



Reflections

VOLUME 28

March 11, 2024

ISSUE 11

RLC Blesses Prayer Shawls

Sunday morning, the Redeemer sanctuary displayed more color than usual as the congregation blessed the prayer shawls that had been lovingly created by **Eileen Day**, **Kathy Mimlitch**, and **Wendy Stoica**. At the beginning of this time of blessing, as our young people wore some of the shawls, **LaVerna Reinoehl** shared the story of how this ministry began:

“Seven years ago, when my husband died, I received this shawl I’m wearing from the Prayer Shawl Ministry at the church in Massillon, Ohio, where my sister and several cousins attend. They borrowed the idea from another church. Then they sent a prayer shawl to my daughter, **Eileen Day**, when she had surgery. Those gifts were comforting and much appreciated.”

LaVerna continued, “Eileen decided to borrow the idea and start a ministry here at Redeemer. She discussed the idea with Kathy Mimlitch and Wendy Stoica, and together they have knitted or crocheted all the shawls we have gathered and all the shawls that we have given away.”



Then Wendy and **Kathleen Zwanziger** shared the story of how they received prayer shawls from the congregation as they recovered from kidney donation/transplant surgery.

After that, people wearing the shawls lined the center aisle of the sanctuary, and members of our church family offered their blessings for those who would receive and wear these shawls in the future. Here are the blessings they offered: “May they always be a comfort to someone; peace; good health; may they keep your life from unraveling ... or hold you together while it does; always feel loved; gratitude; physical and spiritual warmth; hope; compassion; love; healing; caring; blessing; connection; joy; courage; someone remembers you.”

I hope the photos, also with these words, can give you a taste of the love, tears, and joy that filled the sanctuary yesterday. I hope those of you who make this ministry possible know the healing you are showering on us all.

Thank you for the ways your creativity reassures people going through hard times of all the blessings with which this community filled those shawls yesterday.

Dave Shull

P.S. The prayer shawls and blankets are intended for church members and for family and friends. Folks are encouraged to look in the bins marked “Prayer Shawls” in the coatroom and take as many as are needed.

In This Issue

[RLC Blesses Prayer Shawls](#)
[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

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Krista Skipper
Vice President - Brad Binou
Finance Officer - Laura Warren
Secretary - Sue Watson
Worship - Michelle Clemence
Education - Katie Jacobs
Outreach - Diane Brobeck
Member Support - Elyce Herring
Property - April Smith
Stewardship - Kathy Denhard

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 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



The Redeemer Community

Adult Ed Class Examines '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 moves into Holy Week, **Brad Binau** is leading the adult education sessions on **March 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.

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.

As of **Monday, March 11**, another 70 desserts, 54 fruit cups and 70 waters are still 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 Ernsthausen** at KAErnsthausen@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"

'REJOICE!' Theme for Upcoming Easter Art Exhibit

The Easter theme for Redeemer's Narthex art is REJOICE! Members and friends are asked to consider loaning the church an item from their collection for display during this joyous season! Submissions should be turned in by Palm Sunday, March 24.

This replaces the current exhibit of paintings by **Cody Miller**. Stop by and enjoy his depictions of Bible stories and characters before they disappear.

Volunteers Sought

A volunteer is still needed to read the Sunday lesson on **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 bread is needed for this week's Soup Luncheon on **Wednesday, March 13**. In addition, soups and breads are needed for the remaining Wednesday 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**.

Binau Presents 'Speaking of Frost: America's (Human) Nature Poet'

On **Tuesday, March 19** beginning at 7 p.m. Redeemer member **Brad Binau** will continue an exploration of poet **Robert Frost** and his poetry. Sponsored by Sister Act, the entire congregation is invited along with members of Broad Street Presbyterian Church where Binau's wife **Ann Palmerton** is an associate pastor. Snacks will be provided. The event will be held in the basement Fellowship Hall.

Binau writes, "150 years after his birth Robert Frost remains America's most beloved, and likely its most misunderstood, poet. Famous for poems such as 'Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening' and 'The Road Not Taken,' Frost has frequently been viewed, by admirers as well as critics, as a 'nature poet.' Often missed, partly because of his mastery of rhyme and rhythm, is the depth of his perception regarding human nature.

“Robert Frost meant his poems to be heard as well as read so that they could fully convey his insights about physical and human nature. Through the speaking of well-known, and lesser-known poems, discover anew the world in which we live and the human being with who we share it.”

Redeemer Book Group to Discuss *Anxious People* on April 17

The author of *Anxious People*, **Fredrik Backman**, is best known for *A Man Called Ove*, which was Americanized in last year's movie, "A Man Called Otto," starring **Tom Hanks**. All of Backman's writings reveal truths about the challenge, beauty, and endless humor involved in being human.

Join Redeemers Book Group on **Wednesday, April 17**, from 7-8:30 p.m., as they discuss *Anxious People*. There are lots of copies in the library.

Those wishing to join the group by Zoom should go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86071756592?pwd=dm5VN2FaZWlVcUk3bEQycTVRTmpSUT09>; Meeting ID: 860 7175 6592; Passcode: 322720; Phone only: 312 626 6799.

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.

Being Good Steward of the Earth

A big shout out to **Sara Auman, Julianne Johnson, Kay Ernsthansen, Sue Yehling, Kathy Zwanziger, Scott Steiner, Kathy Mimplitch, Jon Disbro, and Michele Disbro** for helping clean up the interchange of I-70 and James Road on **Saturday, March 9**. The group collected 11 bags of trash and two bags of recycling in only two hours of the citywide effort to clean up the ramps in Columbus, Michele reports.

“The group was certainly motivated to clean up more of James Road heading north from the exit ramps so we may organize our own event.

“Lots of information was shared with us regarding recycling so leading up to Earth Day we plan to share information of how you can be a good steward of the Earth. ...”

First off, “The Westland Area Library (4740 W. Broad St.) will be hosting a Recycling Drop-Off event on **Saturday, March 23** from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. They will be collecting batteries, used toothbrushes, razors, toothpaste tubes, candy wrappers, plastic bags, trigger sprayers, pet food packing, water filters, Hasbro toys, and so much more. Check out www.ColumbusRecycles.com for a complete list.”



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.

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

Prayers for healing are asked for **Rose Jordan**, mother-in-law of **Nathaniel Bird**, who has been in the hospital two weeks with an infection.

+ + +

March Birthdays

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

Gaza and Palestine - What Can We Do? Part 2

Julie Johnson submitted the following as a follow-up to article she wrote for the March 4 issue of *Reflections*.

This past week the ELCA’s Council of Bishops issued a call for a permanent, bilateral ceasefire urging “**President Joe Biden**, our legislators, and all who lead and make decisions on behalf of the United States to do everything in their power to bring an end to the current suffering and lay the foundation for lasting peace with justice. We mourn the loss of 1,200 precious lives in Israel on Oct. 7 by the actions of Hamas and the trauma for those 250 others who were taken hostage. We mourn the loss of over 30,000 precious lives in Gaza – including tens of thousands of women and children – who have died in Israel’s military action since then and the trauma that ripples outward from this loss. We grieve the deaths of more than 400 Palestinians in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel since Oct. 7 as the circle of violence expands and makes casualties of yet more civilians.”

The statement continues: “Too many have suffered. Too many lives have been lost. Strong U.S. leadership is needed to help bring a comprehensive permanent cease-fire and lasting peace. Our country’s leadership is needed to support human rights and the Geneva Conventions, to resume funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), and to provide greater access for humanitarian relief in Gaza, as well as to advocate for the immediate and safe return of the hostages and release of political prisoners, for affirmation of both Israel and Palestine’s right to exist, and for a path forward that disrupts cycles of violence. Mindful of the rise in hate targeted at people across complex intersections of race, ethnicity and religion – worldwide and nationally – we exhort our legislators, leaders and neighbors to oppose hate in all its forms, and we recommit ourselves to partnership in that same work.” See complete statement at <https://on.elca.org/News-and-Events/8217>.

Julie writes, “I want to highlight the two things....: A call for a permanent bilateral ceasefire is not the position of the Israeli government, nor of the Biden administration, but it is the rising sentiment of many that it is the only way. Gaza is a wasteland now, and current reports are that one-fourth of the population of Gaza is facing imminent famine. That’s more than 500,000 people. It will take a huge, ongoing effort to avoid that catastrophe. It will take years. A temporary ceasefire is not enough.

“The second thing I want to emphasize is that the U.S. must resume funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). Several countries, including the U.S., suspended funding for an investigation of UNRWA because there is evidence that 12 employees of UNRWA participated in the October 7 attack by Hamas that killed 1,200 people in Israel. UNRWA fired those employees who were still alive. There were over 30,000 employees of UNRWA and it is uniquely positioned to distribute aid to people in Gaza. It is the arm of the UN that has been distributing aid for years in Gaza. Prior to October 7 there were 500 or more trucks a day delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza, due to Israel’s blockade of Gaza by land and sea.

“There are nonprofit organizations (NPOs) trying to deliver food to Gaza but there is no one equipped to distribute it. I urge you to send emails to President Biden, **Sens. Sherrod Brown and JD Vance** and your congressional representative to advocate for these two things. It is especially important that you contact President Biden since his administration are the people directly involved. The link to contact the White House is <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

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.

LSS Reports on Results of Souper Bowl Sunday

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) reports that a total of 26 churches, including Redeemer, participated in the 2024 Souper Bowl Sunday, up eight churches from 2023. The goal was \$30,000 and 4,000 pounds of food donated. So far, a total of over \$21,000 has been collected along with 4,200 pounds of food.

LSS thanks all for participating and supporting the LSS food pantries.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

March 12 Give thanks for the food we receive and for those who grow, manage, harvest and prepare our food resources. Promise to respond to the needs of our neighbors and siblings in Christ who are hungry, and pray that the work we do together through ELCA World Hunger will have a deep and sustained impact.

13 At the heart of our faith is the belief that, though we are weak and imperfect, we are saved from ourselves and given new life through God’s gift of grace in Jesus Christ. Lift up humble prayers of thanksgiving to God!

14 Pray for the ELCA Justice for Women program, which helps us work from our faith and Lutheran theology to educate, advocate for change and lead into the future, addressing sexism and encouraging all genders to work together.

15 Sing for joy and give thanks to God for providing comfort in times of distress, healing us when we are broken and reassuring us that we are valued when we feel insignificant.

16 Remember in prayer seminarians and international students preparing to serve as leaders in the church and society, including those supported through ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarships, the International Women Leaders program and the International Leaders Program.

17 Reflect on the people for whom you have concern. Pray for them and commit yourself to expressing your love and care in a personal way – an in-person conversation; a phone call offering help; a note, text or email.

18 Pray for the work of the Creation Care Network, which connects the ELCA with ecumenical ministries and organizations that equip us to be faithful stewards of God’s creation.

The Community Beyond Group Sponsors Efforts to End Violence in Gaza

The group Christians for a Free Palestine is sponsoring two events in the upcoming week aimed at addressing the violence in Gaza. On **Saturday, March 16** there will be a Walk for Gaza at Highbanks Metro Park from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to raise funds to provide aid for the Palestinian people “who have suffered so much in the siege of Gaza.” Funds will go to groups such as Doctors Without Borders, the Palestinian Children’s Relief Fund and Pious Projects.

“This event will take place on the public trails at the park and is not a permitted event. We are a group of like-minded community members walking in solidarity because of our shared belief in liberation. We welcome people of all faiths or no faith, disabled and non-disabled persons, all ethnicities and all gender identities.”

Then on **Monday, March 18** a vigil and “direct action for Palestine” will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at McPerson Commons in Downtown Columbus.

People are asked to register for both events at <https://tinyurl.com/548r25y8>.

Main Library Sponsors ‘Big Book Sale’

The Main Library will hold a “Big Book Sale” beginning **Friday, March 15** and running through **Sunday, March 17**. Children’s books start at \$1 while adult fiction and nonfiction books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks all start at \$2.

Proceeds support the Columbus Metropolitan Library’s programs and services.

Hours on Friday and Saturday re 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. while the sale runs from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The Main Library is at 96 S. Grant Ave.

Getting Ready for Worship Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 17, 2024, 10 a.m. Lessons

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; John 12:20-33

Prayer of the Day

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, 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 Grace Lutheran Church in Pickerington.

+ For Redeemer community members Nancy, Scott and Andrea Steiner.

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 Ehrlich; Terry Warren’s sister Elaine Warren, and David Williams.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Lynn Belhorn
Cantor	Wendy Stoica
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Jon Disbro
Vergers	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Becky Fisher, Lynn Belhorn, Michelle Clemence
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Hospitality	Ashley and Judith Bird

Noisy Offering will go to Star House center for youth.

This Week at Redeemer

March 11 – 18, 2024

Monday	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 1143
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	ZOOM A Brewing Faith
Wednesday	12:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup and Discussion
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Lenten Evening Prayer
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Bexley/Berwick Dementia Support Group
Saturday	9:00 am	Make Lunches for First English
Sunday	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
	12:30 p.m.	Youth Gathering
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 2462
	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