide in me simply says that this is a time to just breathe in the breath of God, and be together to do that blessed thing each one of loves to do and lives for each day.”

Redeemer Safe Church Team: Staying Safe in Public Places

Here are some reminders about staying safe in public places, including houses of worship. This includes a refresher on Avoid, Deny and Defend in responding to armed intruders. These tips are not meant to frighten or alarm you, rather let them remind us to be alert to our surroundings and prepared to protect ourselves, our families and our neighbors.

Prepare before

- Stay alert. Always be aware of your environment and any possible dangers.
- If you see something, say something to local authorities. That includes suspicious packages, people behaving strangely or someone using strange communications.
- Observe warning signs. Signs might include unusual or violent communications, substance abuse, expressed anger or intent to cause harm. These warning signs may increase over time.
- Have an exit plan. Identify exits and areas to hide wherever you go, including work, school and special events.
- Learn lifesaving skills. Take trainings such as You Are the Help Until Help Arrives and first aid to assist the wounded before help arrives.

Stay safe during

- Seek safety. Getting away from the attacker is the top priority.
- Cover and hide if you can't evacuate.
- Fight only as a last resort. When you can't run or take cover, attempt to disrupt the attack or disable the attacker.
- Take care of yourself first. Then, if you are able, help the wounded get to safety and provide immediate care.

Know what to do after

- Remain calm.
- Keep hands visible and empty.
- Report to designated areas.
- Follow law enforcement's instructions and evacuate in the direction they tell you to go. Listen to law enforcement for information about the situation. Share updates as you can with family and friends.

AVOID: Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible. The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.

DENY: If you cannot AVOID - Create barriers to prevent or slow down a threat from getting to you. Turn the lights off. Remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects and silence your phone.

DEFEND: If you cannot AVOID or DENY - be prepared to defend yourself. Be aggressive and committed to your actions. Use any object as a weapon. Do not fight fairly. Fight to survive.

Noisy Offering to Hawai'i Relief Efforts

The Noisy Offering is now going for the Hawai'i disaster relief. Funds will be sent directly to the ELCA synod in Hawai'i.

RLC member **April Smith** has provided the following update on Hawai'i relief efforts via **Terri Robertson**, executive assistant for finance and accounting of the Pacifica Synod on behalf of **Bishop David Nagler**:

"Thank you for your congregation's support of those affected by the wildfires in Hawai'i. Bishop Dave is there through the end of the month. In fact today he is on Maui and meeting with partners there."

"As of August 22nd, donors from across the United States have donated almost \$42,000 to our synod's Hawai'i Relief fund. Here is what I can share with you (from Bishop Dave) about the fund:

1 100% of any donations will be given to support people affected by the fires.

2 We are working with local agencies on the ground to ensure that the money is used wisely.

3 Our commitment is long term. We stand by communities long after the news cycle has moved on. We are proud of our Lutheran focus on restoring people; body, mind, and soul."

Donations can be made online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ82/campaign/C-149JR> or by mailing a check to the Pacifica Synod Office, 1801 Parkcourt Pl. Bldg. C, Santa Ana, CA 92701 and write Hawai'i Relief in the memo section.

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 Redeemer's second graders **Elinn Neal** and **Ruby Jacobs** on receiving Bibles at Sunday's service. **Kathryn Ott** read the congregation her favorite story which was that of the temptation of Christ. Asked why she picked that story, she said she liked how Jesus overcame all those challenges, adding that she finds "it's kind of motivational."

+ + +

Prayers of comfort are asked for the **Hudson-Warren family** on the death of **Laura Warren's** brother **Walter Hudson** Before he died last week, he had expressed a huge thanks for Redeemer's prayers since the first of the year.

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Bill Boys announced that he has replenished the stock of his magazine "Old Pics for Our 60th Anniversary" which can be found in the Narthex on the table under the TV. He also added another "zine" – "A Certifiable Serendipity" – which details the 1902 baptism of Redeemer member **Emily Ott's** great-grandfather **Stillman Conrad Miller** by **Bill Boys' grandfather Rev. A. H. Dornbirer**. Copies of this can also be found in the basket under the TV.

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Connie Criswell advises members that it will soon be time to be signing up to write a devotion or two for Redeemer's **2023 Advent Devotional Booklet!**

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Lose a crockpot? One orphan crockpot remains, having been removed from the basement kitchen and the owner is asked to reclaim it. It can be found on a table in the Narthex.

'Christ in Our Home' Available

The October-December 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 info@redeemerluth.com

September Birthdays

13-Ashley Bird
14-Elyce Herring 15-Kris Kauffman
16-Sarah Binau 16-Michele Disbro
16-Oliver Glover Oakleaf 20-Paula Carson
21-Jenny Peresta 22-Adam Darst
24-Sheryl Owens 27-Becky Fisher
27-Karen Rider 29-Jennifer Young

The Wider Church

First English Celebrates 175th Anniversary

First English Lutheran Church invites folks to celebrate its 175th anniversary on **Saturday, September 23**. It begins at 5 p.m. with a Service of Celebration in the Sanctuary followed by a potluck dinner. (Main course and beverages will be provided.)

To RSVP by **Friday, September 15**, go to <https://tinyurl.com/FELC-175th-Anniv-RSVP-Signups> or call the FELC office at 614-252-3191.

Prayer Concerns for Week from ELCA

12 "Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful" (Psalm 149:1). Praise God that worship and the sacraments renew, sustain and equip us as children of God living in communities of faith. Give thanks for the resources that guide and enrich our worship, including ELCA Worship and Faith Practices ministries, Augsburg Fortress publishing and our seminaries.

13 Pray for those gathering for the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Kraków, Poland —"One Body, One Spirit, One Hope." Ask God to bless and guide our work together as a global Lutheran community for a just, peaceful and reconciled world.

14 Remember in prayer African-descent siblings in Christ as they gather for the ELCA African Descent Ministries' RECLAIM event in Minneapolis. Ask God to bless their work building community, teaching new

ministry skills and approaches, sharing resources and rejuvenating preachers, teachers, professionals, young adults and laity.

15 First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month Thank God for the history, contributions and rich cultural diversity of our Latino siblings. Pray for the growth and vitality of ELCA Latino Ministries, the Latino Ministries Association (Asociación Luterana de Ministerios Latinos ELCA) and the 147 ELCA Latino ministries around the country as they work to share the gospel, encourage unity in Christ, fight racism and promote Christian values that unite Latinos of the ELCA in a “community of communities” to do God’s work in the world.

16 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Sierra Pacific Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, elect a new bishop and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbors in need and grow the church.

17 Reflect on what hinders us from exercising forgiveness and patience with others, including those we see as adversaries. Ask the Spirit to recenter our lives and interactions with people in the boundless and undeserved mercy that God demonstrates with us.

18 Pray that students and teachers in our schools will be safe and that students who suffer trauma, anxiety, depression and other mental health concerns will have ready access to counselors, social workers and psychologists.

Getting Ready for Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 17, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Roman 14:1-12; Psalm 103:8-13; Matthew 18:21-35

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, 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 St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gahanna.

+ For Redeemer community member Shirley Miller.

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 Hegreess, 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, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston, Kathleen Zwanziger, Phillip Hall and Kirstin Roberts, Pastor Al Debelak, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman, Mary Watts, Kelley Frank’s parents Charlotte and Wayne Frank.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Emily Ott
Cantor	Heidi Sherer
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Helen Brunston
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	Celebration Potluck!
Communion Prep	Sara Auman, Julianne Johnson
Producers	Michele Disbro, April Smith

*Flowers are given by Laura and Terry Warren
Noisy Offering will go to Hawai'i Synod of the ELCA*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

September 12 -September 18, 2023

Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith by ZOOM
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Worship Team
Thursday	6:15 p.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m.	Bexley/Berwick Dementia support Group
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship: Choir Sunday
	11:30 a.m.	Celebration Potluck – <i>Music/Anniversary/Ministries and Basketball!</i>
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