



# Reflections

VOLUME 30

April 6, 2026

ISSUE 14

## Krista Skipper Reports on Call Committee Progress

The Call Committee has been hard at work to complete the “Ministry Site Profile” (MSP). “The document will be filled out on the ELCA online database, which honestly and faithfully describes the congregation, its demographics, its history, its characteristics, and its ministry to potential pastoral candidates. It is the first document shared in the call process, and is given to potential pastors by the Bishop’s office to see if the pastor is open to a conversation with a call committee.”

**We are on track to have the MSP completed and approved by the Congregational Council by mid-April.** The Southern Ohio Synod will then activate it in the ELCA system so that it can be viewed by others.

Next will be the Call Committee Phase. “This phase is entirely confidential. There is no time when the name or personal information of a candidate may be revealed by the Call Committee to anyone (unless checking references with the candidate’s permission), except when transmitting the name of the primary candidate to the Council President.”

The input from Redeemer members was very valuable on a couple key sections. One was developing the **Mutual Expectations** for the first year of service, both for the desired focus of the new pastor and the support to be expected from Redeemer. Relationships and connections were hugely important for both. The **Ministry Site Characteristics** has also been completed. Many descriptors were almost unanimous, for example:

- We have clearly defined goals and plans for our future.
- We welcome ideas that are provoking and challenging.
- Our facilities are often used by community groups.
- We have learned how to use conflict constructively.

Thank you for completing the **online surveys**. We had over 50 turned in and provided us with the following top responses for the Leadership Needs section:

- **Top Five Ministry Tasks**
  - Preaching/Worship
  - Pastoral Care and Visitation
  - Building a Sense of Community
  - Interpret Theology
  - Teaching
- **The five essential, top priority gifts for this position**
  - Be an effective communicator
  - Bring joy and good humor to relationships
  - Be able to share leadership and work in a team
  - Help people understand and act upon issues of social justice
  - Appreciate cultural diversity in language and customs
- **The five that are very helpful in this position**
  - Provide care and nurture
  - Build a sense of community among the people with whom he/she works
  - Be an effective teacher
  - Deal effectively with conflict
  - Be creative and innovative about his or her tasks

## RLC Leaders

### OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus  
Interim Pastor – Pastor Elizabeth Hoster  
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, Chair  
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

### **Check It Out: Narthex Art Returns for Easter with Theme of Joy!**

The Narthex art exhibit has returned for Easter with the theme of *Joy!* Many wonderful pieces are on loan from members depicting their vision of “joy.” There are even a couple of pieces from Redeemer’s own collection as well as an original creation by Redeemer’s youth led by **Krista Skipper**.

### **Adult Ed Topics Set for April 12 – May 3**

The Adult Education Forum on **Sunday, April 12** will hear from Redeemer members **Eileen Day** and **Wendy Stoica** about their recent trip to India. The forum begins in Room 2 following the worship service, about 11:15 a.m.

Then on **Sunday, April 19** Redeemer member and member of the Call Committee **Al Rider** begins a three-week series on “Migration and Faith.” Read more in the upcoming April 13 issue of *Reflections* about what Al plans to cover over those weeks but in the meantime, he asks that folks “think a bit about your own biological ancestors and your parents in the faith: Where did they come from? When? Why? What were they looking for? What did they actually find when they got there? And how did they shape us into who we are? Be ready to tell some of their story, and let’s learn together more about who we are and where we are going.”

### **Tuesday Bible Study Continues April 7**

Redeemer’s Tuesday Bible Study continues on **Tuesday, April 7**, both in-person and online beginning at 1 p.m. Join **Pastor Elizabeth** as she leads the group’s discussion.

Treats are solicited if anyone is so inclined.

For Zoom link, see separate “Zoom Links” story this issue.

### **Save the Date: BREAD Nehemiah Action Event Set for May 12**

From the BREAD organization: “This is our battle cry: your voice and your presence are needed. When you, your family, your friends, and your congregation show up, you help demonstrate that we believe in justice and that we are serious about securing solutions. Together, we send a clear message to our community leaders that we will continue to research, organize, and push until these issues are addressed.”

This year, BREAD is fighting for progress on the following three campaigns:

- Rental Registry – ensuring safe, accountable, and dignified rental housing.
- Environmental Justice – protecting the health of neighborhoods and the tree canopy.
- Livable Wage – making sure pathways are provided to livable wage careers.

Join BREAD as they gather at the Celeste Center at the fairgrounds on **Tuesday, May 12** at 6:45 p.m. Redeemer members are reminded to wear their Redeemer t-shirt.

Feel free to bring friends and carpool. Parking is covered by BREAD.

See **Emily Ott, Kathy Zwanziger, Kristi Hildebrand, and Michele Disbro** for any questions.

### **Sister Act April Meeting Pursues Passion of Reading**

The **Wednesday, April 15** meeting of Sister Act will pursue the “Passion of Reading” with **Laura Pleasants** who will talk about her book podcast Book Bumble.

The group will meet here at church at 6:30 p.m.

### **From the Council**

*The following is an update of Redeemer’s Congregation Council has been considering over the first two months of 2026 apart from actions calling in interim pastor and assisting the Call Committee as needed:*

- Council approved securing a new copier for the church office.
- Redeemer will cover the subscription cost for any member who wishes to receive a copy of *Living Lutheran* in the mail as well as purchase an additional 20 copies to be available for pick up in the Narthex.

## Noisy Offering to Go to LSS Choices

The Noisy Offering from now through Easter 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 stay with a spouse because it's the holidays. But once the beginning of the year 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 in spousal abuse is the increase of human trafficking. Because of these two facts, we will be collecting noisy offering for LSS Choices."

## Slots Open to Sponsor Flowers for Worship

There are several slots open to sponsor the Sunday flowers moving through Spring. This is an opportunity to remember a loved one, honor someone, acknowledge a special event. Dates open are **Sunday, April 26, May 3** and **May 17**.

Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library. Flowers are \$20 and payment envelope can also be found on the bulletin board. Just fill out the front and put the envelope with check into the offering plate.

## 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.

Dates that are open include **Sundays, April 26, May 10** and **May 31**.

## 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: 883 2879 6239; Passcode: 890127.

**Tuesday Bible Study**: Zoom can [HERE](#). Meeting ID: 880 0802 1077; Passcode: 338045

**Sister Act** Zoom can be found [HERE](#). Meeting ID: 876 9207 1033; Passcode: 812325

## Important Emails

[Pastor@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Pastor@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Elizabeth**.

[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

**Karen Rider** asks for prayers for healing for three friends facing a variety of health challenges: **Nancy McGinnis, Karen McCune** and **Eileene Welker**.

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*Congratulations* go out to **Jon Disbro** and his garden crew on the receipt of over \$1,000 from the city of Columbus to support the produce garden in Redeemer’s courtyard!!

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The special orange recycling bags for the hard-to-recycle plastics are available on a table in the Narthex. Folks are encouraged to take one. To learn what can be recycled through those bags, check out the sheet next to the box of bags. It includes items like candy wrappers, foam egg cartons, foam to-go boxes, and many other items.

## Latest Issue of *Christ in Our Home* Available

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

### April Birthdays

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

## Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**April 7** “Woman, dancing from the garden, find the others and proclaim Christ is risen as he promised; tell the world he knew your name” (ACS 935)! Ask the Spirit to help us invite others to have faith in God’s love and mercy and to spread the good news of the risen Christ through word of mouth, relationships, and acts of love and service.

**8 National Arab American Heritage Month** Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ’s church in the world. Ask God to bless and further the ministries of Arab and Middle Eastern congregations, the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage, ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries, and Sumud.

**9** “Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime” (attributed to **Martin Luther**). Signs of God’s love and forgiveness are everywhere! Pray for the Spirit to heighten our awareness of God’s presence, activity and promises manifested in creation, in our neighbors and siblings in Christ, and through Scripture, the sacraments and worship.

**10** Give thanks and pray for those who serve in vocations of hospice care, attending to medical, physical, spiritual and emotional needs of patients with terminal illnesses and offering support for their families and care providers.

**11** Ask the Spirit to inspire and guide the work of the churchwide Innovation Lab team, which equips leaders and congregations to listen deeply to their communities, try new approaches to ministry, embrace diversity and build relationships that reflect Christ’s inclusive welcome.

**12** After his resurrection, **Jesus** appeared to the disciples who were hiding behind locked doors with fear and uncertainty. Instead of reprimanding them, a patient and reassuring Jesus gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask for forgiveness when fear and doubt creep into your thoughts and faith. Pray for the Spirit’s reassurance that we are indeed God’s beloved children who need to embolden one another to embrace and share the good news of the risen Christ.

**13** Remember in prayer those traveling to South Africa and Zimbabwe to witness the life-changing work of our Lutheran companions. Hold them in prayer as they learn how ELCA global personnel and gifts to ELCA World Hunger support community development, women’s empowerment, youth leadership, responses to HIV and AIDS, climate resilience and peace-building.

## The Wider Church

### Central Ohio Conference ‘Spring Gathering’ Set for April 26

All women of the ELCA in the Central Ohio area are invited to the “Spring Gathering of Lutheran Women” on **Sunday, April 26** at Grace Lutheran Church (8950 Refugee Rd., Pickerington). Guest speaker is **Pastor Staci Stought**, pastoral care minister at Messiah Lutheran Church in Reynoldsburg. There will be singing, refreshments and updates from Central Ohio Conference board.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. with the program beginning at 2 p.m.

### First English ‘Impacting Community’ Discussion Series Continues April 26

The First English Lutheran Church Discussion Series continues on **Sunday, April 26** when “Environmental Justice” will be discussed. It begins at 4:30 p.m. at the church at 1015 E. Main St. in Columbus.

### HopeWood Pines, HopeWood Shores Set ‘Servant Weekends’

Both HopeWood Pines and HopeWood Shores have set “Servant Weekends” to tackle projects at the two camp including landscaping, painting, cleaning up winter damage, raking trails, special building projects and more to help beautify the grounds and facilities.

Servant Weekend for HopeWood Pines is **Friday-Sunday, April 24-26** and for HopeWood Shores they are **Fridays-Sundays, May 1-3, May 8-10** and **May 15-17**.

To register for HopeWood Pines go [HERE](#) and to register for HopeWood Shores go [HERE](#).

## **Brad Binau: Reflections on 'A Just War' from McAfee Brown**

“Of the three basic positions on war that emerged in Christian history, the earliest was an unequivocal *pacifism*. The early Christians, who took very seriously the injunction that they were not to take up the sword, refused to serve in Roman armies for several centuries. Early literature gives ample evidence of the pacifist position of the Christian Church.

“Later on, when the peace and stability of the Roman Empire were threatened by the invasion of barbarians from the north, Christians began to argue that there might be times when they could be justified in waging war, if certain specified criteria were met. This position came to be called the doctrine of *the just war*. [See below.]

“A third position that emerged still later was the theory of *the holy war* or *crusade*, which involved an acceptance of whatever kind of force or violence was necessary to secure a given end, and the unquestioning participation of the Christian on the assumption that God’s will was being served.”

### **Criteria for A Just War**

1. Declared by a legitimate authority, recognized head of state.
2. Carried out with right intention – to promote peace. Vengeance or lust for domination are not “right intention.”
3. Last resort. All possibilities of resolving the conflict through negotiation, etc., must have been exhausted.
4. Principle of proportionality. The means and ends of the warfare must be proportionate: “The good to be accomplished must outweigh the evil that will be exercised in bringing about the good.”
5. Reasonable chance of success. It is immoral to incur destruction if there is no chance of success.
6. All possible moderation. As outlined in Hague and Geneva Conventions: no massacres, looting, torture, etc. The ensuing peace should embody charity and justice rather than vengeance.

(Robert McAfee Brown, *Religion and Violence* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1987, p. 19-20.)

## **Getting Ready for Worship**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**April 12, 2025 – 10 a.m.**

**Lessons**

**Readings** Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16: 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### **Intercessions & Thanksgiving**

+ For the people of Trinity Lutheran Church in Marysville.

+ For Redeemer community member Eileene Welker.

**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, 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, Drusanne Shaulis, Wilfrantz Raymond’s sister Cheslie Raymond, Don Luck, Linda Williams’ son Greg Williams and sister-in-law Georgeann Neuzil, Nate and Alyssa Bird, Kathy and Tom Mimlitch’s daughter Holly Ragland.

### Worship Leaders

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Elizabeth Hoster, Pastor
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Karen Rider
<b>Cantor</b>	Scott Steiner
<b>Organist &amp; Senior Choir Director</b>	Kathy Rapp
<b>Pianist &amp; Chimes Choir Director</b>	Karen Kent
<b>Usher</b>	Kathleen Zwanziger
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Kay Ernsthause, Misato In
<b>Producers</b>	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
<b>Hospitality</b>	Melissa Hackim

*Easter Flowers are given by members and friends of Redeemer  
The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Social Services CHOICES.*

### Upcoming Events at Redeemer

**April 6 – April 13, 2026**

<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 Scout Troop #2462
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	5:15 p.m.	ZOOM Outreach Team
<b>Wednesday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	5:30 p.m.	Call Committee
<b>Thursday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Chime Choir
<b>Sunday</b>	8:45 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
	11:15 a.m.	Sunday School for ALL Ages
<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki
	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