



# Reflections

VOLUME 29

May 19, 2025

ISSUE 19

## Redeemer News

### Sister Act Heads to Blacklick Park to Walk Tree Canopy

Sister Act – and anybody else who wants to join them – is headed to Blacklick Metro Park, out off Livingston Ave., this **Wednesday, May 21** to walk the tree canopy. This elevated boardwalk goes through the treetops and gives an extraordinary view of the park. There is an elevator up to walk for those who are stair-adverse. Folks will meet at **5:30 p.m.** Then, afterward those who are interested can visit the Nature Center.

### Narthex Art A'Changin'

Inspired by the first couple verses of Isaiah 35 which mention “Wilderness and desert will sing joyously... a symphony of song and color,” the Narthex art theme for Pentecost turns to “Colorful Creation.” Folks who have a piece of art that fits this theme and who would be willing to lend it for the display, please bring it to church by **Friday, June 6.**

### Calling for Volunteers to Provide Summer Hospitality

Groups at Redeemer, friends or individuals are sought to provide refreshments following the worship services over the summer. This provides a chance for folks to linger and reconnect with members and friends here at Redeemer.

**Jon Disbro** writes, “It’s very easy and there are supplied snacks, coffee, and paper products if you need them.”

Sign ups for June, July, and August are on the bulletin board outside the Library in the hallway.

“Sign up and see how much appreciation you will receive for whatever you offer!”

### Adult Ed to Hold Conversation with CRIS on June 1, 'Get to Know' Judith Bird on May 25

Folks who have questions or concerns about the current realities facing immigrants and refugees in Central Ohio are invited to join the Adult Education Class after worship on **Sunday, June 1.** We will host **Teresa Gibson**, who is the Community Engagement Coordinator for CRIS – the Community Refugee and Immigration Services.

She will explore with us one of the essential questions of our time, “Who do we welcome?” Learn about immigration statuses, common myths, and the realities refugees face, while discovering how CRIS supports displaced individuals. You're invited to grow in both understanding and compassion.

On **Sunday, May 25**, **Judith Bird** will be in the “hot seat” for a “Getting to Know You” segment. As a way to deepen relationships with each other, these sessions help group attendees get to know each other. **Pastor Dave** will interview Judy about her life.

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### [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](#)

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Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

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# The Redeemer Community

## Save the Date for PRIDE

This year's PRIDE parade will take place on **Saturday morning, June 14**. Once again, ELCA marchers will gather together at Trinity Lutheran Church downtown, at 404 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St., and will then march as a group behind the ELCA banner.

All marchers must register to receive a wristband, which is required to participate in the parade. To register, go [HERE](#). To order a tee-shirt, click [HERE](#), choosing both size and color. The shirt will be delivered to you.

More details will be shared in early June, but please put this on your calendar now. "It is such a meaningful way to show our support for the LGBTQIA community," **Mary Benis** notes. Questions can be directed to **Pastor Brad Gee** at Epiphany Lutheran Church, who's coordinating the efforts this year, or to Mary, who's channeling the information that comes to Redeemer.

## Sign Up Now to Receive *Living Lutheran* Print Editions

Redeemer is now compiling a list of members who are interested in receiving the print edition of the ELCA's *Living Lutheran* magazine by mail. Just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the Library or call or email the church office.

For those who would like to cover the \$17 subscription cost, use the envelope on the bulletin board. For those who can't afford the cost, sign up anyway: gift subscriptions are available.

## Basketball Camp Registration Open; Camp Starts June 16

Registration is now underway for Redeemer's Basketball Skill Building Camp under the direction of former NBA/ABA player and coach **Larry Jones**. The free camp is for girls and boys ages 8 to 14.

The camp, which runs Mondays through Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. rain or shine, begins **Monday, June 16** and goes through **Wednesday, July 23**. To register, call the Redeemer church office at 614-237-1263. The information meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 12** at 6:30 p.m. here at Redeemer.

## Summer Book Group to Read/Discuss Book on James Baldwin

**Pastor Dave** wrote in the April 28 issue of *Reflections*: "I don't know how many of us at Redeemer have read anything by **James Baldwin**. Baldwin (1924-1987) has been called the best-known Black writer during the period of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. Even though he died almost 40 years ago, more and more writers in this country are looking back to him to try to understand how the unwillingness among White people to look honestly at our country's treatment of Black people keeps us from healing and being able truly to become a country whose laws and attitudes reflect we truly believe that 'all are created equal.'"

"This summer, we will do a deep dive into the thoughts, words, and faith of Baldwin as we read *The Gospel According to James Baldwin: What America's Great Prophet Can Teach Us about Life, Love, and Identity*. At just under 200 pages, this 2024 work was written by **Greg Garrett**, whom BBC Radio has called "one of America's essential voices on religion and culture." Beginning **Wednesday, July 9** and then on July 23, 30 and Aug. 6, we will read and discuss this book from 7-8:30 p.m. in-person and on Zoom."

## 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**."

## Columbus Safety Collective Campaign - FAQs answered

Q. What is The Community Crisis Response Amendment?

A. A city charter amendment that will provide the Department of Public Safety the authority to establish a division of community crisis response that will

- Oversee the training of community responders

- Oversee the management and administration of services in coordination with other departments and programs within City government and coordinate City programs with other community programs
- Respond to 911 calls and other calls for assistance with non-violent crises, where appropriate
- Conduct community outreach
- Establish the community crisis response advisory board to make recommendations to the Department of Public Safety regarding the implementation of this amendment and provision of its services and funds the division.

If you live in the city of Columbus, you can sign the petition! Please see **Kristi Hildebrand** or **Michele Disbro** to sign.

## **Tuesday Bible Study Explores Parables of Jesus**

Starting this week on **Tuesday, May 20**, the Bible Study group begin an exploration of the parables of Jesus. The group meets from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for the Bible study. Folks can participate in-person or on Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXPiJD5mQRc5UIxjdA.1>; Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992; Passcode: 830218. Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

## **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. Readers are still needed for **Sunday June 1**.

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**

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 comfort are asked for **Ellen Rose**, daughter of **Ruth Murray**, who recently entered hospice care. Prayers for comfort are also asked for **Helen Ward**, mother-in-law of **Kandice Hoddinott**. Prayers for healing are asked for **Edwina Bradley** and for **Kevin Bailey**.

## Congratulations ...

... to **Seth Harms** whose Eastmoor Academy High School production of *Hadestown (Teen Edition)* received the CAPA Marquee Award for Best Musical Production which Seth directed!!

... to **Anna Johnson, Julianne Johnson's** niece, who received her Ph.D. in peace and sociology from the University of Notre Dame on **Saturday, May 17**.

## Parking Lot Now Open; Thanks to Those Overseeing Project

Redeemer's parking lot has been repaved and restriped!! Thanks to **Julianne Johnson, Sue Yehling, Dave Lippert** and others on the Property Team for overseeing this massive job. *It looks great!!*

## 'Like New' Microwave ~~for Sale~~ FREE!

A "like new" 1.9 cu stainless steel Frigidaire Electrolux over the range microwave oven (Model FMOS17468SA) is available. It has been used only a few times. To pick up, contact **Becky Trover** at [becky.trover@gmail.com](mailto:becky.trover@gmail.com).

## 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.

## May Birthdays

19-Al Debelak  
21-Paul Voytas 22-Dave Lippert  
26-Brad Dana 26-Kathie Ehrich

# The Wider Church

## Pastoral Letter from Bishop Eaton on Election of Pope Leo XIV

"We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America join with people around the world in praying for the ministry of **Pope Leo XIV**. We rejoice with the people of the Roman Catholic Church, especially those in our communities, as they joyfully receive their new shepherd.

"Today we witnessed the historic election of the first Augustinian and the first U.S.-born pope — only the second to come from the Americas. Thus we share with him both context and theological roots (**Martin Luther** was also an Augustinian). We pray that this will provide us, as Catholics and as Lutherans, with an opportunity to strengthen our visible unity in Christ through dialogue and cooperation for the life of the world.

"In his first appearance on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, the new pope extended the blessing of **Pope Francis**, saying: 'God loves us, all of us, evil will not prevail. We are all in the hands of God. Without fear, united, hand in hand with God and among ourselves, we will go forward. We are disciples of Christ, Christ goes before us, and the world needs His light. Humanity needs Him like a bridge to reach God and His love. You help us to build bridges with dialogue and encounter so we can all be one people always in peace.'

"We pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain Pope Leo XIV for the ministry to which he has been called, and will strengthen us all in our vocations as bridge-builders and as witnesses to God's love for all people and creation."



## 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.”

## Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**May 20** “Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!” (Psalm 148:1). Join with all creation to sing praises to God, who creates, loves and sustains all things — including a diverse and complex humankind.

**21** Pray for the Spirit to stir our wisdom, skills, creativity and commitment so that we might work together to address the vexing problems of our society, including hunger, poverty, racism, gun violence, mental illness, inaccessible health care and inadequate care for older adults.

**22** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

**23** Give thanks for the ELCA’s Lay Schools for Ministry program, which creates opportunities for lifelong learning that equip us for our baptismal vocations in this church and in the world.

**24** Remember in prayer people who work in seasonal jobs, that communities of faith will welcome and support them and that employers will meet their needs for housing, food, fair wages and recognition. Pray that we might express our gratitude to and affirm those who work behind the scenes.

**25** Give thanks and praise to God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is always with us to teach us how to serve as compassionate and courageous disciples of Christ throughout our lives.

**26 Memorial Day** Remember, honor and give thanks for those in the armed forces who have given their lives for the sake of peace, justice and freedom. Remember the families and loved ones who supported their service, grieve their loss and carry forward their memory and legacy.

## The Community Beyond

### Virtual Death Cafes Now on Zoom!

**Emily Kent** hosts a virtual Death Cafe on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The next cafe is **Tuesday May 27** from 7-8:30 p.m. Zoom Meeting ID 880 4396 8579, passcode 478465. “Please join us for a non-judgmental conversation about death and dying.”

## Reynoldsburg Community Band Announces Concerts

The Reynoldsburg Community Band has announced the schedule for its free concerts this summer. Please come and join the band ... and **April Smith** and **Linda Williams**, who both play in the group! More information about the band can be found [HERE](#). *Mark your calendars for the following concerts:*

Sunday, June 1 at 6 p.m.  
Groveport Zion Lutheran Church  
6014 Groveport Rd, Groveport

Saturday, June 7 at 5 p.m.  
Alum Creek North Park Amphitheater  
221 W Main St, Westerville

Monday, June 9 at 7 p.m.  
Reynoldsburg Senior Center  
1520 Davidson Drive, Reynoldsburg

Monday, July 14 at 7 p.m.  
Reynoldsburg Senior Center  
1520 Davidson Drive, Reynoldsburg

Monday, August 11 at 7 p.m.  
Reynoldsburg Senior Center  
1520 Davidson Drive, Reynoldsburg

Sunday, August 17 at 7:30 p.m.  
Village Green Park  
47 Hall St, Powell, OH

## Getting Ready for Worship

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 25, 2025 – 10 a.m.**

**Lessons**

**Readings:** Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; John 14:21-29

### Prayer of the Day

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that, empowered by your Spirit, we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

### Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of St. Phillip Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community members Katie, Andy, Wally, Kennedi and Ruby Jacobs.

***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 Hegreiness, 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 and family, Kathie Ehrich, Barbara Hairston and family, Dottie and Larry Bird, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Al Debelak, Edwina Bradley, for Laura Warren's brother and sister-in-law Sam and Cynthia Hudson, and Karen Rider's friend Betsy Wagner.

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	<b>Dave Shull</b>
Assisting Minister	<b>Connie Criswell</b>
Cantor	<b>Jennifer Young</b>
ASL Interpreter	<b>Marilyn Floyd</b>
Organist & Senior Choir Director	<b>Kathy Rapp</b>
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	<b>Karen Kent</b>
Usher	<b>Ashley Bird</b>
Verger	<b>Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica</b>
Producers	<b>Judith Bird, April Smith</b>
Communion Prep	<b>Misato In, Carol Heacock, Karen Rider</b>
Hospitality	<b>Sara Auman and Julianne Johnson</b>

*The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]  
Flowers are given by Heidi Carmen in thanks for healing*

## Upcoming Events at Redeemer

**May 19 - May 26, 2025**

<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts #2462
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	6:30 p.m.	Congregation Council
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Suzuki School
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation at Redeemer
	6:30 p.m.	Sister Act
<b>Thursday</b>	10:30 a.m.	Suzuki School
<b>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 Education
	3:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts #1143
<b>Monday</b>		<b>Memorial Day -- Church office closed</b>
	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	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