



# Reflections

VOLUME 29

April 7, 2025

ISSUE 14

## In This Issue

[Holy Week Worship](#)  
[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. Dave 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

### 2025 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President - Brad Binau  
Vice President - Ashley Bird  
Finance Officer - Laura Warren  
Secretary - Rich Pautsch  
Worship - Michelle Clemence  
Education - Karen Rider  
Outreach - Mary Benis  
Member Support - Kathy Mimlitch  
Property - April Smith  
Stewardship - Kathy Denhard

### APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Kay Ernsthausen

### MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Misato In Sara Auman  
Emlyn Ott Rich Pautsch

### SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Wendy Stoica, Chair Hitoshi Phillips  
Emily Kent John Kennedy  
Terry Warren Laura Warren [ex officio]

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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



## Holy Week Worship

### *Palm Sunday*

*April 13*

*10:00 am Worship*

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM

*11:15 am Sunday School Easter Party*



### *Maundy Thursday*

*April 17*

*7:00 pm Worship with Foot- and Hand-Washing*

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM



### *Good Friday*

*April 18*

*7:00 pm Worship - Seven Last Words of Christ  
with Christ United Methodist Church*

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM



## *Resurrection of Our Lord*

*Sunday, April 20*

*Two Worship Services*

*8:30 am worship*

IN-PERSON

*9:45 am Brunch*

*11:00 am Worship*

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM

LIVESTREAM or to watch later

[https://redeemerluth.us10.list-](https://redeemerluth.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=324cfdbca398413c7841145d2&id=bf05550d1d&e=cac153b28b)

[manage.com/track/click?u=324cfdbca398413c7841145d2&id=bf05550d1d&e=cac153b28b](https://redeemerluth.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=324cfdbca398413c7841145d2&id=bf05550d1d&e=cac153b28b)



# The Redeemer Community

## Easter Party Set for April 13

The annual Easter Party will be on **Palm Sunday, April 13**, during the Sunday School hour. “All kids are welcome to join us for crafts and a candy filled egg hunt! Please extend invitations to your grandchildren, nieces and nephews-the more the merrier!”

Questions? See **Krista Skipper** or contact her at [kristamary5114@gmail.com](mailto:kristamary5114@gmail.com) or 614-596-5886.

## Conflict, Peace, and Reconciliation: Lessons from Northern Ireland

**Elaine Disbro** spent more than a year living and studying in Belfast, Northern Ireland. In December 2024, she graduated with a master's degree in Conflict Transformation and Social Justice. Hear about her experience living in a post-conflict society and what Northern Ireland taught her about conflict, peace, and reconciliation during Redeemer's Adult Education Class on **Sunday, April 13**.

### **April 13 - Religion and Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland**

Throughout history, religion has been a source of both conflict and peace. In Northern Ireland, where the conflict is often defined by religious identity (Catholic and Protestant), religion has played a complex and paradoxical role, serving as both a source of division and a force for peace and reconciliation. What can we learn from Northern Ireland about the role of religion in conflict and peacebuilding? How might we use these lessons and our Lutheran faith to respond to conflicts facing our world today?

## Thanks and Please

**Mary Benis** writes, “Thanks to everyone who’s already contributed to the Remembrance Garden landscaping. We’re eagerly awaiting the official start date for the planting to begin. If you haven’t yet sent in your contribution, please do that soon. The garden is such a meaningful addition to Redeemer’s overall blueprint and mission that it’s important for all of us to feel part of that effort. And if you’ve had a chance to see the landscape design on display in the Narthex, you know we’re expecting that space to be beautiful, as well as meaningful.

“Contributions can be made however you choose – by check, bank transfer, or Tithely online. You can also choose to make your contribution at a later date – just let us know when to expect it so we can include all donations in the total. The amount of each donation is less important than the number of us joining together to reach our goal. It’s that sense of community that comes with being part of Redeemer that inspired the creation of a Remembrance Garden so many years ago. Now it needs all of us to help bring it to life. Please and thanks.”

## Update from Lutheran Social Services

While the need remains at a record high, cuts to a number of USDA programs have found their way to Mid-Ohio Food Collective (MOFC) and hundreds of other food banks across the country. MOFC reports that the most recent changes removed 697,000 pounds – more than \$1 million worth – from MOFC's inventory after truckloads of meat, dairy, and eggs were cancelled.

These cancellations came just days before the Ohio House released its latest draft of the state budget, which included a \$7.5 million cut to food banks and food assistance programs across the state. In an interview with the [Columbus Dispatch](#), **Matt Habash** discusses the challenges we can expect and how our community can help.

“As we continue working with our government partners and advocating for a healthy, hunger-free community, you can help by reaching out to your elected officials and telling them that now is not the time to take food off of hungry Ohioans' tables,” MOFC writes.

### **Advocate**

Find state leaders: Tell your state representatives and senators to support food bank funding in this state budget cycle. See MOFC's state [call to action](#).

Find congressional leaders: Tell your congressional leaders to ensure food banks receive the needed support to take care of our neighbors. See MOFC's federal [call to action](#).

## Brewing Faith Moves Back to In-Person Meeting

The next meeting of the Brewing Faith small group will be **Tuesday, April 8**, at 6:30 p.m. It will be an in person meeting with no Zoom option. This week's meeting will be at Seventh Son Brewing at the corner of 4th St and 4th Ave. in Italian Village. The brewery's homepage can be found [HERE](#). It has an upstairs room that is spacious and

quiet, **Jon Disbro** notes. There is a food truck in front and for many more food options Budd Dairy Food Hall is across the street.

## BREAD Holds Rally Tonight!

### Upcoming BREAD Dates

- Rally: **Monday, April 7** at 7 p.m. Location: Congregation Tifereth Israel (1354 E. Broad St.)
- Nehemiah Action: **Tuesday, May 13** at 6:40 p.m. at the Celeste Center. (See article below.)
- Celebration: **Monday, June 30** at 7 p.m. Location: TBA.

### The BIG Gathering

**Michele Disbro** writes, “You’ve probably heard reference to ‘**The BIG Give**’ for the day when nonprofit organizations hold a big donation day for charitable giving? Well, how about ‘**The BIG Gathering**’? On **Tuesday, May 13**, the BREAD organization is hoping for a big gathering of people to show support for the campaigns they have been working on this year: a tree campaign for environmental justice and stopping predatory landlords to improve housing issues for many people.

“BREAD has already earned the support of Columbus City Council on both issues and it’s time to convince them to take action. ... Numbers truly matter so please mark your calendar to attend the Nehemiah Action at the Celeste Center on **Tuesday, May 13** at 6:40 p.m.

“This is simply a one-time commitment to show up and be in the crowd to show support. Bring a friend or two with you. Let’s see if we can meet our goal of 50 people attending the Nehemiah Action. Let’s go Redeemer!”

## Non-Police Crisis Response Ballot Initiative Moves Ahead

**Michele Disbro** announced Sunday that the petitions are available for the local ballot initiative to create the non-police crisis response in the city. The goal is to collect 50,000 valid signatures by **Friday, June 27**. Registered voters who live in the city of Columbus can sign the petition. “The benchmark used is if you can vote in the mayoral race, you live in the city of Columbus. If you match this description, please consider signing. We will have them available to sign in the Narthex after church.”

**Kristi Hildebrand** added, “To collect signatures, you only need to be 18 or older. There are no requirements to validate signatures and that can be done from home. If you are interested in collecting signatures or validating signatures, please see **Kristi Hildebrand** or **Michele Disbro**.”

## DOGE, Trump Administration Cuts Threaten BREAD Trees Initiative

Among the ongoing social justice campaigns that BREAD is pursuing in the community, is encouraging growth of the urban forest in Metro Franklin County, writes **Al Rider**. Central Ohio happens to have one of the thinnest urban forests in the U.S., less than the 40 percent tree cover that is considered a borderline for public health. More trees mean cleaner more breathable air, cooler summers, more birds and wildlife, and measurably lower disease levels. But the Columbus metro area has less tree cover than Brooklyn (!), especially in the more economically-challenged and industrial neighborhoods.

“The city of Columbus actually has adopted a very positive, forward-looking urban forestry [plan](#), and is pursuing it within the city limits, with BREAD’s full support. However, the cost-cutting and job-cutting plans of the current White House and DOGE team have called this into question. Executive Order No. 14154 titled “Unleashing American Energy” threatens to impound over \$1 trillion appropriated by Congress under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.”

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources was awarded nearly \$5.5 million for 36 urban forestry projects in the state last year. Columbus received a \$500,000 grant, and in 2024 spent \$394,000 planting 1,250 trees in underserved neighborhoods -- expecting reimbursement by the federal government. But following the executive order, Columbus’ Rec and Parks Department was informed that reimbursement would not be coming as promised. As a result, the rest of the program is on hold, since funding is now in question.

The city of Columbus has joined over a dozen plaintiffs filing a lawsuit in U.S. District Court alleging the executive order “...unlawfully def(ies) Congressional mandates by freezing, disrupting, and terminating funds that Congress had directed and appropriated to specific grant programs to benefit the environment.”

Anyone living within city limits is encouraged to call or message their City Council members to support this environmental program and their members of Congress, “on behalf of a shadier, healthier metro area for all of us.”

## **Volunteers Sought to Present Good Friday Reflection**

Sign ups are now posted to volunteer to do a short reflection on one of the last words of Christ during the Good Friday service here at Redeemer on April 18.

## **Narthex Art Focuses on 'Reflection' for Lent**

The Narthex Art theme for Lent is "Reflection." Almost all of the art on display has been created by members of Redeemer, and is meant to be interactive. "As you look into the mirrors, you become part of the art! We encourage you to take your time reading the information next to each piece, and reflect on what you see," writes **Emily Kent**.

"A journal is provided in the exhibit for those that would like to share reactions or thoughts (*reflections?!* ) about the art."

## **CROP Walk Set for Sept. 28; Donations Being Accepted Now**

**Connie Criswell** reports that this year's CROP Walk for world hunger is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 28. However, "They have asked for us to start fundraising NOW, because the need is greater than ever, especially since the current administration has slashed or eliminated aid funding.

The 2025 Redeemer Team page is up and available for donations [HERE](#). If anyone is interested in joining this year's team, please let Connie know. Those who plan to walk are **Kathy Zwanziger, Wendy Stoica, Heidi Sherer, and Connie Criswell**. Two new walkers have now been added to Redeemer's team: **Trina Thornton** and **Kelley Frank!**

## **'Care Kits' Now Available to Hand Out**

With the assistance of Redeemer's youth, "Care Kits" have now been assembled and are available for members to give out to anyone they find in need. The kits can be found on the table in the Narthex by the coatroom.

Also, take a bottle of water to include.

Members are encouraged to supplement the kits with \$5 in the kit and/or by also giving a book.

The kits include items such as chapstick, small bottles of lotion, hand warmers, soft breakfast bars, small packets of wipes or small bottles of hand sanitizer.

**Michele Disbro** thanks everyone who contributed items or cash and who helped assemble the kits!

## **Tuesday Bible Study Looks at Stories of Elijah, Elisha**

The Tuesday Bible Study continues its discussion of the stories of Elijah and Elisha when the group meets on Tuesday, April 8. The group meets from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for the Bible study. Folks can participate in-person or on Zoom.

## **Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services**

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for services over the winter. Readers, including youth and children, are encouraged to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, next to the Library.

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.**

## **'Noisy Offering' Going to CRIS**

For the season of Lent Redeemer's Noisy Offering will be going to the Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS). (See separate story, this issue for more information on CRIS.)

CRIS' mission is to help refugees and immigrants reach safety and stability, sustain self-sufficiency, and achieve successful integration into the Central Ohio community.

Due to the current political climate the funding for CRIS has been cut drastically, so those who can are asked to help.

The "Noisy Offering" is that donation of loose change that is made as one enters the Sanctuary.

## **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 **Kevin Bailey’s** sister **Karla Weaver** and for **Michelle Skoog** who had surgery recently for a “blown out” knee. Prayers for healing and comfort are asked for **Ellen Rose**, the daughter of **Ruth Murray**, who was hospitalized this past week.

+ + +

Congratulations go out to **Trina Thornton** on her retirement from the Lancaster Parks and Recreation/Alley Park Outdoor Education after 27 years! Way to go, Trina!!

## **Memorial Services for Madelyn Zimmer, Ruth Boys Memorial Set**

The families of **Madelyn J. Zimmer** and **Ruth Boys** invite you to gather at Redeemer for memorial services which will celebrate their lives.

The service for Madelyn will be **Monday, April 7**, with visitation at 1 p.m., the service at 2 p.m., and a reception at 3 p.m.

The service for Ruth will be **Saturday, May 10**, with visitation at 10 a.m., the service at 11 a.m., and a lunch reception at noon.

“We hold family members and friends of these two remarkable women in love, and are grateful for the ways they enriched Redeemer and the ways their spirit remains alive in this place.”

## ***Christ in Our Home* for April-June Available**

The latest edition of the daily devotional booklet *Christ in Our Home* for April through June is now available on the Kiosk in the Narthex. Copies are free for anyone who would like one.

## **Flower Sign Up Sheet for 2025 Now Up**

The sign-up sheet to provide flowers for the worship services in 2025 is on the bulletin board next to the Library. This is a good opportunity to remember a loved one, a special occasion or just because. To pay for the flowers use the special envelope that is also available on the bulletin board. They run \$20.

## **April Birthdays**

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

# The Wider Church

## Considering Ways to Support Immigrants

Church Council has appointed **Julie Johnson** to lead a new ministry group to explore ways Redeemer can support those seeking to immigrate legally to or to remain legally in the United States. People on this ministry group include **Elaine Disbro, Kelley Frank, Emily Ott, Karen Rider** and **Dave Shull**.

The ELCA is a “Sanctuary Denomination.” As the ELCA website states: “In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.”

Among the tasks the ministry group has identified are the following:

- Keeping informed of the rapid changes affecting specific refugee and immigrant groups initiated by the Trump administration.
- Keeping informed of the legal actions and the status of those actions.
- Ensuring that those we know who are potentially affected have access to resources to help them.
- Learning about the various ways that Redeemer can consider how to be a sanctuary to immigrants and refugees.
- Learning what churches in our area are doing and have done to support immigrants and refugees.
- Exploring what the implications and factors would be in considering all of the options that we might be called upon to consider.
- Reporting our findings to the Congregation Council.

“One immediate way that individuals and Redeemer can walk along with immigrants at this critical time is by supporting CRIS Ohio. The Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) is a nonprofit agency in Central Ohio that provides a variety of services to refugees and immigrants. “The quickest way to support CRIS is directly through either their website at [crisohio.org](http://crisohio.org) or by calling 614-235-5747. You can also donate by writing a check to Redeemer and note in the memo line CRIS. Donations through Redeemer are usually delayed by at least a month.

“Another way that Redeemer is walking alongside immigrants is to be of assistance to those who worship with us. Whether through transportation to church, providing a bulletin in their language, connecting them to needed services or helping with daily needs, we have opportunities to help.”

We ask for your prayers as we continue in this work.

## Spring Gathering of Lutheran Women Set for May 4

A “Spring Gathering of Lutheran Women” will be held **Sunday, May 4** at St. Luke Lutheran Church (4456 Morse Rd., Gahanna). It begins at 1:30 p.m. with registration and the program begins at 2 p.m.

The speaker is **Jennifer Shaw**. There will also be singing and refreshments. Questions should be directed to either **Janet Dixon** at 614-475-2772 or at [dixon201@earthlink.net](mailto:dixon201@earthlink.net) or to **Nancy Labuhn** at 614-315-4771 or at [nlabuhn@yahoo.com](mailto:nlabuhn@yahoo.com).

All women are welcome!

## ELCA Issues Draft Statement on Child Protection/Maltreatment

The ELCA released a [draft social message](#) on child protection and maltreatment on March 21, ELCA Program Director of Theological Ethics, Education and Community Engagement Ryan Cumming and ELCA Director of Theological Ethics Roger Willer announced. This draft social message is in response to a request from the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly and addresses the church’s calling to protect and nurture children and youth, both within the church and within society more broadly. We are writing in hope that you will participate in the public comment period on this draft.

Folks are asked to read the draft social message and complete an online survey by visiting [HERE](#). Comments, affirmations, questions or concerns about the draft social message can also be emailed to the Theological Ethics team of the ELCA churchwide organization at [draftsocialmessage@elca.org](mailto:draftsocialmessage@elca.org). The survey and public comment period will be open until **Monday, June 30**. A copy of the draft can also be found on the kiosk in the Narthex.

ELCA social teachings are developed through a process of communal deliberation across the church, and your feedback will be prayerfully considered as this draft is revised. Your perspective is important to this process, so we hope you will find time to review the draft and share your comments.

A revised, proposed social message will be sent to the ELCA Church Council this fall for possible adoption as the newest social teaching of our church. If adopted, this social message will serve as a guide for people of faith to

think theologically and ethically about children and the church. It will also serve as an official policy document to guide the church's public witness and to support policies at the congregational, synodical and churchwide level.

## Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**April 8** There are about 390,000 people in foster care in this country, ranging from infants to young adults. Pray that these young people will experience love, understanding, security and encouragement in their foster families. Give thanks for foster parents and remember those young adults who, aging out of foster care, may face new uncertainties.

**9** Seek God's forgiveness and mercy for the times when we have hurt, offended or demeaned others, intentionally or unintentionally. Pray for the Spirit to grant us humility, penitent hearts and a compassion that stirs us to make amends and heal broken relationships.

**10** Lift up in prayer farmers, ranchers and agricultural workers. Give thanks for their efforts to feed the world and care for creation, and pray for abundant harvests.

**11** Give thanks that God is always doing something new in and through us, wonderful things that impact others when they witness Christ's awesome love reflected in our lives as disciples.

**12** Pray for youth in our congregations and communities, recognizing the challenges they face, celebrating the joys they experience and showing gratitude for what they add to our faith communities, which need the gifts of *all* generations to do God's work in the world.

**13 Palm Sunday** Pray that we might accompany Jesus in his journey of persecution, suffering, death and resurrection, a journey of love and sacrifice for our sake.

**14** Pledge to bear hope, grace and newness in Christ to our neighbors in need, especially those who are poor, hungry, sick, imprisoned, unemployed or plagued by war or domestic conflict.

## The Community Beyond

### April 7 Deadline to Register to Vote in May Primary

Next Monday, April 7 is the deadline to register to vote in the Primary Election set for **Tuesday, May 6**. To be qualified to vote, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election in November.
- Be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election they want to vote in.
- Not be incarcerated for a felony conviction or have been declared incompetent for voting or permanently disenfranchised.

Also required is an Ohio driver's license or state ID card and the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number. Registration can be done online [HERE](#). Address changes can also be handled online.

**State Issue 2 is on the ballot. This renews a bond issue Ohio voters first approved in 1987. It has provided funding for more than 19,000 infrastructure projects and upgrades to local roads and bridges, wastewater treatment systems, water supply systems and solid waste disposal facilities across all 88 counties. In the current 10-year cycle, \$2.3 billion has been awarded to 1,084 local governments for 4,490 projects, according to the organization.**

Candidates on the Franklin County May ballot are those running for seats on the Columbus City Council, Whitehall City Council, Hilliard City Council and the Columbus Board of Education. Eligibility to vote for these depends on an individual's address.

### Voices of Freedom: Concert for Immigrant Justice Set for April 26

For 30 years Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), has been helping refugees and immigrants reach safety and stability, sustain self-sufficiency, and more. Join the Concert for the Cause at North Congregational United Church of Christ (2040 Henderson Rd.) for \$25 a ticket.

The concert features the sounds of **Jesse Powers** and Sirens. Doors open at 6 p.m. for a silent auction. Tickets available at the door or [online](#).

### Berwick School Sponsors 5K Run/Walk

Berwick Alternative PreK-8 School is sponsoring a 5K Run and Walk on **Saturday, May 3**. All are welcome and registration is free. It begins at 10 a.m. at Berwick School (2655 Scottwood Rd.).

There will be medals for finishers as well as music and snacks at the school and community resources.

For additional information, email Mrs. Holbert at [1holbert@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:1holbert@columbus.k12.oh.us). Registration information and the race map can be found [online](#).

## Free Tax Prep Service Serves Low- to Moderate-Income Households

With the annual tax filing deadline quickly approaching, Franklin County is raising awareness about free tax preparation services available to thousands of residents and families. The Franklin County Board of Commissioners recently highlighted the Tax Time program, which serves low- to moderate-income households.

Earlier this year, the commissioners approved a contract between the Franklin County Department of Family Services and the United Way of Central Ohio, providing \$75,000 in funding for Tax Time, a coalition of nonprofit, business, and government partners that aims to help residents maximize their returns, avoid preparation fees, and build wealth.

"As a former Tax Time volunteer, I have seen firsthand the tremendous impact this program has on our community," said **Board President Commissioner Erica C. Crawley**. "This initiative not only empowers our residents to maximize their tax returns, ensuring they receive every dollar they are entitled to, but it also safeguards them from costly and potentially predatory tax preparation services that can take advantage of those who may not be aware of their options."

Tax Time brings together the United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program and AARP's Tax Counseling for the Elderly program under one comprehensive initiative. This tax season, residents can access free tax preparation services both in person and virtually at multiple locations across Franklin County.

"We encourage all residents to take full advantage of this service," **Commissioner John O'Grady** said. "Every effort has been made to ensure accessibility, whether you prefer to meet with volunteers in person or simply find virtual support more convenient."

Tax Time has prepared and processed more than 189,000 tax returns since its inception in 2007. Tax Time's IRS-certified volunteers prioritize helping families claim their full refunds, including credits such as the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit

"Ensuring that every eligible resident can access free, high-quality tax preparation is a vital step toward financial empowerment," said **Commissioner Kevin L. Boyce**. "Tax Time helps families keep more of their hard-earned money, avoid costly fees, and claim the credits they deserve. This program is about strengthening financial futures and safeguarding economic stability for all our neighbors."

Households earning less than \$67,000 last year are eligible for free preparation services. **United Way Program and Grants Coordinator Brandi Cunningham** reported that Tax Time has helped more than 2,000 in Franklin County this season. Residents can learn more and sign up for appointments by calling 211 or visiting [HERE](#).

## Getting Ready for Worship

**Palm Sunday**

**April 13, 2025 – 10 a.m.**

**Lessons**

**Readings:** Philippians 2:5-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:29-46

### Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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**.

## Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gahanna.

+ For Redeemer community member Elyce Herring.

***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, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, 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 and their son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, Barbara Hairston and family, Dottie and Larry Bird, Eileen Welker, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Scott Steiner, Al Debelak.

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	<b>Dave Shull</b>
Assisting Minister	<b>Michelle Clemence</b>
Cantor	<b>Jennifer Young</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>Nate Ott</b>
Verger	<b>Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica</b>
Producers	<b>Judith Bird, Sachio Phillips</b>
Communion Prep	<b>Laura Warren</b>
Hospitality	<b>Karen and Al Rider</b>

*The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]*

## Week to Come at Redeemer

**April 7-14, 2025**

<b>Monday</b>	1-4:30 p.m.	Madelyn Zimmer Memorial
	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	4:30 p.m.	ZOOM Executive Team
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop #2462
	7:00 p.m.	BREAD rally
<b>Tuesday</b>	11:00 a.m.	Member Care Team
	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith, Seventh Son Brewing, 4th St and 4th Ave, Italian Village
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Suzuki Music
	12:00 pm	Lenten Soup and discussion
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Lenten Evening Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	10:30 a.m.	Suzuki Music
	6:30 p.m.	Bexley/Berwick Dementia Support Group
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Palm Sunday</b>
	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed Forum
	11:15 a.m.	Youth Easter Party
	3:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #1143
<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS

**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