



Reflections

VOLUME 29

October 20, 2025

ISSUE 41

What Do You Need for the 'Living of These Days'?

Our sending hymn in worship yesterday was **Harry Emerson Fosdick's** "God of Grace, and God of Glory." The Rev. Fosdick wrote this hymn in 1930, when the country was in the depths of the Depression. At the time, Fosdick was a leader of one of the social gospel movements. This was an extremely courageous, controversial approach to proclaiming the faith. When most Christians were talking about the need to save people's souls, and most preachers never criticized what the government was doing, Fosdick and his colleagues said **Jesus** wanted his followers to meet the material needs of the forgotten and the powerless. They said Jesus' life and ministry showed us he cared more about making sure all people have access to food, safe housing, employment education, and making sure all are guaranteed basic civil rights than he did about what they believed.

The words Fosdick wrote embody the spirit of the social gospel movement. After naming a reality that the country and world are facing, Fosdick has us pray, "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage ...," because he knows we need these to have any hope of responding to what we are facing.

In this season, I'm struck by the end of the second verse: "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of *these* days."

These days, most conversations I have with folks inside and outside church include something about the state of the world, and about our shared confusion as to how to respond to what's happening. We struggle with how to respond in ways that will make any difference. As you face the realities of life, what courage and wisdom do you need for the living of these days?

I don't mean only serious things you might need. I mean having the courage and wisdom to name all the things you might need for the living of days that are among the hardest any of us have had to live.

At the "Coffee and Conversation" group last Wednesday, one of the members talked about having attended the comedy show **David Sedaris** put on in Columbus the previous night. She didn't try to repeat things Sedaris said. Instead, she said more than once, "It felt so good to laugh."

My former partner, **Peter**, and I lived in Chicago from 1989-94. For four of those years, Peter was the director of an organization that served people living with HIV/AIDS. At that time, this diagnosis was a death sentence. No one who got it survived. Everyone Peter worked with would be dead within two years. Every Tuesday evening while he had this job, Peter had a date with **William Shatner** and the TV show he hosted, "Rescue 911."

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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

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community

Supporting Redeemer Means Supporting the Community

Kathy Denhard, stewardship representative on the Congregation Council, shares the following: “The definition of ‘stewardship’ is the ‘job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property.’ At Redeemer, we build on this definition to include taking care of each other and the community. Your generous giving allows us to respond to the many needs through our various ministries. Returning your pledge card, helps us to formulate the spending plan for 2026.

“Thank you for your support of time, talents and finances.”

Adult Forum to Explore ‘Christian Nationalism’

Redeemer members and friends are invited to participate in the Adult Forum after worship on **Sunday, Oct. 28** to watch part of a conversation with the author of *The Violent Take It by Force: The Christian Movement that is Threatening Our Democracy*, **Dr. Matthew D. Taylor**. **Pastor Dave** writes, “His podcast on ‘The Christian Movement That is Threatening Our Democracy?’ will help all of us understand essential aspects of the Christian Nationalism movement that is becoming increasingly powerful in this country.”

For those who would like to watch this in advance of the class, or for those who can't join the group in person, go [HERE](#) to see Taylor interviewed on the "Beyond Sunday Worship" podcast. “We are still having trouble showing YouTube videos over Zoom, so feel free to watch on your own and then join the Adult Forum on Zoom around noon. We're sorry for the inconvenience!”

Donations Requested for Another Round of Care Kits

Redeemer youth will assemble more Care Kits in November during Sunday School. These care kits can be given out to anyone members find in need. Heading into winter, these items (hand warmers, socks, chapstick) are especially helpful. Bombas has donated socks and Redeemer has received a donation of chapstick from the food pantry for this project.

“If you are able to donate any of the following items, please put them in the black crate in the Narthex by **Sunday, Nov. 2**. Thank you!

- Small bottles of lotion
- Hand warmers
- Soft breakfast bars
- Small packets of wipes or small bottles of hand sanitizer
- Quart size ziplock bags

Sign Ups Filled for 2025 Advent Devotional Booklet



Members and friends are writing devotions for Redeemer's 2025 Advent devotional booklet – the 10th year Redeemer has done this under the leadership of **Connie Criswell**! It has been fascinating over the years to read/“hear” the different voices as members of the Redeemer community have contributed to the devotions. Printed devotionals will be available **November 23** so you will have yours before the first Sunday of Advent on **November 30**. The devotional will also be available on the Redeemer website, or if you would like each day's devotion delivered to your email, you may let the office know.

Help LSS Pack Thanksgiving Care Packages

With Thanksgiving approaching, Redeemer will again be assisting the Food Pantry in providing some food for those who need help providing a Thanksgiving meal for their families. A few bags are available at church to fill with these items **only** so folks are asked to use their own cloth bags for the items. (They will not be returned.). LSS will add a turkey, bread, and produce. **The deadline to have items at church is Monday, Nov. 17.** Redeemer's goal is 50 bags. Questions? Contact **Kathy Zwanziger**.

- 2 pouches or 1 13.75 oz box of mashed potatoes
- 2 cans of fruit (peaches, applesauce, pears, etc.)
- 3 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of corn
- 2 cans of pumpkin
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box or bag of stuffing mix
- 1 turkey gravy packet
- 1 box dessert mix



Folks are asked to supply their own reusable shopping bags or the thicker plastic bags such as the Kroger Click List-style bag. (Paper bags tend to tear during storage and delivery so folks are asked NOT to use them.) Bags will not be returned.

Thanks for helping make Thanksgiving happier for many people!

Remembrance Garden Guidelines Posted

The following guidelines have been posted regarding Redeemer's Remembrance Garden: The garden is intended to be a place for reflection, remembering and celebrating those who have gone before. Just as the congregation welcomes all, so, too, the garden is open to all.

Anyone wishing to scatter or bury the remains of a beloved person or pet simply needs to speak with the pastor, who will facilitate the process to best suit the individual's preferences and desires. The pastor can be contacted through the church office at 614-237-1263 or info@redeemerluth.com.

'Noisy Offering' to Go to Huckleberry House

Kay Ernsthansen reports that Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" will now go to support Huckleberry House. She notes Huckleberry House provides shelter, support, and guidance to young people facing difficult situations through four main programs:

- A **24/7 Crisis Shelter** offering a temporary safe place to stay for teens ages 12 to 17 including hot meals, a warm bed, and access to necessities like clothes and hygiene items.
- A **Transitional Living Program** for young people, 18-24 years old, providing a safe place to live combined with a range of supportive services.
- A **Counseling Center**, with a team of therapists who specialize working with teens, young adults, and families to help solve even the most challenging problems.
- The **Youth Outreach Program**, a team of trained, professional staff that engage with youth to prevent homelessness and provide support and resources to increase stability.

Currently the Huckleberry House serves all youth between ages 12-24. Youth between the ages of 12-17 are given shelter and programs to prepare them to move to appropriate housing. This program averages 6.5 days to transition one person.

Youth between 18-24 receive housing and services to help them prepare for transitional housing. This program currently averages 18 months to find housing.

With Kaleidoscope's loss of funding for housing, Huckleberry House is the alternative for LGBTQ youth and young adults for housing. Please note: Kaleidoscope is not closing all services; they are only losing the funding for housing. Programs will continue.

Narthex Art *Changes*

The current theme for artwork in the Narthex is "Changes." Plan now to check out the latest exhibit and what members found illustrating the theme.

Thanks to the team that oversees this ministry!!

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.

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.**

What Do You Need for the Living of These Days? *cont'd from p. 1*

The show dramatized actual 911 calls from around the country. Peter didn't understand why he watched this show. He didn't like reality shows, and wasn't a fan of Shatner. But every Tuesday night, he was there. After a couple of years, clarity came. He said, "Everybody I work with dies. But on this show, people are rushed to the hospital, teetering on the brink of life and death ... and not one of them dies. For an hour a week, I need to live in a world where at least some people survive."

As for me – these days I find myself listening to the songs on my Spotify playlist more than I ever have, and listening a bit less to NPR and PBS. I want to stay informed ... and I know I also want to be reminded that there is so much beauty and joy and life and goodness in this world. That's also why, when the evening comes I know if I try to read I'll keep falling asleep and only get frustrated that I can't keep my eyes open, more and more I pull my guitar off its stand and sing some songs about beauty and joy and life and goodness. Making more room for music in my life wasn't something I knew I needed for the living of these days. I just discovered myself doing that. A part of me knew what I needed, and is making that happen. I think that's how it usually works. We don't realize what we need until we find ourselves making room for it.

Laughter. Stories that have a different ending than we're used to. Listening to music, making music.

What do you need for the living of these days? What will you do to make sure you get what you need? If you can't figure it out on your own, talk to a wise friend. Because figuring this out, and finding the wisdom and courage and creativity to get what you need, is as important as anything else you're facing in these days.

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.

NeedaRide@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 **Russ Ward**, son-in-law of **Ranel** and **Neil Hoddinott**, who is having surgery on Wednesday.

October Birthdays

23-Skye Andree 23-Cason Day
23-Sandra Keaton 24-Bret Day
25-Madeline Gosnell 26-Kennedi Jacobs
26-Avery Martin 26-Krista Skipper
27-Brad Phillips 30-Martin Binau
31-John Caron

The Wider Church

Trinity Seminary Sponsors 'Trinity Days' Oct. 23-24

Trinity Seminary at Capital University is sponsoring Trinity Days on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 23-24. They will feature a keynote address by **Rev. Leila Ortiz**, former bishop of the Metro DC Synod of the ELCA.

Also a screening of the film "1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture" at 1 p.m. on Friday in the Huntington Recital Hall. A discussion follows at 3 p.m.

According to the seminary, this is a "documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers **Kathy Baldock** and **Ed Oxford**, who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations and cast significant doubt on a biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the person stories of the film's creators, 1046 is a once challenging, enlightening and inspiring.

For more information on Trinity Days and to register, go [HERE](#). Cost is \$75/person.

ReconcilingWorks Upgrades Its Website

ReconcilingWorks announced that it has upgraded its website! Visitors can now select their preferred language through Google Translate, making resources more accessible to people of many different backgrounds. Languages available include, among others, French, German, Hmong and Spanish.

In addition, the "Building Capacity for Justice" page has been refreshed with clearer navigation and updated tools to better support individuals and communities in their journey toward full inclusion. "Take a moment to explore these improvements – we hope they make connecting with ReconcilingWorks easier and more meaningful than ever!" The webpage can be found [HERE](#).

IACO to Celebrate 40th Anniversary Dec. 7, Continues Interfaith Discussion

The Interfaith Association of Central Ohio (IACO) will celebrate its 40th anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 7 at its annual Prayer Gathering at the Bharatiya Hindu Temple (3671 Hyatts Rd., Powell). It will run from 4 to 6:30 p.m. More information will be coming soon.

IACO is also sponsoring an interfaith dialogue group discussing "How Can People of Faith Respond in Times of Crisis and Conflict?" Each gathering will have speakers of different faith traditions.

The next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Old First Presbyterian Church (1101 Bryden Rd., Columbus). Meetings are also scheduled for Thursdays, Nov. 6 and 20. Register [HERE](#).

A vegetarian potluck light dinner is also available.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

Oct. 21 "The time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths" (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Pray that the Spirit will give us insight and guidance when we struggle to distinguish God's truth from the falsehoods that lead us astray.

22 Ask God to strengthen and sustain those who work for peace between nations, including diplomats, negotiators, religious leaders and heads of state. Pray that they will find new ways to work through impasses, implement just and lasting peace agreements, and address the needs of those impacted by war and civil conflict.

23 Pray for congregations going through challenging times, that they will find resources and assistance to renew their sense of mission and their resolve to be God's loving presence in their communities.

24 Pray for **Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry**, that his faith, his ministry experiences and the counsel of his siblings in Christ will inspire wisdom and equip him for guiding our church and its leaders to be persistent and creative in proclaiming God's restorative love.

25 Ask God to help us create safe and uplifting communities of faith where all people can gather to hear the word of God, share the good news of Jesus, celebrate God's amazing love and promises, care for one another and encourage one another to follow Christ in our daily lives.

26 Reformation Sunday Give thanks for our living, growing and changing church, which asserts its identity and purpose in the good news of Jesus Christ -- God's free gift of grace and new life for the world.

27 Pray for refugees and immigrants in our country and throughout the world, that they will be welcomed by communities and churches that accompany them through the challenges of rebuilding their lives.

The Community Beyond

Toshi Phillips to Perform with Columbus Youth Jazz Studio

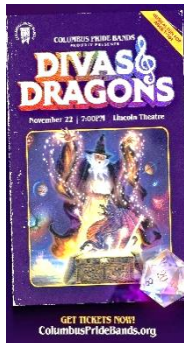
Redeemer's own **Toshi Phillips** will perform in the Columbus Youth Jazz program's annual Swing Sunday event on **Sunday, Oct. 26!** He is part of the Columbus Youth Jazz Studio where he plays tenor sax.

This year, Swing Sunday, which is the first performance of the 2025-26 Columbus Youth Jazz Big Bands, will be hosted at the historic Valley Dale Ballroom beginning at 5:30 p.m. These groups include the following:

- Columbus Youth Jazz Workshop, led by **Zach Compston**
- Columbus Youth Jazz Ensemble, led by **Jessica Sneeringer**
- Columbus Youth Jazz Studio, led by **Ryan Hamilton**
- Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra, led by **Mark Donovan**

Admission into the event is a suggested donation of \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. All proceeds directly benefit the Columbus Youth Jazz program which is part of the Jazz Academy of the Jazz Arts Group Columbus.

Divas & Dragons Tickets Now on Sale for Nov. 22 Concert



Columbus Pride Bands will present "Divas & Dragons" on **Saturday, Nov. 22** at the Lincoln Theatre. "Drawing from the heroic ballads of ancient realms, triumphant fanfares of dragon-slaying glory, and some familiar tunes that will cast a spell of nostalgia on you, this concert isn't just a performance—it's a roll of the dice. With every note a new challenge and every movement a step closer to destiny, you won't want to miss it!"

Tickets run \$22/person and are fee-less if purchased at CAPA box office at the Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.). They can also be purchased by calling the CAPA Ticket Center at 614-469-0939. Tickets are also available for \$10 [HERE](#) to watch the livestream performance.

Becky and Larry Trover's daughter **Rose** plays flute in the band.

BCA to Sponsor 'Trunk or Treat' on Oct. 30



The Berwick Civic Association (BCA) is sponsoring "Trunk or Treat" on **Thursday, Oct. 30** at Berwick Alternative School (2655 Scottwood Rd.) This is a fun and safe alternative to trick or treating door-to-door that runs from 6 to 8 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and support the event. They are also looking for Trunk participants who will decorate trunks and hand out candy. Email Robyn Robinson at Robyn.Robinson@614Berwick.com with questions or to sign up to participate.

Virtual Death Cafes Now on Zoom!

Emily Kent hosts a virtual Death Cafe on the fourth Tuesday of every month. They run 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." The next one is set for **Tuesday, Oct. 28**.

Early Voting for November Election Underway

Early in-person and absentee voting for the **Tuesday, Nov. 4** General Election is now underway. While there are no statewide issues or races on the ballot, there are a number of municipal elections and local ballot issues up for consideration.

Early in-person voting hours are as follows:

- Tuesday, Oct 14-Friday, Oct. 27: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 27, and Wednesday, Oct. 29-Friday, Oct. 31: 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 28: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 1: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 2: 1-5 p.m.

Absentee ballot applications must be received by boards of elections by Tuesday, Oct. 28, by 8:30 p.m. Returned absentee ballots must be postmarked by Monday, Nov. 3.

Polls will be open on Election Day - Tuesday, Nov. 4 - from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

“Running elections is about preparation, and Ohio's bipartisan officials have done the work to ensure a secure and accessible election,” said **Secretary of State Frank LaRose** in a statement on the start of early voting. “I encourage every eligible voter to visit VoteOhio.gov and make their voting plan.”



Getting Ready for Worship

Reformation Sunday

Wear Red!!!

October 26, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Sirach 35:12-17; Psalm 84:1-7; Luke 18:10-14a

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Columbus.
- + For Redeemer community members Rich and Kathy Pautsch.

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, Maddie Sutphin, the Trover's son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray and her family, Kathie Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Edwina Bradley, Karen Rider's niece Tammy and her friend Betsy Wagner, Sue, Tim and Lisa Watson, Heidi Carman, Grace and Ken Jones and their son Dan Jones, Bill Boys.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Michelle Clemence
Cantor	Al Rider
ASL Interpreter	Emily Ott
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Mike Benis
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Michele Disbro, April Smith
Communion Prep	Misato In, Kathleen Zwanziger
Hospitality	Stewardship Team

The Noisy Offering will go to Huckleberry House.

Flowers are given by Judith and Ashley Bird celebrating daughter-in-law Sarah Sed's birthday

Upcoming Events at Redeemer October 20- October 27, 2025

Monday	3:00 p.m. Suzuki School
	5:00 p.m. TOPS
	5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Troop #2462
Tuesday	1:00 p.m. Bible Study
	3:00 p.m. Suzuki School
	6:30 p.m. Congregation Council meeting
Wednesday	3:00 p.m. Suzuki School
Thursday	3:00 p.m. Suzuki School
Saturday	10:00 a.m. Chimes Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	<i>Reformation Sunday – WEAR RED</i>
	8:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion/
	11:15 a.m. IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
	4:30 p.m. First English Discussion series
Monday	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

Sister Act Holds Retreat

A number of Redeemer's women and friends attended a retreat earlier this month at Hopewood Pines (formerly Lutheran Memorial Camp), sharing thoughts of Jane Goodall who recently died and ways the group could all be "Little Janes." The following prayer from *A Rhythm of Prayer* was also shared:

May we be Peacemakers,
Joy-bringers, Truth-tellers, Status-Quo-Disrupters
Wanderers, Wonderers, and Misfits to our Time
Who never settle for the sit- and shut-up life
But rise up in your
She-who-the-Son- sets- free- indeed
Birthright of freedom.

