



# Reflections

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## Palestine – What Can We Do?

*A note from Julianne Johnson: I first became sensitive to Palestinian concerns when my niece, Anna Johnson, was a Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM) through the ELCA serving in Bethlehem during college. After graduation, she lived in Bethlehem for four more years serving first at Lutheran World Federation and then for the Mennonite Central Committee doing learning tours for churches. Nine members of my family visited Palestine for two weeks in December 2016 when I experienced firsthand the conditions of the occupation of Palestine by Israel. What I write reflects my own thoughts, experiences, and biases. But also, be assured that I am well aware of the complexity of the conflict, and the inadequacy of my advice.*

At Redeemer’s recent World Day of Prayer gathering, discussion turned to what we can do to help the suffering and famine in Gaza. People are now dying of starvation in addition to bombing and war. Where can we donate to get to the most critical needs to those there?

My answer to this question is *advocate*. Advocate for President Biden to take a stronger stance with Israel to open humanitarian aid corridors – both by land and sea. There is substantial aid that is loaded and ready to deliver just outside Gaza now. I heard an interview last Thursday with a doctor who had just completed a stint at the hospital in Rafah, which is just across the border from Egypt. She described hundreds of trucks loaded with food aid just meters away from the hospital where she was attending children dying of starvation.

Send a message to President Biden at this link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

I urge you to directly plead with him to take a firm stance that Israel must open land and sea corridors in North and South Gaza for food, water, and medical supplies. The airlifts of aid are the least effective way to try to get aid to the people that need it and provide no way to control whether that aid goes to Hamas. It’s all we can do unless Israel opens corridors for the massive aid waiting.

It’s also important to let Sens. Sherrod Brown and J.D. Vance and your congressional representative know that humanitarian aid for Gaza needs to be funded. Congress controls the purse strings of the U.S. government. The links you need for those contacts are below:

<https://www.brown.senate.gov/contact>

<https://www.vance.senate.gov/>

<https://beatty.house.gov/contact>

[https://carey.house.gov/address\\_authentication?form=/contact/email-me](https://carey.house.gov/address_authentication?form=/contact/email-me)

<https://balderson.house.gov/contact/>

<https://wenstrup.house.gov/contact/>

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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

### 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

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Finance Officer – Laura Warren  
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Worship – Michelle Clemence  
Education – Katie Jacobs  
Outreach – Diane Brobeck  
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### APPOINTMENTS

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### MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland  
Emlyn Ott Rich Pautsch

### SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, chair Ashley Bird  
Julie Boreman Laura Warren  
Wendy Stoica Terry Warren

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.  
Columbus 43227  
614-237-1263

[www.redeemerluth.com](http://www.redeemerluth.com)



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# The Redeemer Community

## Spring Ahead

Daylight saving time begins at 2 a.m. on **Sunday, March 10**, so set clocks *ahead* one hour Saturday night or risk missing church and all that is going on that day.

### Help Clean Up Highway Exit Ramps of Litter

Sick of seeing the trash along the freeways? The city of Columbus is encouraging citizens to help clean up trash at the highway ramps as part of the “Kick Butt Columbus” campaign. **Jon** and **Michele Disbro** are inviting the congregation to join them on a team to help clean up Columbus. “We are hoping to get assigned to the exit ramps at James and I-70 for the citywide clean up on **Saturday, March 9**.”

KickButtColumbus! is the Keep Columbus Beautiful annual Spring highway ramp clean-up event to remove trash – including cigarette butts – from the city's exit and entry ramps after the winter thaw and to raise awareness about the hazards of cigarette butt litter to the environment.

Redeemer participants will meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. before heading out to clean up the James / I70 ramps, working until noon. All supplies will be provided.

**Volunteers are needed.** Those interested in forming a Redeemer team should contact Jon or Michele.

### Blessing of Prayer Shawls, Blankets Set for March 10

On **Sunday, March 10**, Redeemer will bless prayer shawls and prayer blankets made by members **Eileen Day**, **Kathy Mimplitch**, and **Wendy Stoica**.

These items are free for the taking. “If you know someone or have a family member who is going through difficult times, or going through joyful times, please take one to share with them to show our care and compassion.”

### Adult Ed Class to Examine ‘Meanings, Messages of Holy Week’

Ever wonder why it’s called “Passion Sunday” as well as “Palm Sunday?” Or why the day when we remember Jesus last meal with his disciples is called “Maundy Thursday?” Or what’s “good” about the Friday when Jesus was crucified? Or why Jesus’ followers were initially terrified by the sight of the empty tomb?

As Lent leads us into Holy Week, **Brad Binau** will lead three adult education sessions on **March 10, 14 and 24** to explore the events, characters, and context of the passion story. These sessions will relate the power and the depth of the Christian gospel, as it unfolds in the Holy Week narrative, to the meaning of our own stories as we live them out in the here and now.

The suggestion for the first Sunday is to read the book of Mark in one sitting without the benefit of chapter headings a copy of which is available by contacting the church office at [info@redeemerluth.com](mailto:info@redeemerluth.com) or at 614-237-1263.

### Redeemer to Provide Brown Bag Lunches for First English

On **Saturday, March 16**, a group of volunteers will assemble 150 brown bag lunches for First English. They will consist of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, bags of chips, fruit cups, cookies/treat deserts, granola bars, juice boxes/pouches and water bottles. These lunches are distributed to the people who go to the First English Sunday morning breakfast.

If any lunches are left after the clean-up of breakfast, they are shared with the Friends of the Homeless shelter across the street or with people who stop at the church in need of food. No lunches are wasted.

There is a sign up in the hallway for the food needed.

All food needs to be to the church by 9 a.m. on March 16. “Anyone wishing to help assemble can join us in Room 4 beginning at 9 a.m.” Any questions, please contact **Kay Ernsthansen** at [KAErnsthansen@gmail.com](mailto:KAErnsthansen@gmail.com).

Kay offers the following shopping hints: “The deserts can be Hostess individually wrapped HoHo or DingDong cakes, but we can also use Rice Krispie treats, small packages of cookies (i.e., 100 calorie packs). Costco has a good price and good options on deserts if you have a Costco membership. The bread can be picked up from the day-old bakery. **Kathy Zwanziger** did this in January and it worked very well.”

## Volunteers Sought

Volunteers are still needed to read a Sunday lesson on **March 10** and **March 17**. Readings are sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings. **Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate.**

In addition, another soup is needed for this week's Soup Luncheon on **Wednesday, March 6**. In addition, soups and breads are needed for the remaining Wednesdays in Lent. The luncheon runs from noon to 1 p.m.

## Candy Donations Sought for Easter Party

Small Easter candies that fit into plastic eggs are needed for the Youth Easter Party on Sunday, March 24, during the Sunday School hour. It will start at 11:15 a.m. Candy donations should be brought in by **Sunday, March 17**.

## Tuesday Bible Study Looking at Letter of James

Continuing on **Tuesday, March 5**, the Tuesday Bible study will be examining the Letter of James. The group meets at 1 p.m. here at the church. It runs until 2:30 p.m.

## Art Exhibit Features Paintings by Cody Miller

The latest art exhibit has been installed in the Narthex. This one features paintings by **Cody Miller**, both those that belong to the church and others that are on loan by members. Stop by and enjoy his depictions of Bible stories and characters.

## Noisy Offering to Go to Star House

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.

## Palestine – What Can We Do? *Cont'd from p. 1*

Pay attention as well to when the United Nations is considering a resolution on Gaza and Palestine. The U.S. has come to Israel's rescue repeatedly at the United Nations. The U.S. has vetoed measures before the UN Security Council for decades to protect Israel from international consequences for its occupation of Palestine, and continuing action to build new settlements that are illegal under international law. Most recently the U.S. vetoed a resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and a major influx of humanitarian aid. Use the White House link above if a similar resolution is considered.

Ask that the U.S. to at least abstain rather than vetoing the resolution.

Jewish and Palestinian people have both been traumatized in recent months and for decades. I abhor the rise in anti-Semitism and anti-Palestinian hatred in the U.S. But Israel has the power and control over food, water and medicine for Gaza – not to mention the continued destruction of homes, hospitals, mosques, roads, water infrastructure and more. Its goal to destroy Hamas has indiscriminately killed thousands of people and left the remaining Gazans starving, homeless and traumatized. The world is horrified – and I can't remain silent.

I will write more in subsequent *Reflections* about how to support food and other humanitarian aid, and what organizations are well equipped to reach Gaza with humanitarian aid and more about Lutheran organization efforts.

Thank you for reading.

*Julianne Johnson*

## Important Emails

[Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

[Info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for stewardship campaigns.

[Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with Redeemer’s IT Team for items related to the website.

[Property@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Property@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

[SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

[Transportation@redeemerluth.com](mailto:Transportation@redeemerluth.com) – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

[Communications@redeemerluth.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com) and put Reflections in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

### For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put “Bulletin” in the subject line.

## Prayers and Personals

Prayers for healing are asked for **David Williams** who tore his Achilles tendon and is awaiting the outcome of further tests.

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Congratulations to Redeemer member **Earl Bradley** who turns 90 this week on March 7!! Way to go, Earl!!

## March Birthdays

4-Petra Williams 5-Lilly Glover-Oakleaf  
6-Bennett Whitaker 7-Earl Bradley  
8-Helen Brunston 8-Al Rider  
12-Deirdre Jimison 12-Catherine McFarland  
13-Dave Engel 14-Jenny Friederich  
14-Lynn Nakamura 14-Laura Warren  
14-Tim Watson 15-Kristi Hildebrand  
17-David Williams 24-Carol Heacock  
27-Margie Farnham 30-Colin Young

## The Wider Church

### HopeWood Pines Maple Syrup Festival Set for March 10

The HopeWood Pines – formerly Lutheran Memorial Camp – Maple Syrup Festival will be held this coming **Sunday, March 10** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be tours of the maple syrup production, live music, wagon rides, children’s crafts, hiking, maple baked goods and an “all you can eat” pancake and sausage brunch. The brunch costs \$11 for adults and \$8 from youth ages 3 to 9.

All proceeds benefit “camperships” which help send a child to camp!

The camp is at 2790 State Route 61, outside Marengo OH.

For more information, go to the HopeWood website at <http://tinyurl.com/5bwck8kp>.

## Synod Schedules Events

The Southern Ohio Synod will hold a **Bishop’s Convocation** on **Monday, March 11** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Upper Arlington. Targeting rostered ministers, church staff and lay congregational

members, the event includes two sessions on learning about mental health concerns for children and youth and how congregations and ministries can become safe places of support for youth and their caregivers.

The afternoon worship will include a renewal of ordination vows.

Cost to attend is \$20/person (includes lunch). To register, go to <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/8394055>.

In addition, the synod has announced that the **2024 Southern Ohio Synod Assembly**, set for the evening of **Friday, May 1** through **Saturday, June 1**, will be held at Peace Lutheran Church in Beavercreek, a suburb of Dayton. The theme for the assembly is “Out of the Water ... Follow Me.”

## Trinity Seminary Sponsors Nelson Lecture Series

Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University will hold the Nelson Lectures on **Wednesday and Thursday, March 13-14** when **Jeremy Gillett** and **Pastor Jenny Sung** will speak.

Gillett will discuss “Black and Twenty-five in America” on Wednesday as he shares a series of vignettes about the lives of young Black people in America and mobilizes audiences around the country towards empathy and compassion for humanity through stories that explore issues of race, class, gender, and identity.

Sung will speak on Thursday on “God with Us: Seeing God in People around the World.” An ordained minister, Sung has been preaching, writing, and curating spaces worldwide for healing through brave love and community art. Rev. Sung’s passion for art comes from her many years as a professional modern dancer, founder, and co-director of One Dance Company in the Twin Cities.

Both events begin at 7 p.m. in the Huntington Recital Hall at Capital. They are free and open to the public.

## Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**March 5** Remember in prayer individuals, families and communities as they continue to recover from natural disasters, and ask God to give them strength, resilience and hope. Promise that we will persist in our commitment to support and assist these individuals, families and communities through a process that can be long, difficult and lonely.

**6** There are those who consider our beliefs and faith to be foolish and misguided. Pray for the Spirit to deepen our understanding of God’s wisdom and ways, strengthen our faith in Christ and guide our imperfect words and actions to convey God’s merciful love for humankind, so that others will be moved to believe and to follow Jesus Christ.

**7** Pray for the children and youth in your congregation, and for young adults involved in long-term volunteer service, careers, military service or study at colleges, universities, trade schools or seminaries.

**8** “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer” (Psalm 19:14). Praise God for being attentive to our thoughts, prayers and lamentations — spoken and unspoken.

**9** Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with The Episcopal Church, a full communion partner since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength, resources and encouragement for the work of sharing the gospel, serving our neighbor and growing the church.

**10** Pray that we will clearly see God’s relationship with humanity and the implications for our daily life when we reflect on the familiar proclamation Jesus made: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

**11** Ask God to bless the Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers working alongside our companion churches and organizations in six countries around the world and in the Cambodia program, which will reopen this year.

## Getting Ready for Worship

**Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 10, 2024, 10 a.m.**

### Lessons

**Readings:** Ephesians 2:1-10; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; John 3:14-21

### Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

## A Prayer for Peace

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 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Columbus.
- + For Redeemer community member April 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, 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, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman, Emily Ott's aunt Kathy Richter, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, John Kennedy's sister and brother-in-law Becky and Vic Wolfe, Kathie Ehrich; Terry Warren's sister Elaine Warren, and Terry and Laura Warren's son-in-law Dan Patterson, David Williams.

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	<b>Dave Shull</b>
Assisting Minister	<b>Naomi Morgan</b>
Cantor	<b>Mary Benis</b>
ASL Interpreter	<b>Bryan Neal</b>
Organist & Senior Choir Director	<b>Kathy Rapp</b>
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	<b>Karen Kent</b>
Usher	<b>Helen Brunston</b>
Verger	<b>Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica</b>
Communion Prep	<b>Becky Fisher, Lynn Belhorn, Michelle Clemence</b>
Producers	<b>Judith Bird, April SMith</b>
Hospitality	<b>Katie Jacobs</b>

Noisy Offering will go to Star House center for youth.

## This Week at Redeemer

March 4 – 11, 2024

<b>Monday</b>	5:00 p.m.	Zoom Executive Team
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 2462
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 1143
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup and Discussion
	12:30 p.m.	<b>RLC at LSS Food Pantry</b>
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM <b>Lenten Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00a.m. - noon	<b>Litter Clean-up</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 1143

**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