



# Reflections

VOLUME 30

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ISSUE 4

## Betwixt and Between

As a congregation we are experiencing what sociologists and anthropologists call liminality – a time of transition, literally a threshold, when we are between the familiar and the unknown. Renowned anthropologist **Victor Turner** described such times simply as being “betwixt and between.” That strikes me as an apt description of where we are right now in our life together at Redeemer.

Liminal moments like birth or death, marriage or divorce, graduations or retirements – or in our case the time between shepherds who know us by name – occasion mixtures of powerful emotions. When in transition we may feel grief and gratitude, frustration and expectation, comforting calm and disturbing anxiety.

Recent events – internationally related (at least) to Gaza, Davos, Greenland, Venezuela, and Ukraine, as well as domestically related (at least) to Minneapolis have positioned us “betwixt and between” in a much larger sense. The political, diplomatic, and legal norms that once guided us are now blurred beyond recognition. What shape they may take in the future is far from clear. Liminality is the soil in which anxiety loves to take root. But being “betwixt and between” is also a moment when **Jesus’** call to “follow me” can be heard most clearly.

When the weather forced us to worship via Zoom on Jan. 25 we nonetheless heard the good news of Jesus’ call thanks to our guest preacher, **Pastor Karen Chakoian**. If you couldn’t be online with us for that worship service, and even if you were, I urge you to listen to her sermon and the promise it contains that Jesus is the light for our darkness, the light that no evil can overcome.

Redeemer folks have rallied in recent weeks to ensure that our various ministries continue unabated. We are crossing the threshold from what once was to what will be and we are not tripping over the moment. Our broader challenge, as Pastor Chakoian pointed out, is to heed Jesus’ call to repent of the ways in which we have conveniently aligned with the powers of this world and commit ourselves to live with love and humility as Jesus did.

**Brad Binau**

## RLC Leaders

### 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

### 2026 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

### CALL COMMITTEE

Joss Dana                      Zak Hinkle-Moore

Emily Ott                        Sheryl Owens

Al Rider                         Krista Skipper

April Smith                     Kathleen Zwanziger

### 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)



## The Redeemer Community

### Direct Questions over Transition to Council President

Want to know who is doing what here at Redeemer? Who's in charge? What is happening? during this transition period until Redeemer gets an interim pastor, then contact **Council President Ashley Bird** at [jamnbird@aol.com](mailto:jamnbird@aol.com); 614-257-7245; or 614-239-9380. If he doesn't know, he will be able to direct you to the person who does.

To better understand the call process, go [HERE](#). The initial planning meeting of the Call Committee was held this **Thursday, Jan. 22** at 4:30 p.m. here at church.

### **BIG Thank You Goes Out to Those Who Set Up Zoom Worship Sunday**

A BIG thank you goes out to **Michelle Clemence, Tom and Kathy Mimplitch, Kay Ernsthansen, Brad Binau, Larry and Becky Trover and Pastor Karen Chakoian** who all helped set up and pull off Redeemer's Zoom worship service last Sunday, Jan. 25!!! (And apologies if anyone was missed.)

Michelle reports that there were 38 units who participated, encompassing approximately 54 people.

### Souper Bowl Sunday Is Coming!

Now that the line-up for Super Bowl LX is set and the game will see the Seattle Seahawks take on the Boston Patriots on **Sunday, Feb. 8**, it is also time to remind folks of the annual *Souper* Bowl fundraiser benefitting Lutheran Social Services (LSS) – also set for Feb. 8.

If folks wish, they can give cans of soup such as tomato, chicken noodle, or vegetable. Other frequently requested items are 16 oz. jars of peanut butter (in plastic jars) or 15 oz. cans of fruit. However, LSS will use ANY food items that are contributed!

On the other hand, folks can also “vote” for their favorite team (*or the ads*) by placing their contributions in the proper bowl which will be found in the Narthex. LSS can leverage \$1 to purchase \$4.50 worth of food.

Because of the unusual weather, the bowls will be left out for the following two Sundays as well.

Please note: For those who write a check, make it out to Redeemer and put LSS or Souper Bowl in the memo line.

*This is a fun way to help neighbors in need!!*

### Transportation Team Ministry Looking for Some Help!

**Michelle Disbro** writes, “Did you know that Redeemer provides transportation to people who might need a ride to a doctor's appointment? Members can simply email [NeedARide@redeemerluth.com](mailto:NeedARide@redeemerluth.com) and volunteers on this team respond if they're able to help with that request.

“We're looking for more members to be added to this helpful ministry. It really doesn't require anything more than adding your name to the email group. Then, if a request to the Transportation Team comes into your email, respond if you're available and willing to help. If you're not available or able for that request, you simply do not respond. No commitments – just a willingness to help out if you're able. If you're interested in be added to this transportation ministry team, please contact the church office to be added to the email group.

“On a more specific transportation request, **Grace and Ken Jones** are looking for someone to bring them to church for Sunday worship. [They live north of Broad and west of I-270.] We're hoping to put together some volunteers who might commit on a regular basis (for example, the first Sunday of the month). That person would be responsible to pick the Jones up and bring them to church OR take them home after church. We're going to put together a schedule based on the volunteers' preferences and availability (one way transportation or both, specific Sunday of the month, etc.)

“The Jones will be given the schedule and contact their driver if for some reason they need to cancel that ride for that Sunday. Please contact the church office if you're willing to sign up on a regular transportation schedule for the Jones.”

### Upcoming Adult Education Forums

On **Sunday, Feb. 1**, the Adult Forum will hear from Sunday's guest preacher, **Rev. Grant Eckhart**, about his ministry at Jacob's Porch on the campus of Ohio State University.

Then, two subsequent forums will address the theme, “Immigration and the Walk of Faith.” Those sessions, facilitated by **Pastor Al Rider**, will explore questions such as: How does an “immigrant faith community” - whose existence is defined by the call of Abram and Sarah, by the Exodus from Egypt and the Babylonian Captivity, by

the escape of Jesus and his parents from murderous Herod, the dispersion of the Apostles at Pentecost, and centuries of voyages to a “New World” (both forced and unforced) - respond to migrant peoples today?

The conversations will focus on the responses of the ELCA and recent Roman Catholic social justice teachings to the challenges of immigration.

Watch *Reflections* and/or the Sunday bulletin for the precise dates for these latter two sessions.

## Annual Meeting Coming, Watch Emails for Date

The Annual Congregational Business Meeting is in the process of being rescheduled following its postponement due to the weather this past weekend. It will be held following a worship service. Business items remain the same and will include adopting the 2026 spending plan and approving both synod-required constitution revisions and the Mission Endowment Fund distribution.

According to a letter from **Congregation President Ashley Bird**, the constitution changes are required and the result of the last three churchwide assemblies in 2019, 2022 and 2025. A copy of the changes was sent to all friends and members of Redeemer last month, together with a cover letter explaining the edits.

Currently, the Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) is soliciting suggestions for the distribution of the approximately \$7,117 available to donate from 2025. That distribution will be approved at the meeting.

Also on the agenda for the annual meeting is approval of Redeemer’s 2026 spending plan. **Finance Officer Laura Warren** walked attendees of the Jan. 4 Adult Forum through the details, explaining how the transition in the pastoral leadership this year affects the budget, reflecting both the need to pay additional supply pastors as well as a reduction in the salary line to reflect an interim pastor for only 10 months. She stressed that the budget is a “point in time” and will need to be adjusted as the year plays out.

Another area that is very fluid concerns the proposed line item for immigration support, with \$20,000 budgeted for the year and “additional needs covered by donations.” She noted Redeemer currently assists two families and may take on a third.

Other highlights of the spending plan include the following:

- Staff (custodian, office manager and directors of music) were given a 4 percent increase.
- Distribution of assistance through the Good Samaritan Fund is currently on hold until an interim pastor is secured.
- Property allocations are lower for 2026 because in 2025 the parking lot was repaved and the Remembrance Garden was established.

Copies of the Annual Report highlighting the many ministries of Redeemer are now available as is a copy of the proposed constitutional changes. An updated version of the proposed 2026 spending plan will be available Sunday now that Laura has received the actuals for January-December 2025.

Members must attend in person in order to vote, per RLC’s constitution.

## Noisy Offering to Go to LSS Choices

The Noisy Offering from now until Ash Wednesday will be collected for LSS Choices. The holidays can be a very stressful time. As a result, the number of people (both men and women) abused by their spouse increases.

Many will stay with a spouse because it’s the holidays. But once January comes around they find the courage to leave. Even though Choices is under the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) umbrella, they can use extra funds in the beginning of the year when their numbers go up.

**Kay Ernsthansen** writes, “The funds are so needed. Along with the increase is spousal abuse is the increase of human trafficking. Because of these two facts, we will be collecting noisy offering for LSS Choices.”

## Sister Act Members ‘To Pursue Passions’ over Year

Sister Act will gather on Zoom **Wednesday, January 28** at 6:30 p.m. for its first meeting under its 2026 theme of “Igniting Your Fire by Pursuing Your Passions.” This month the topic “Pursuing Writing.” Published author **Emily Kent** will talk about the book in which she wrote a chapter: *The Fire from Her Crown: Igniting Fires of Purpose, on Purpose*. She will share how she got involved in the project and read her chapter aloud.

She will also talk about her writing process, and give us a sneak peak at the next part of her writing journey.

The Zoom link is [HERE](#); Meeting ID: 814 1846 9611; Passcode: 866848.

More about the book: “19 other extraordinary women co-authored this book, titled *The Fire From Her Crown*. Each author was given the assignment to write her story as creatively as her heart could pour out. They built a tribe that looks like love, acts like love, and sounds like love. Each of them had a profound experience with the book,

telling their stories in their words, with and without fear, for the purpose of helping you feel seen and heard, and to know that you are loved.

“It is a breathtaking, soul-shaking read, and they have included many resources as well!

“If you do not have a copy of the book yet and want one, you can order it from Amazon [HERE](#).”

## BREAD Roadmap Updates

**Kristi Hildebrand** provides the following update from BREAD:

“**Protect Renters Now:** The Columbus City Council, especially **Council Member Nick Bankston**, is committed to adding a new Rental Registry in the city of Columbus. The rental registry will provide transparency of landlord contact information to renters. BREAD recommended this course of action to protect renters from unsafe conditions. BREAD is still pushing for one extra step, which is "proactive rental inspections". The City Council’s proposal is dependent on complaints from renters, who may be reluctant to report unsafe conditions due to fear of retribution.

“**We Protect Trees:** The City of Columbus is committed to a goal of a 40 percent tree canopy by 2050. However, to achieve the goal, the Columbus City Council needs to enact protections for trees on private property which they are failing to do. At the December Research Kickoff, the Trees Protect Us! We Protect Trees! Committee laid out a plan to increase the heat on city leaders to honor that commitment. Over the next four months, the committee will take steps to highlight the negative health impacts loss of tree canopy will have on our community. At the May 12 Nehemiah Action, they will be calling on city leaders to honor their commitment and draft legislation to protect trees on private land that incorporates 70 percent of all existing tree canopy.

“**Livable Wage:** The new problem that BREAD adopted at the November Annual Assembly is the lack of a livable wage. Watch this space for information on what specific issue the committee chooses to combat this problem.

“**Bonus issue: Non-Police Crisis Response.** While this is no longer a BREAD issue, they have advocated for it since 2019. In November 2025, **Mayor Andrew Ginther** announced that he was including \$1.0 million in his 2026 Budget Request to City Council to expand Right Response operations and to create a non-police crisis response mobile unit pilot.

Please remember to mark your calendars for the 2026 Nehemiah Action on **May 12, 2026!**

### Upcoming BREAD Dates for Network Members

- RLC Network Meeting: **Wednesday, March 18** at 6 p.m. at Redeemer (Room 2).
- Rally: **Tuesday, April 14** at 7 p.m. at Corinthian Missionary Baptism (3161 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.)
- Celebration: **Monday, June 22** at 6 p.m. Location TBA.

### Upcoming BREAD Date for EVERYONE

- Nehemiah Action: **Tuesday, May 12.** Doors open at 6 p.m. at the Celeste Center (717 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.)

## Youth Decide Recipients of ‘Noisy Offering’ through ELCA’s Good Gifts

The Sunday School Class did some late Christmas shopping! The noisy offering collected during Advent and Christmas totaled \$425.36. **Shanaelle, Ruby, and Caroline** enjoyed looking through the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog together. After much browsing, the girls selected the following gifts to purchase:

- Sunday School Starter kit: \$ 65
- Fruit Tree Farm: \$150
- Send a Girl to School: \$ 40 purchased three/one for each of the girls.
- Water Filter: \$ 10
- Goat: \$ 50
- Chicks: \$ 10 (enough left for three broods)

The pictures of the gifts are on a poster in the Narthex by the coat room. Check it out! ‘Thank you to all who donated. The gifts are very much needed.’

## **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.”

## **Redeemer Welcomes Guest Preachers**

Over the next several weeks, Redeemer will welcome a series of guest preachers until an interim pastor can be appointed. The following is the list of those individuals Redeemer can expect to hear from now through Feb. 15:

- **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.

## **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 and Epiphany seasons.

## **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.**

## **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](mailto:info@redeemerluth.com).

## 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.”

## 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

[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.

[NeedaRide@redeemerluth.com](mailto:NeedaRide@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

### ***Member Care Request***

There are more and more members of the Redeemer community who are home bound to some extent. A new small group is being developed by the Member Care Team to reach out to these folks. Folks willing to be part of a group that connects with these individuals with a meal and a visit, please contact **Kathy Mimplitch** at 614-439-7739.

+ + +

Prayers for comfort are asked for the family of **Steve Sherer**, “youngest and favorite uncle” of **Heidi Sherer**, who died Monday, Jan. 26. Heidi writes, “My dad and all of us are incredibly sad.”

+ + +

Prayers for healing and comfort are asked for the sister of **Wilfrantz Raymond's** sister, **Cheslie Raymond**, who had a portion of her leg amputated Monday following a very serious accident involving spilled hot oil. Prayers continue to be asked for **Don Luck** who is facing health challenges and for **Barbara Hairston** who recently had surgery. Prayers for healing continue to be asked for **Kelley Frank** who faces further cancer treatment and for **Drusanne Shaulis** who has had a stroke.

Prayers are also asked for **Emily Crosley** who is struggling with health issues.

## Order Tamales Sunday

**Elyce Herring** will be taking orders Sunday for vegan (black bean), chili and cheese (vegetarian) or chicken tamales. Suggested donation is \$20/dozen or \$10/half dozen. Proceeds benefit the workers' group Elyce works with.

## 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 Birthday

28-Bebe McCoy

## February Birthdays

1-Michael McClain 3-Joss Dana  
3-Karen Kent 4-Donna Voelkel\*  
5-Georgene Slagle 6-Richard Amon  
6-Sara Auman 8-Robin Stokes  
8-William Goshen 14-Kurt Goshen  
15-Nancy Ehrich 16-Heidi Carman  
24-Linda Williams 24-Sue Yehling  
26-Diane Brobeck 26-Wally Jacobs  
28-Colton Day

\***Donna Voelkel** will be 92 on Feb. 4. Cards can be sent to her at 23032 Buena Vista Rd., Rockbridge OH 43149-9657

# The Wider Church

## Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**January 27** We are a church that believes we accomplish more when we work together and collectively employ our diverse gifts for doing God's work in the world. Ask God to help us bridge and mend divisions in our faith communities and society that get in the way of valuing one another and working together for the benefit of all, especially our neighbors in need.

**28** Praise God for theologians and teachers who help us study Scripture, develop a deeper understanding of God's activity in the world, contribute to the maturing of our faith and explore how we live our faith in daily life.

**29** Pray for the ELCA Horizon International Internship program, which provides seminary students with intensive experiences here and with companion churches around the world, with the purpose of enriching their talents and leadership skills for ministry and the mission of the ELCA.

**30** Give thanks for stewardship and generosity resources and the assistance provided to congregations through the ELCA Mission Interpreters, Stewardship Key Leaders, stewardship coaching and Ventures Steward Leaders networks.

**31** Pray that we trust God's enduring love, mercy and patience to renew and encourage us when we fall short of our promises, goals and good intentions.

**1 National Freedom Day and Black History Month** Today commemorates the abolishment of slavery in 1865 and recognizes past, present and future work to secure and protect freedom, justice, equality and respect for all people. It is also the first day of Black History Month. Pray for strength, humility and penitent hearts so we may acknowledge our nation's history and the mistreatment of people based on ancestry, race, religion and perceived differences. Give thanks that our sins and weaknesses are met with God's immense grace and the Spirit's ability to effect change and newness in us, our church and society.

**2** Remember in prayer siblings in Christ and communities of faith in the Caribbean region, especially those who are engaged in long-term recovery from natural disasters. Pray for the Caribbean and Florida-Bahamas synods, that their work will bear abundant fruit as they support congregations and ministries in proclaiming the gospel in diverse contexts throughout the region.

# The Community Beyond

For Alex Jeffrey Pretti

Murdered by I.C.E. January 24, 2026

by Amanda Gorman

We wake with  
no words, just woe  
& wound. Our own country shoot  
ing us in the back is not just brutal  
ity; it's jarring betrayal; not enforcement,  
but execution. A message: Love your people & you  
*will die*. Yet our greatest threat isn't the outsiders  
among us, but those among us who never look  
within. Fear not the those without papers, but those  
without conscience. Know that to care intensively,  
united, is to carry both pain-dark horror for today  
& a profound, daring hope for tomorrow. We can feel  
we have nothing to give, & still believe this world wait  
ing, trembling to change. If we cannot find words, may  
we find the will; if we ever lose hope, may we never lose our  
humanity. The only undying thing is mercy, the courage to open  
ourselves like doors, hug our neighbor,  
& save one more bright, impossible life.

## 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

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Hilliard.
- + For Redeemer community members Nancy Steiner, Scott Steiner, and Andrea Steiner.

**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 and Trina Thornton and Kelley's mother Charlotte Frank, 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, Barbara Hairston, Wilfrantz Raymond's sister Cheslie Raymond, Don Luck.

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	<b>Rev. Grant Eckhart</b>
Assisting Minister	<b>Jon Disbro</b>
Cantor	<b>Jennifer Young</b>
Organist & Senior Choir Director	<b>Kathy Rapp</b>
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	<b>Karen Kent</b>
Usher	<b>Helen Brunston</b>
Verger	<b>Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica</b>
Producers	<b>Sue Yehling, Michele Disbro</b>
Communion Prep	<b>Diane Brobeck, David Williams</b>
Hospitality	<b>Sara Auman and Julianne Johnson</b>

*The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Social Services CHOICES.*

## Upcoming Events at Redeemer January 26- February 2, 2026

<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	5:00 p.m. TOPS
<b>Tuesday</b>	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
<b>Wednesday</b>	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	6:30 p.m. Sister Act
<b>Thursday</b>	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday</b>	8:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m. Worship IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM
	11:15 a.m. Education Team
	11:15 a.m. IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	4:30 p.m. ZOOM Executive Team
	5:00 p.m. TOPS
	5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Troup 2462

**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