



Reflections

VOLUME 30

January 5, 2026

ISSUE 1

RLC to Welcome Guest Preachers

Brad Binau, past congregation council president, writes, “When the news of **Pastor Dave’s** retirement went public last fall, the synod office suggested to us that it would be a good idea to line up guest preachers until an interim pastor could be appointed – hopefully by mid-February.

“I volunteered to coordinate the process and asked the council who they would like to hear preach the good news beginning on Jan. 4. Would they like to hear from the ordained pastors in the congregation? (We do have more than a few!) Nope.

“Did they have favorite folks who have preached for us in the past when Dave was away? Thanks, but no.

“The council’s guidance was this: ‘Find people we have never heard from. Hearing from someone connected to the seminary would be nice. And if you can find some non-Lutherans, so much the better!’”

“This turned out to be one of the most enjoyable church tasks I’ve ever managed. Everyone I approached was delighted to be asked. We will host a few Lutherans, one who is employed at the seminary and one who is currently on internship. Another is a former seminary staff member, not a Lutheran but a ‘PK’ (preacher’s kid), whose mother was a pastor!

“We will also hear from three Presbyterians; one taught at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and another served a United Church of Christ congregation before joining the staff of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.”

[*Editor’s Note:* Because this rotation began yesterday, Jan. 4, the congregation has already heard from **Rev. Dr. Jeff Jaynes**, a Presbyterian pastor and retired professor of church history at Methodist Theological Seminary in Ohio.]

“As we have bid farewell to Pastor Dave, we now look forward to a New Year when we will embrace whatever new things God has in store for us!”

The following is the list of guest preachers Redeemer can expect to hear from now through Feb. 15:

- **Sunday, Jan. 11:** Seminarian and Peace Lutheran Intern **Albie Nicol**.
- **Sunday, Jan. 18:** **Chaplain Kerstin Hedlund**, director of contextual and experiential formation at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and chaplain/Lt. Col. in the U.S. Army Reserve.
- **Sunday, Jan. 25:** **Rev. Karen Chakoian**, recently retired pastor of Granville Presbyterian Church.
- **Sunday Feb. 1:** **Rev. Grant Eckhart**, pastor of Jacob’s Portch Campus Ministry at Ohio State University.
- **Sunday, Feb. 8:** **Rev. Teddy Caesar**, Pentecostal pastor at Destiny Church International and teacher at Whitehall City Schools.
- **Sunday, Feb. 15:** **Rev. Emily Krause Corzine**, presbyter for congregational life and transitions, Presbytery of Scioto Valley, Presbyterian Church USA.

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus
Pastor –
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 – Ashley Bird
Vice President – Lynn Belhorn
Finance Officer - Laura Warren
Secretary – Jon Disbro
Worship - Michelle Clemence
Education – Karen Rider
Outreach – Mary Benis
Member Support – Kathy Mimitch
Property – Sue Yehling
Stewardship – Brad Phillips

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

Redeemer to Serve at First English This Thursday, Jan. 8

Redeemer is providing dinner at First English Lutheran Church this **Thursday, Jan. 8**. **Kay Ernsthause**n thanks everyone who has signed up to provide food. “Please have the food to the church by 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. There is someone at church from 9 a.m. till 12:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday, to open the door.

“We do need the sloppy joes to come in hot.

“If you need a pick up, please contract Kay or **Sue Yehling**. If you need a pick up for any of the other food donations, please let me know and I can arrange a pick up. Thank you all for the donations of food and serving.”

To contact Kay, call or text 614-288-8506.

Distribution Recommendations Sought for MEF Funds

Every year, the Redeemer congregation donates 4 percent of the year-end market value of the Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) on behalf of the congregation. The 2025 third quarter market value was \$178,907.77 which would provide a total of \$7,117.31 for distribution. (The final amount will be adjusted depending on the actual value that will be available in this month.)

The guidelines for distribution are established in Redeemer’s constitution and are as follows:

- To establish and support ministries of outreach within or on behalf of the congregation.
- To further partnerships in mission through the synod and other arms of the ELCA.

Examples of prior recipients are the LSS Food Pantry, the Lutheran Memorial Camp/HopeWood Pines, Mid-Ohio Food Collective, Lutheran Social Services, BREAD. Ronald McDonald House and Bishop Griffin Resource Center.

To meet the MEF’s guidelines, the Special Funds Team (SFT) is seeking suggestions for the use of the funds for 2025. Please use the form included with today’s *Reflections* to nominate possible recipients.

Complete it and place it in the Sunday offering plate or leave it in the church office by **Sunday, Jan. 18**. The SFT will then make its recommendation and forward that to the council for action by the congregation at the Jan. 25 Annual Congregational Business Meeting.

New Goals for New Year: *Reduce/Reuse*

In an effort to be kinder to the environment, folks at Redeemer want to provide an opportunity to do more reducing and reusing. To that end, coffee cup racks have been hung in the hallway by the drinking fountain to encourage members and friends to bring in their own coffee mug to hang on these racks.

Then, as **Michele Disbro** points out, “Whenever you want a cup of tea or coffee, *reduce* the amount of paper products used by *reusing* your coffee mug! Dirty mugs can be placed in the green dish tub on the table outside the kitchenette. Volunteers will wash the mugs and replace them on the coffee racks.

“We also have a row of mugs available for visitors. (Feel free to guide our visitors to these guest mugs.) There is space to hang more mug racks if we need more space for coffee mugs in the future.

“Continuing with the Reduce and Reuse goal: you are always encouraged to bring your own table service for potluck dinners at church. Paper products will always be available as well.”

‘Noisy Offering’ to Go to ELCA’s Good Gifts

Kay Ernsthausen reports the Noisy Offering from the beginning of Advent thru Epiphany will be used to buy items from the ELCA Good Gifts catalog. “With the right amount of donations we could buy a Family Farm (\$715), a herd of goats (\$300), a cow (\$500), fish farm (\$250), community vegetable garden (\$220), an irrigation system (\$100), safe water access (\$250), latrine (\$150) and the list goes on.

To decide what Redeemer will support, the children and confirmation Sunday school classes will vote in January. “The kids will be able to make suggestions of what we should buy and then will vote on what we buy. If we can buy more than item, we will maximize the offering to buy as much as we can,” Kay writes.

“So, clean out the bottom of your purses and backpacks, empty out the columns of the car from all the change from the fast food drive thru’s. See what you want to help give as a Christmas gift to someone in need.”

Care Kits Available for Members to Distribute

The Sunday School students assembled over 100 care kits for the congregation to pass out to those in need, **Michele Disbro** reports. The kits are now available in the Narthex. “Take as many as you'd like.”

The care kits contain socks, hand warmers, lotion, wipes or hand sanitizer, chapstick, a granola bar, and a list of resources for support.

“Feel free to grab bottles of water to distribute with the care kits.

“A huge thank you to everyone who donated materials to support this wonderful project. The care kits will be available in the Narthex throughout the cold season until we run out.”

Narthex Art Reflects 'Blue or Purple' Theme



The *Blue or Purple* exhibit has now been installed in the Narthex! Stop by to peruse the many pieces submitted by members and friends! There are many stories there and a number of pieces created by Redeemer members.

It will be up through the Christmas season.

Volunteers Sought to Provide Refreshments after Worship

Volunteers are needed to set up/provide refreshments following the Sunday worship service. A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board next to the Library.

It doesn't need to be elaborate. Coffee, teas are in the cupboard and packaged cookies are under the counters.

This is a wonderful time to visit with fellow worshippers and is much appreciated.

Reach out to **Jon Disbro** with any questions.

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.**

Council Clarifies Policy on Payments to Individuals

The Redeemer Congregation Council has adopted a policy of not disbursing funds directly to individuals with the exception of funds requested by individuals for reimbursement of church related expenses and funds requested in payment for personal services. This was prompted because council has received requests from some members about designating contributions from a particular donor to the Immigration Support Fund or other funds of the church designated to benefit a particular individual. They refer folks to the following article for more information [HERE](#).

“If you need additional information about this matter, consult your tax preparer.”

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.

Zoom Links

The following regular Zoom links to Redeemer's Sunday Adult Education Forum and weekly Tuesday Bible Study.

Adult Education Forum Zoom can be found [HERE](#). Meeting ID: 889 7945 2993; Passcode: 850178.

Tuesday Bible Study: On hiatus.

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 **Kelley Frank** who faces further cancer treatment and for **Drusanne Shaulis** who has had a stroke.

+ + +

Word has been received of the death of **Rev. K. Bernell “Bernie” Boehm**, former bishop of the Ohio District of the American Lutheran Church from 1980-1985. The funeral service was held **Saturday, Jan. 3**. Memorial gifts may be given in his name to All Saints Lutheran Church [HERE](#) or to Capital University/Trinity Lutheran Seminary [HERE](#). His obituary can found [HERE](#).

Council Installation, Call Committee Commissioning Set for Jan. 11

Members of Redeemer 2026 Congregation Council will be officially installed during the **Sunday, Jan. 11** worship service. In addition, members of the Call Committee will be commissioned.

Congregation to Meet Jan. 25

The Annual Congregational Business Meeting will be held **Sunday, Jan. 25** following the worship service. Business items include adopting the 2026 spending plan and approving both synod-required constitution revisions and the Mission Endowment Fund distribution. More details to come.

Pastor Dave Appreciation Video Available Online

The appreciation video of **Pastor Dave**’s years here at Redeemer that played throughout his celebration on **Sunday, Dec. 14** is available on Redeemer’s YouTube channel [HERE](#). Thanks to **Kristi Hildebrand**

Latest Issue of *Christ in Our Home* Available

The latest edition of the daily devotional booklet *Christ in Our Home* for January - March is now available on the kiosk in the Narthex. Copies are free for anyone who would like one.

January Birthdays

1-Connie Criswell 2-Don Luck*
4-Kristen Ullman 5-Tamara Wawrosch
9-Marques Highland 11-Rich Pautsch
13-Michelle Skoog 20-David Detweiler
20-Corinne Montgomery 20-Tony Naess
21-Elizabeth George 21-Shirley Miller**
22-Maureen Callahan 22-Shirley Cannon
24-Sophie Brush 24-Marshall Edgington
24-Kathy Rapp 25-Rosalie Highland
26-Jeff Montgomery 28-Bebe McCoy

***Don Luck** turned 93 on Jan. 2! *Cards can be sent to him at Kensington Place 314, 1001 Parkview Blvd., Columbus 43219-2274.*

****Shirley Miller** will be 91 on Jan. 21. *Cards can be sent to her at 4050 Wiston Dr., Groveport 43125-8910.*

The Wider Church

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

January 5 Pray that our lives bear witness to the life, light and grace that Jesus Christ, the son of God, brought into the world for all people.

6 Epiphany of Our Lord Give thanks and praise to God for revealing to us daily God's majesty and the new life we receive in Jesus Christ!

7 Pray that we increase Mission Support — the portion of offerings that congregations share with synods and the churchwide organization that enables new ministries, supports development of new leaders, nurtures partnerships around the world, and strengthens our church's efforts to alleviate poverty and work for justice and peace, here and around the world.

8 Pray for the Spirit to continue to shed light on the mystery of our salvation and strengthen our faith in God's promise of redemption fulfilled in Christ, a promise made to us with full awareness of our human quirks, flaws, questions and complexities.

9 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner since 2009. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times for the church and society.

10 Pray for churchwide staff and volunteers from across the country who are planning the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Ask God to guide their preparations and stir their faith, creativity, wisdom and vision.

11 The presence of Jesus Christ among us — God's love expressed in human form — makes the unimaginable real. Praise God for the amazing gift of salvation and the freedom to live in this world as children of God who follow Christ!

12 Remember in prayer and give thanks for the ELCA's Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment program, which provides leadership, resources and advocacy for our church and society that is shaped by the unique voices and experiences of people across race, ethnicity, ability, class, sexuality and age.

The Community Beyond

Warming Centers Open as Temperatures Drop

As temperatures drop, the Community Shelter Board and its partners have activated Winter Warming Centers throughout the region to support our neighbors in need.

Key Resources:

- 24/7 Access: The Third Shift Warming/Cooling Center (in partnership with First English Lutheran Church) is open 24 hours a day. (1015 E. Main St.)
- Need Shelter? Call the Homeless Hotline at 614-274-7000.
- Need Food? Call the Food Line at 614-341-2282.
- Youth (Ages 14-24): Star House offers drop-in services (1220 Corrugated Way)

In addition, Columbus Metropolitan Libraries and Columbus Recreation & Parks Community Centers are also available during normal business hours as safe places to get out of the cold. To learn more and see all locations, go [HERE](#).

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. and can be found [HERE](#). 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, Jan. 27**.

Getting Ready for Worship

Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Prayer of the Day

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, 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 Peace Lutheran Church in Gahanna.

+ For Redeemer community members Michelle, Rob, Izzy, Sophie and Andy Skoog.

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, 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, Kathie Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Kelley Frank’s mother Charlotte Frank, the Bradley Family, 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, Emily Crosley, Bill Boys, Ranel Hoddinott’s sister and brother-in-law Paulie and Jerry Shaffer, Kathy Zwanziger.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Brad Binau
Guest Preacher	Seminarian Albie Nichol
Assisting Minister	Joss Dana
Cantor	Linda Williams
ASL Interpreter	Marilyn Floyd
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Nate Ott
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Tom Mimplitch/ Miles Smith
Communion Prep	Wendy Stoica, Maddie Sutphin
Hospitality	Ashley and Judith Bird

The Noisy Offering will go to ELCA’s Good Gifts.

Flowers are given by Julianne Johnson and Sara Auman celebrating their 7th anniversary

**Upcoming Events at Redeemer
January 5- January 12, 2025**

Monday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	4:30 p.m.	ZOOM Executive Team
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scout #2462
Tuesday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	5:15 p.m.	ZOOM Outreach Team
Wednesday	12:30 p.m.	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	4:30 p.m.	RLC serves First English Dinner
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
	11:15 a.m.	Sunday School for ALL Ages
Monday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS

Mission Endowment Fund
2025 Distribution Nomination

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Web Site Address: _____

Organization's Purpose: _____

Amount or Percentage of Available Funds Requested _____

Redeemer member(s) involved with the organization: Yes _____ No _____

If yes, who? _____

Redeemer member submitting the request: _____

Please submit to church office or put in offering plate on/before **January 18, 2026.**

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