



Reflections

VOLUME 28

July 15, 2024

ISSUE 28

New Orleans Bound!!

By the time you read this article, **Izzy, Sophie, and Andrew Skoog, Sachio and Toshi Phillips, Wendy Stoica and Dave Shull** will be in our rented SUV on our way to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Google Maps tells us the shortest route is 916 miles – 13 hours and 2 minutes, not counting stops for meals and other necessities. The route will take us down the centers of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama, before we head west into Mississippi and then into the Big Easy ... and into our beds at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel on Canal Street.



week. The Sheraton is right in the central business district, within walking distance of the French Quarter and many other New Orleans landmarks. So there will be plenty of places to walk that look nothing like any part of Columbus. At some point on our first day, we'll find our way to a classic Cajun/Creole restaurant for an early dinner. Then we'll walk to Smoothie King for the opening gathering.



The Youth Gathering officially begins Tuesday at 7 pm with the "mass gathering" at the Smoothie King Center. Smoothie King is the home of the National Basketball Association's New Orleans Pelicans. With over 19,000 youth expected at the Gathering, a sports arena is the only kind of venue that can hold us all.

That means we can sleep in on Tuesday and have a chance to ease into what is going to be a very full, stimulating, and exhausting-in-the-best-possible-way

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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 CONGREGATION 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 Wendy Stoica

Laura Warren Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



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The Redeemer Community

Looking for Photos of Redeemer for Narthex Art!

The second installment of "Redeemer Through the Seasons" will focus on pictures of the church property throughout the years. Folks are asked to look through their photographs, paintings, old directories, etc. for pictures that celebrate the beauty of our church home.

Items loaned to the exhibit should be at church with paperwork filled out by **Friday July 19**.

Redeemer to Provide Brown Bag Lunches for First English

On **Saturday, July 20** volunteers will be assembling the brown bag lunches for First English. They will be making 150 lunches consisting of: peanut butter and jelly sandwich, bag of chips, fruit cup, cookies/treat desert, a granola bar and a juice box/pouch and water bottle.

These lunches are distributed to the people who come to First English's 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 those who stop at the church in need of food. No lunches are wasted.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library for the food needed. All food needs to be to the church by 11 a.m. **Saturday, July 20**. Donations can be left in the coat room in the First English bin.

Anyone wishing to help assemble, please go to Room 3 on July 20 at 11 a.m. (Please note the time change due to the veggie giveaway.) For questions, please contact **Kay Ernsthause**n at KAErnsthause@gmail.com.

Next Food Giveaway Set for July 18; School Supplies 'Extra' Items for This Month

This month, the "extra" items Redeemer will be giving out at the next food giveaway on **Thursday, July 18** include school supplies (pencils, crayons, paper, etc.) plus boxes of tissues. Items can be deposited in the coatroom.

Each month, Redeemer provides some type of "nonfood" item to the families that come for the food.

Also, **volunteers are always needed for that afternoon**: just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library.

RLC to Provide Garden Shed for Bishop Griffin Resource Center

On April 15, the Adult Education class asked the director of the Bishop Griffin Resource Center (BGRC), **Nancy DeRoberts-Moore**, what Redeemer Lutheran Church could do to support their mission. She spoke of the need for a tool shed for their community garden, and the class responded with spirited discussion of possible costs and types of sheds.

The next week **Larry Trover** began working with **Marge Telerski**, coordinator of the community garden at BGRC, to see what we could do. After considering several sheds and sources, in May they decided on a 12' x 12' steel shed available from Menard's. Cost of the complete shed kit is \$1,250. Estimate for a concrete pad to put it on is \$1,250.

RLC has designated BGRC to receive noisy offerings. Checks may be made payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church with BGRC on the memo line. *Please give as the Spirit moves you.*

Sabbatical Team to Field Questions about Sabbatical

On **Sunday, July 21**, the Sabbatical Team will be available after worship to answer any questions folks may have about **Pastor Dave's** upcoming Sabbatical. Join them in the Narthex.

New Tulip Tree Planted at Redeemer

Al Rider has donated a small tulip tree sapling which is now planted in the lawn at Redeemer. It is surrounded by some fencing between the parking lot and the flower garden. While quite small at this point, it's known to be a fast grower with a mature height of 60-90 feet. It blooms in May and June, producing tulip-shaped flowers with aromatic stems. Pollinators seem to like the flowers. This should be fun to watch it grow!



Photo – Ashley Bird

Sister Act to Discuss 'Lessons in Chemistry' in August

Join Sister Act on **Wednesday, Aug. 21** at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the book, *Lessons in Chemistry*, by **Bonnie Garmus**. This gives folks time to get the book and read it. *Lessons in Chemistry* is a fun book about **Elizabeth Zott**, a not-so-average woman in the 1960's. [After all, Sister Act would probably ask "Is there such a thing as an average women???"]

As the *Washington Post* wrote "Meet Elizabeth Zott: 'a gifted research chemist, absurdly self-assured and immune to social convention' in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show.

"Hope you can join us for a lively discussion!"

RLC Garden Giveaways Now Underway

Redeemer's Saturday morning veggie giveaways are now underway. For those who are interested in volunteering, harvesting begins between 8:30 and 9 a.m. with weighing and recording the produce before starting the giveaway at 10 a.m.

Returning and new volunteers are asked to contact Jon at Jon.Disbro@nationwidechildrens.org.

Volunteers Sought to Provide Summer Hospitality following Worship on July 21

Volunteers are need to provide after-worship refreshments this coming **Sunday, July 21**. It doesn't need to be elaborate and consists of setting out cookies (which can be found in the "Snacks" cupboard in the kitchen), making coffee and putting out other beverages.

New Orleans Bound!! *cont'd from p. 1*

The theme for the Gathering is "Created to be ..."; each night's program ends that phrase in a different way: Tuesday: Created to be Brave; Wednesday: Created to be Authentic; Thursday: Created to be Free; Friday: Created to be Disruptive; and, for our closing Mass Gathering Saturday morning, Created to be Disciples. A wide variety of speakers will be leading each evening's program and worship, including 17-year-old **Rebekah Bruesehoff** whom we first met at the 2018 gathering in Houston. Rebekah is an LGBTQ rights activist, social media influencer, and author. As a child, Bruesehoff began attending protests with her mother; she became involved as a prominent supporter of transgender youth when the **Donald Trump** administration denied rights to trans students.

Each night after we get home from Smoothie King, any who wish can participate in opportunities for ELCA-sponsored "nightlife options" that take place right in the hotel.

Wednesday's program starts at 7:30 a.m. (which means our breakfast is before that!). Wearing our orange "Accompaniment Day" shirts and closed-toe shoes, we will spend the morning doing some kind of service activity in the city.

Thursday we will gather for a scavenger hunt through the French Quarter, hearing stories about the city and then wear our gray Southern Ohio Synod t-shirts for shared worship with all the churches in Region 6, almost 1,200 youth. Izzy and Toshi will lead a portion of the Synod day worship.

Friday morning will be our turn to enjoy the "Interactive Learning Center." This is a massive indoor extravaganza of opportunities for every possible area of interest. Youth will be able to explore whatever they want to, like HooDoo hammocks, giant ping pong, and storytelling. There are even quiet spaces for those who may feel a bit overstimulated after spending so much time together!

We'll track down **Jill Disbro**, who'll be in the center representing Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Jill was recently ordained.

There's a lot of unstructured time so we can do some of our own exploring around what has to be one of the most unique and unusual cities in this country.

We'll head home Sunday and hope to arrive by 11 p.m. or so. Monday will undoubtedly be a day of rest for us all!

Your support makes this adventure possible. Your generous contributions to the brunch following January's congregational meeting and to the Easter brunch, your donations to and purchases at the June yard sale, and other financial assistance from Redeemer folks have supplemented what families of the youth going on the trip

contributed. We cannot thank you enough! Many of you attended Youth Gatherings in the past. No doubt you remember how life-changing these experiences can be. Thank you for giving all of us the chance to be changed.

In worship on **Sunday, July 28**, our group will share highlights from “Created to Be.” Andrew and Toshi will be confirmed on that day as well! It will be a true celebration!

Wendy Stoica and Dave Shull

P.S. Folks can follow them on Redeemer’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RedeemerColumbus>. It will also be livestreamed at <https://www.elca.church/gathering-live>.

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 **Ranel Hoddinott** who is having surgery this week. Prayers are also asked for **Ashley Bird**, who is undergoing medical tests this week.

While Pastor Dave Is Away

Pastor Dave will be in New Orleans with **Wendy Stoica**, **Sachio** and **Toshi Phillips**, and **Izzy**, **Sophie**, and **Andrew Skoog** from Monday, July 15-Sunday, July 21. (See separate story, this issue.) Keep them all in your prayers!! If you have an emergency pastoral care need during this time, please contact **Pastor Julianne Smeck** at 734-972-6126.

Preaching and presiding on **Sunday, July 21** will be **Rev. Mary Ann Siefke**. Pastor Mary Ann serves as director of congregational engagement and advancement for Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Capital University.

She was born and raised in Oak Harbor, OH on Lake Erie. She is a graduate of Muskingum University and Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Before her call as pastor, Mary Ann served as a church musician, general music teacher, private vocal coach and piano teacher. Her last call was in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA where she fell in love with the city of Philadelphia and Sacred Harp Singing. Pastor Mary Ann and her husband **Derrick** (a Merchant Marine) reside in Columbus, OH.

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Julie Johnson reported Sunday that another \$300 to \$400 had been collected for fans. That will be carried over to next summer when she said the goal will be to give away 200 fans.

July Birthdays

16-Kandice Hoddinott 17-Cora Marquez
18-Kelley Frank 19-Terry Warren
21-Grace Jones 22-Alta Boreman
22-Noah Gosnell 25-Tracy Hoddinott Ervin
27-Tom Mimplitch 29-Kathy Mimplitch
29-Becky Trover

The Wider Church

First English to Hold Speaker Series

First English Lutheran Church and Urban Connections are sponsoring a speaker series on “Impacting Community” on the fourth Sunday of every month. The first presentation, set for **Sunday, July 28**, will feature **Sam Gresham** and **Molly Shack** of the Ohio Organizing Collaborative. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at First English (1015 E. Main St.)

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

July 16 Pray for youth and young adults participating in the ELCA Youth Gathering and Young Adult Gathering as they explore what it means to be created by God as free, brave, authentic, disruptive disciples — all invaluable parts of our faith and identity in a world of ongoing challenge, crisis and suffering.

17 Generation Zero-Hunger is a youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the programs of ELCA World Hunger, our church’s ministry to end hunger and poverty. Pray for the Spirit to inspire our generosity and compassion for our neighbors as we respond to this challenge to usher in a world without hunger and futures filled with hope.

18 Pray for our neighbors who suffer and long for peace in places of conflict and war. Pray that we will not grow weary in our concern, support and prayer and that we will not rest until there is peace and healing.

19 Give thanks for everything that God has revealed and given to us through Jesus Christ that stirs our hope and joy: God’s abundant grace and mercy, God’s will for our present life and future, and the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God.

20 Pray that youth, young adults and adults attending the ELCA Youth Gathering will return home safely, bringing with them enthusiasm for sharing the impact of their faith-building experience and a renewed understanding of the task we share in common — doing God’s work in the world.

21 We are called to do God’s work in the world, both individually and with siblings in Christ who encourage, support and inspire us. Give thanks that we are not alone in our baptismal journey of service and that the Spirit gives us diverse gifts that complement one another.

22 Pray for musicians and leaders gathering for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference at Valparaiso University, Ind., an annual continuing education event to nurture and equip church musicians, pastors and worship leaders.

The Community Beyond

Gaza and Palestine Update

Julie Johnson submitted the following update on Gaza and Palestine:

The **Lancet**, a respected medical journal, released a report estimating that at least 186,000 Palestinians have been killed so far in Gaza.

Some extended families have been nearly completely decimated by the war in Gaza – including one family that had 173 family members killed in December 2023. The death toll for that family alone now tops 270. There are hundreds of Palestinian families who have experienced over 25 deaths. To a degree never seen before, Israel is killing entire families. Grandparents, parents, children, uncles, aunts, cousins and more had often settled in the same areas to maintain close family ties. Even when evacuations from one area of Gaza would take place they would gather in new locations. Entire families are buried in mass graves, in hospital courtyards or beneath staircases in the homes where they were killed.

The U.S. pier built to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza is now being dismantled after repeated problems due to weather, high seas, and security.

Humanitarian aid remains much lower than the needed amount, and aid that gets into Gaza is depends is unloaded into warehouses, and is dependant on trucks and drivers in Gaza to distribute.

Pray for peace – a just peace for all.

Getting Ready for Worship

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Numbers 15:37-41; Psalm 23; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Prayer of the Day

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

A Prayer for Peace

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Those Affected by Recent Severe Weather

Merciful and Ever-Present God, we are joined together with our siblings in Christ when they suffer. Continue to be with those who are recovering from recent storms and flooding. Protect those who are still in danger. Open more safe pathways for evacuations. Gather resources from across the region to help with cleanup once the waters recede. May your love and presence be known in how we respond and care for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of St Paul Lutheran Church in Westerville.

+ For Redeemer community members Mike and Mary Benis.

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, her son-in-law Brandon James, and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman, 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 father-in-law Wendell Jordan, Kandice Hoddinott-Ward, Brittany Amon, John Huber, Mary Watts, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Paul Johnson, Carol Heacock.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mary Ann Siefertke
Assisting Minister	Michele Disbro
Cantor	Emily Kent
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Jon Disbro
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Judith Bird, Sue Yehling
Communion Prep	Kay Ernsthausen, Michele Disbro

*Flowers are given by Julianne Johnson in memory of Deb Motto
The Noisy Offering will go towards construction of a tool shed at the Bishop Griffin Resource Center.*

This Week at Redeemer **July 15– July 22, 2024**

Monday	5:30 p.m.	ELCA Youth Gathering Girl Scouts Troop 2462
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Basketball Camp
Tuesday	6:30-8 p.m.	ELCA Youth Gathering Basketball Camp
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	ELCA Youth Gathering Coffee and Conversation
	6:30-8 p.m.	Basketball Camp
Thursday		ELCA Youth Gathering
	1-3:00 p.m.	LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway setup
	3-5:30 p.m.	LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway
	6:30 p.m.	Basketball Camp Banquet
Friday		ELCA Youth Gathering
Saturday		ELCA Youth Gathering
	10:00 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
	11:00 a.m.	Make First English lunches
Sunday	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Sabbatical Team Q&A – narthex
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts



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