



Reflections

VOLUME 28

April 8, 2024

ISSUE 14

Helping Each Other Discover the Wisdom inside Us

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

Where does wisdom come from? Is it all around us? In things we observe, people we interact with, poetry, books, maybe even things we write? Does wisdom come from within ourselves, as we live our lives in thoughtful, reflective ways? Might we find wisdom by spending time in quiet meditation, listening for the quiet gentle presence of the transcendent within us?

Sometimes our doubts, and the noise of life can block our inner wisdom. Can open-ended, respectful questioning from others help us awaken into our own inner wisdom? Clearness Committees offer participants exactly this opportunity for awakening our inner wisdom.

Members of the Society of Friends (Quakers) have been using such committees for over 400 years to offer spaces in which people can be invited to discover inner wisdom they weren't aware existed.

A Clearness Committee is a group of people who come together for one reason: to help each other come to some clarity around an issue they cannot resolve on their own. They don't try to "fix" each other. They don't give each other advice or tell stories about how they dealt with a similar issue. They do the much harder work of listening deeply to the person who is seeking clarity, and then asking open-ended questions which invite the person to draw deeply from their inner-well of wisdom so they might become clearer about the issue they're facing.

Rich Pautsch says he would value the chance to be part of such a process. **Dave Shull** has been part of several Clearness Committees, both as the focus person who is seeking clarity around an issue and as a listener and open-ended questioner for someone else seeking clarity. He reports the group's careful listening and wise questions helped him realize there were more factors at stake in the issue he was dealing with than he'd imagined. So the process helped him avoid making a premature decision, and led him to take time to explore areas he wouldn't otherwise have addressed. He said people who have been the focus of Clearness Committees he's been part of have felt the same way. It is powerful to be part of a group that listens so deeply, and offers questions that bring our own wisdom to the surface.

Aside from helping each other find clarity in their lives, being part of a Clearness Committee also deepens relationships and helps build trust among the participants, and, indeed, the larger community of which the participants are a part.

You can find more information about Clearness Committees by entering the phrase in your browser. You can also enter the name "**Parker Palmer**" in your browser and look at his writings about them.

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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

President - Krista Skipper
Vice President - Brad Binau
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

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The Redeemer Community

Want to Get More Involved?

Have you ever wondered how people get chosen to hold a communion tray? The assisting minister generally holds one tray and asks another person to hold the second tray. That person is “chosen” because we know that person has done it in the past and would probably say yes if asked. If YOU are interested in servicing in this capacity, please sign up on the bulletin board under the picture of the communion tray or contact **Kathy Zwanziger**.

In addition, since the pandemic, the “usher team” has been limited to one person. We have now been requested to have at least two ushers, one of whom would stay near the door to the sanctuary and hand out bulletins. This means that you wouldn’t need to help carry the elements down the aisle (unless you wanted to). If mobility is a concern but you want to help, this is a perfect way. Again, if YOU are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board under the picture labeled “Usher” or contact **Kathy Zwanziger**. We intend to let you know prior to the Sunday you would help.

Thanks to all of you for the myriad of ways you contribute to the life and mission of Redeemer!

2024 LSS/Food Collective Food Giveaways Begin April 18

The season of Redeemer’s LSS/MOFC Food Giveaway events is quickly approaching. Redeemer is scheduled for the third Thursday of every month from April to October, so that means the first event is scheduled in just 10 days on **Thursday, April 18!** The demand for food assistance is still high, so this ministry effort Redeemer shares with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and the Mid-Ohio Food Collective is even more important!

Here are the 2024 dates and the “extra” items that will be collected each month. (The extra items are those supplies which are not included in the contributions provided by LSS and Mid-Ohio nor are they covered by food stamps but go a long way in helping those seeking assistance through the food giveaways. These items can be placed in the baskets in Donation Station in the cloakroom by the Tuesday before each Giveaway.)

2024 Giveaway ‘Extras’

April 18: Hair care (shampoo, conditioner, etc.)

May 16: Soaps (hand and body soaps, bar, gel, foam)

June 20: Personal summer care (sunscreen, kid’s sunscreen, body lotion, insect repellent, etc.)

July 18: Basic school supplies (pencils, crayons, paper, etc., plus boxes of tissues)

August 15: Paper products (paper towels, toilet tissue, baby wipes, etc.)

September 19: Personal products (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, body lotion, nail care kits, etc.)

October 17: Cleaning supplies (wipes, paper towels, sponges, etc.).

Giveaway Process

Volunteers will follow the processes used the last few years: there will be a drive-thru process where customers stay in their cars and volunteers will follow all the current physical distancing, hand washing, glove and face mask guidelines.

In an effort to gauge the volunteer staffing for these events, and especially the one on **Thursday, April 18**, those who are willing to help are asked to email or call the church office to let the church know. A sign-up sheet is also available on the bulletin board. Volunteers of ALL AGES are welcome! And smaller blocks of time are also possible!

“I know our congregational efforts to combat food insecurity in our communities are very meaningful for many of us, and our outreach means so much to those we serve. So if you can volunteer (or if you’d like more info), please get in touch with the church office asap!”

One More Thing – Very Important!

Redeemer is not ordering boxes this year so contributions of any medium/large boxes folks might have will be most welcome. (They’ll be needed from now through October, so keep ‘em coming!) “We’ll take all the help we can get!”

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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86071756592?pwd=dm5VN2FaZWlVcUk3bEQycTVRTmpSUT09;); Meeting ID: 860 7175 6592; Passcode: 322720; Phone only: 312 626 6799.

'REJOICE!' Theme for Easter Art Exhibit

The Easter theme for Redeemer's Narthex art is REJOICE! Members and friends have loaned a variety of pieces fitting the theme. Stop by the display in the Narthex during this joyous season!

Being Good Stewards of Earth #2

Michele Disbro writes, "Leading up to Earth Day, we want to offer some good tips on how to be a good steward of the earth. Did you know styrofoam can be recycled? However, don't go putting it into your recycle container. Styrofoam needs to be taken to 3770 Municipal Way in Hilliard or the Convenience Center at 2566 Jackson Pike.

"The Hilliard Styrofoam Collection Shack is across from the compost cans and is open to anyone. While plastic foam is not recyclable through traditional methods, it can be recycled through densification.

"In 2021, the city of Hilliard received a grant from SWACO to purchase Central Ohio's first densifier. The Runi-brand equipment shreds styrofoam and then compresses out the air, reducing the volume of the foam to 1/50th of its original volume. Put into perspective, a stack of styrofoam the size of an SUV can be compressed to the size of one concrete block.

"Recycled styrofoam is commonly used for insulation, picture frames, park benches, coolers, infant car seats and for added protection in sports and motor vehicle helmets.

"Please follow these rules when dropping off styrofoam recycling:

1. "Styrofoam must be clean. Remove all stickers and tape.
2. "Food containers, egg cartons, and styrofoam peanuts are not accepted at this time although they are anticipating accepting those items beginning in July 2024."

(Information collected from the City of Hilliard and City of Dublin websites along with www.ColumbusRecycles.com)

Sunday Adult Ed Classes Offer Variety of Topics in April

As a variety of flowers begin to bloom in April, so Redeemer will offer a variety of themes for the Sunday adult education program.

April 14: Executive Director Nancy DeRoberts-Moore of the Bishop Griffin Resource Center, housed at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church on Livingston Ave, will talk about the ministry of the center and ways Redeemer might be able to partner with their wide-ranging outreach ministries.

April 21: On this day-before earth day, the class will talk about "Creation Care" and how they find themselves responding to climate change.

April 28: A staff member from the Columbus Violence Reduction program will speak about the work of this new city initiative. The BREAD organization worked tirelessly to convince the city of the value of such a program. Now up and running, it is doing remarkable work building relationships with members of gangs who are open to living a different kind of life.

That's what awaits you on Sunday mornings in April!

Redeemer Commissions BREAD Network Members

Kristi Hildebrand writes, "Have you ever been frustrated by all the issues you see in Franklin County and wish there was something you could do to help? Well, you can by attending the Nehemiah Action on **Tuesday, May 21**. Redeemer has committed to bringing 60 people that day (around our average weekly attendance). If you are interested in attending, please contact **Kristi Hildebrand, Michele Disbro, Carol Heacock, Emily Ott, or Kathy Zwanziger** or call the church office.

“This has been a particularly successful period for BREAD, as solutions that they have pushed for have been implemented and proven effective. As part of the Columbus Violence Reduction initiative, city agencies have engaged 56 known violent offenders. Columbus City Schools has trained over 750 staff which include administrators, counselors, social workers, and nurses in restorative practices. The ‘public tree code’ was passed in December. Thank you for all your support of BREAD that has contributed to these wins!”

BREAD Network Members were commissioned during worship on **Sunday, March 24**.

BREAD Upcoming Dates

- BREAD Rally: **Monday April 15** at 7 p.m., Congregation Tifereth Israel, 1354 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43205.

- Nehemiah Action: **Tuesday, May 21**, 6:15 p.m. doors open; 6:40 p.m. event starts, Celeste Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds.

- BREAD Celebration!: **Monday, June 24** at 7 p.m., location TBA.

Tuesday Bible Study Focuses on Resurrection Stories

The risen Christ talking with Mary Magdalene in the garden when she thinks he's a gardener ... the Road to Emmaus ... Doubting Thomas ... the risen Christ cooking breakfast for the disciples and asking Peter three times, "Do you love me?": some of the best-known stories in the gospels are stories about encounters people have on or after the first Easter. What do these stories say? What do the resurrection stories in the different gospels have in common? How are they quite different from each other?

Redeemer's weekly Bible study is diving into these and other questions about how Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell the stories of Easter. Join the group Tuesdays from 1-2:30 p.m. in-person or on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTW11bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbK9Bdz09>; Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622; Passcode: 435549. Phone only at 312 626 6799.

NEW DATE: Sister Act to Discuss Palestinian History

Sister Act will now be meeting on **Wednesday, May 1** instead of the previously announced date of April 24. Sister Act will further its theme of “Understanding Justice” with a discussion on Palestinian history, led by **Julie Johnson**. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. here at the church.

Helping Each Other Discover the Wisdom Inside Us *cont'd from p. 1*

Is there an issue in your life you would like to find more clarity about? Would you like to be part of a process that helps others find clarity in their lives? If so, Rich and Dave invite you to be in touch with one of them. They would like to start a Clearness Committee here at Redeemer. As a group that says it wants to foster understanding and healing in community, there seems no better way to make that real.

If you have questions or would like to take part in a first Clearness Committee gathering, you can reach Rich at rich155@aol.com, or 614-623-7871, or Dave at dshull@redeemerluth.com or 206-725-3785. They are targeting a first Clearness Committee in May or June.

Rich Pautsch and Dave Shull

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

Updated 2024 RLC Member Directory Coming End of April

An updated edition of the 2024 **Redeemer Member Directory** will be published by the end of the month. If anyone has updates to their contact information, please let the church office know at 614-237-1263 or info@RedeemerLuth.com.

April Birthdays

13-Steve Boreman
15-Jill Disbro 16-Mike Benis
18-Isaac Marquez 19-April Smith
19-Damon Stewart 22-Grayson Ullman
23-Andy Skoog 24-Michelle Clemence
24-Elaine Disbro 27-Margie Frazier
27-Dora Pinder 28-Edwina Bradley

The Wider Church Gaza and Palestine

Julie Johnson submitted the following update on Gaza and Palestine:

“Much has happened since I last updated the article on Palestine. Aid workers from World Central Kitchen have been killed and the United States has taken its firmest stance on Israel’s actions. The known death toll in Gaza is over 33,000 with tens of thousands unaccounted for and probably buried in the rubble that is present day Gaza. Death by famine and disease is ongoing. And the hostages are still be held and their condition is unknowable.

“The question continues to be what can we do? Israel says it will open two more land access points for humanitarian aid. The question remains how speedy the process will be to let aid through and how safe the aid workers are from military attacks.

“These are things we can do:

“1. Advocate with the Biden administration to continue to press for an immediate ceasefire. This includes support when the administration does act, as they have most recently.

“2. Support restored funding for UNRWA which has the most experience with aid distribution in Gaza.

“3. Financially support World Central Kitchen, the World Food Program and Red Crescent who are working directly to provide much needed aid.

“This is an incredibly complex time in an unbelievably complex region. Condemnation of any person, group, religion, or country won’t help. But neither can we be silent.”

Lutheran Women’s Spring Gathering Set for May 5

All Lutheran women are invited to attend the annual Central Ohio Conference Spring Gathering set for **Sunday, May 5** at Peace Lutheran Church (455 Clark State Rd., Gahanna). Guest speaker is **Mary Miller**, a professional musician, humorist and inspirational speaker.

In addition, a freewill offering will be collected for Lutheran Social Services as well as gift cards from Lowes or Home Depot which will be donated to victims of the tornadoes in Logan County for repair and building supplies.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. with the program getting underway at 2 p.m.

Also on the agenda is an update from the conference board as well as singing and refreshments.

Questions should be directed to **Janet Dixon**: 614-475-2772 dixon201@earthlink.net or **Nancy Labuhn**: 614-315-4771 nlabuhn@yahoo.com.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

April 9 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945) Remember and give thanks to God for people throughout history, such as Bonhoeffer, who are driven by their faith and convictions to stand against injustice, evil and violence toward others, even in the face of personal threats and death. Ask God for the courage and boldness to act when our neighbors are threatened or treated unjustly.

10 “Everything they owned was held in common ... and it was distributed to each as any had need” (Acts 4:32-35). Ask the Spirit to stir our generosity and nurture our unwavering concern for the well-being of our neighbor so that we might share our assets with those in need and foster concerned communities.

11 Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire the leaders of our church gathered for the ELCA Church Council in Chicago, that they will work together to guide, strengthen and grow the church; respond to new challenges; affirm God’s call for us to serve our neighbors; and encourage people of all ages to bear the gospel into the world.

12 Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including volunteers, longtime staff, Young Adults in Global Mission, and seminary students serving as Horizon International interns. Give thanks for their faithful service and the gifts and talents they bring to their work alongside our global companions.

13 We live in a world that pits different groups of people against each other, causing inequity and anguish. Ask the Spirit to transform our fear and prejudice into compassion, kindness, empathy and respect — qualities that strengthen our relationships with each other and affirm the goodness of God’s creation. “How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1).

14 Thank God for the Scripture, sacraments, hymns and liturgical art that reveal our redemption and freedom through Jesus Christ.

15 “Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:18). Praise God for ELCA World Hunger’s 50 years of action to end hunger, bring relief to those who suffer, develop sustainable solutions to hunger and raise awareness of the needs of our neighbors -- here and around the world. Pray that we might exercise generosity, wisdom and perseverance to meet the challenges of ending hunger.

The Community Beyond

Library Offering Free Eclipse Glasses, to Hold April 8 Watch Party

Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) will offer Central Ohioans free eclipse glasses beginning **Monday, March 18**, ahead of the near total solar eclipse on **Monday, April 8**. CML has also unveiled a dedicated webpage for the upcoming eclipse featuring a schedule of programs taking place throughout the CML system for all ages.

Central Ohioans are also invited to attend a special eclipse watch party on **Monday, April 8** from 1-4 p.m. at Main Library, 96 S. Grant Ave. Representatives from COSI will join CML staff on the front lawn for science activities before and after the eclipse.

At 3:10 p.m. on Monday, April 8, Central Ohio will experience a near total solar eclipse – with totality lasting around three to four minutes. Safe glasses are essential for viewing this celestial phenomenon.

Getting Ready for Worship

Third Sunday of Easter, April 14, 2024

10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: 1 John 3:1-7; Psalm 4; Luke 24:36-49

Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of 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 Hosanna Lutheran Church in Pataskala.

+ For Redeemer community member Helen Wang.

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, Nathaniel Bird's mother-in-law Rose Jordan, Heidi Carman and David Williams.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Michele Disbro
Reader	Kelly Frank
Cantor	Emily Kent
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Kathleen Zwanziger
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Naomi Morgan
Hospitality	Katie Jacobs

Flowers are donated by members of Redeemer.

Noisy Offering will go to World Central Kitchen.

This Week at Redeemer

April 8 – April 15, 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	5:30 p.m.,	Mutual Ministry Team
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Berwick/Bexley Dementia Support Group
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
	11:15 a.m.	Sunday School for ALL Ages
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 2462
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 1143
	7:00 p.m.	BREAD Rally, Congregation Tifereth Israel

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