



Reflections

VOLUME 30

April 13, 2026

ISSUE 15

Al Rider Previews Adult Forum on 'Migration/Faith'

Redeemer member **Pastor Al Rider** will be leading the next three sessions of the Adult Forum as the group explores the topic of "Migration and Faith."

He writes, "Genealogy is one of my passions: ... I've researched my own family tree back to the Middle Ages; and now I coach people in how to do their own genealogy research and writing. I've learned that my family and Karen's were all migrants, and Karen and I lived abroad ourselves as migrants. As a preacher, I've also noticed that people in Bible days were crossing international and cultural borders a lot.

"Might there be something to learn there?"

"I've been amazed to discover how much of the Bible is built around migration. ... Nearly all of it, cover to cover. **Abraham** and **Sarah**, the Patriarchs, Israel in Egypt, the Exodus, the Judges in the Holy Land, Ruth, Babylon, the Prophets, **Jesus'** family in Egypt, Pentecost ... Basically, the whole story.

"And I've also been amazed to see what happens to people as they migrate and cross cultures. They learn, they grow, their faith is stretched. They become conscious of cultural riches in others who are different from them. They become more faith-full and aware of the sacred in everything they do.

"All this I have learned in a new way in just the past few weeks. And now starting on **Sunday, April 19** through **Sunday May 3**, we are going to explore all that together in Sunday Adult Class, after worship from about 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please join us.

"It will include:

- "Some reflection on your own ancestors who were migrants (both those who chose to move, and those who were forced to move.
- "Some Bible overview.
- "A look at what we are learning these days as a migrant-facing congregation.
- "Lots of conversation and reflection, as usual.

"Between now and April 19, 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."

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 Mimlitch
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



The Redeemer Community

Noisy Offering to Go to Columbus Diaper Bank

Contributions through Redeemer's Noisy Offering will now be going to the Columbus Diaper Bank. **Kay Ernsthansen** reports, "The Columbus Diaper Bank does not distribute diapers directly to individuals. Diapers are distributed through a network of service organizations. By working with organizations that are established in the community it allows the Columbus Diaper Bank to contribute a resource to our partners, increasing their services to the community. It also allows us to be efficient and to utilize the organization's expertise to distribute to families and babies in need."

Partners include Columbus Public Health, Celebrate One, Little Bottoms Free Store, Homeless Families Foundation, Huckleberry House, Lower Lights Christian Health Center, Lutheran Social Services Choices for Victims of Domestic Violence, Food Pantries: Broad Street Food Pantry, NNEMAP Food Pantry, Vineyard Columbus Northside Food Pantry, Worthington Resource Pantry, Bishop Griffin Center, GRIN Food Pantry, Baptist For Life of Central Ohio and Gladden Food Pantry,

The diaper bank highlights the following "diaper realities":

- A baby needs eight-10 diapers a day. That's about 3,650 diapers a year.
- Diapers cost between \$100-\$150 a month.
- Most laundromats and day care centers do not except cloth diapers.

Kay notes that several of the organizations listed Redeemer has supported either thru volunteer hours or other designated "Noisy Offerings."

"This is just another organization we can support –that turns around and helps the community."

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. or via Zoom at the link listed in this issue of *Reflections* under the article "Zoom Links."

Tuesday Bible Study Continues April 14

Redeemer's Tuesday Bible Study continues on **Tuesday, April 14**, 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.

From the Call Committee

Krista Skipper, chair of the Call Committee, reported Sunday that the group has finished work on the Ministry Site Profile, which now goes to the Congregation Council for review and sign-off. It then gets sent into the synod, which will distribute it.

From the Council

The following is an update on items 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.

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.

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**.

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 include **Sundays, April 26** and **May 3**.

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

Folks are reminded that if they ordered Easter flowers, they can now take them home.

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.

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 – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Elizabeth**.

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 **Andy Rapp**, son of Redeemer’s organist and choir director **Kathy Rapp**, who is hospitalized for tests. Prayers for healing are also asked for **David Williams** who had shoulder surgery. **Karen Rider** also asks for prayers for healing for three friends facing a variety of health challenges: **Nancy McGinnis**, **Karen McCune** and **Eileene Welker**.

+ + +

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.

April Birthdays

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 14 Pray for leaders gathered to explore the theme “The Feast of Creation: Liturgy as Creation Groans” during the annual Institute of Liturgical Studies at Valparaiso University. Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire their deliberation on the intersection of liturgy, theology and climate justice.

15 Pray for the Spirit to equip and stir us to live out our faith and baptism as followers of Christ who implement justice, act with kindness and walk humbly with God.

16 Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ who live in rural areas of our country. Pray that their communities and congregations will thrive and create new ways to attend to their unique contexts, strengthen faith, care for neighbors in need and stir hope.

17 “Although you have not seen [Jesus Christ], you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls” (1 Peter 1:8-9). Give praise to God for stirring our faith and joy with the wonder-filled good

news and mystery of our salvation through Jesus Christ. Give thanks that the gift of salvation is not dependent on our having complete understanding.

18 Ask God to instill in us confidence that peacemaking is not a sign of weakness but rather a faith-driven endeavor that entails strength, mutual concern, perseverance and wisdom for the sake of all people.

19 How does God speak to you? In a hushed or loud voice, prayerful moments, in Scripture or through the wisdom, words and actions of others around you? Ask the Spirit to help you sense and understand God's presence and voices that can take you by surprise.

20 Give thanks to God for rostered ministers who nurture our faith, reassure us of God's love and forgiveness, accompany us in times of grief and joy, help us see the intersection of faith and everyday life, and engage us in exploring the meaning and relevance of Scripture.

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](#).

A Poem from Pastor Steve Bond Friday Evening, Rolf Park

The killdeer flew overhead again tonight
as I waited at the soccer fields
watching for my son.

She called her name – I heard it – as she went
a darting silhouette against stone skies
then vanished from sight.

Her eggs are precariously placed
laid in a spot in the gravel
on the parking lot's edge.

They are vulnerable there, and she knows it
but is willing to pay the cost with
her life, if need be.

When a threat comes, she will lure it away
offering her own body as bait
to keep her brood safe.

It's the trade any parent would make:
their lives for their children's to be pulled
up from the rubble.

And this evening as I take mine home
I cannot shake the knowledge of those
left laid in the ground

In places where drones scream and warplanes roar past
casting their own distinctive shadows
leaving smoke behind.

The killdeer and I, both of us are trying
to scratch out a place for our young to breathe.
But it is a gamble.

We are desperate in this dangerous world
we mothers and fathers of all kinds
that our children live.

The Community Beyond

Early Voting for May 5 Primary Underway as Changes Take Effect

Early voting is now underway for the upcoming May 5 primary. Voters will be asked to weigh in on 550 local issues around the state, as well as primaries in statewide and local races.

The Tuesday, May 5, primary election is also the first election where all absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day or else they will not be counted. Previously, boards could count ballots that were received up to four days after Election Day as long as they were postmarked before, but that was changed as part of SB293 (Gavarone-Brenner), which was signed by the governor and took effect last month.

Absentee ballot applications must be received by boards of elections by 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28.

The early, in-person voting schedule is as follows:

- Monday, April 13 - Friday, April 17; Monday, April 20 - Friday, April 24: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday, April 27; Wednesday, April 29 – Friday, May 1: 7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 28: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 2: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sunday, May 3: 1-5 p.m.

More information can be found at voteohio.gov.

Singing Buckeyes Concert Set for May 30

Scott Steiner invites Redeemer members and friends to the May 30 concert of the “Singing Buckeyes” – a barbershop quartet he sings with. The free concert, “What a Day for a Daydream,” will be held at Epiphany Lutheran Church (268 Hill Rd. N., Pickerington) and begins at 5 p.m. Find more information [HERE](#).

Getting Ready for Worship

Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Prayer of the Day

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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 Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community member Jil Williams.

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 and mother Margaret, 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 Alyssha Bird, Kathy and Tom Mimplitch's daughter Holly Ragland.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Elizabeth Hoster, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Mary Benis
Cantor	Al Rider
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ashley Bird
Communion Prep	Kay Ernsthause, Misato In
Producers	Judith Bird, Sue Yehling
Hospitality	Kay Ernsthause

*Flowers are given by Ruth Murray and Donna Voelkel in memory of Ellen on her birthday
The Noisy Offering will go to Columbus Diaper Bank.*

Upcoming Events at Redeemer

April 13 – April 20, 2026

Monday	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	5:00 p.m. TOPS
Tuesday	11:00 a.m. Member Care Team
	1:00 p.m. Bible Study
	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	6:30 p.m. A Brewing Faith – Budd Dairy
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Coffee and Conversation here at Redeemer
	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	6:30 p.m. Sister Act – Pursuing Reading
Thursday	12:30 p.m. RLC at LSS Food Pantry
	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
Friday	5:30 p.m. Special meeting of Congregation Council
Sunday	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
Monday	1:00 p.m. Bexley/Berwick Dementia Support Group
	3:00 p.m. Suzuki
	5:00 p.m. TOPS
	5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #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