



Reflections

VOLUME 30

May 25, 2026

ISSUE 21

From Pastor Elizabeth: Redeemer's 'Big Summer Beach Read' Suggestions Are Here!!

Summer vacation time is almost here! Whether it's hot and sunny or cold and rainy, it's always the right weather for a good read. We had a great suggestion session Sunday, May 17 during the Adult Forum with some delightful surprises and suggestions. And yes, we get that a few authors listed below have said and done some very unhelpful things. *Simul justus et peccator*. Here in no particular order are some suggestions from your pewmates:

The Pioneers, David McCullough. Freedom of religion, free universal education, and the prohibition of slavery: These were the ideals that shaped the settlement of Northwest Territory by those who fought in the Revolutionary War. There's a lot about Ohio here!

Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting, Claire Pooley. A group of strangers on a train start talking after a man chokes on a grape. Iona Iverson's rules for commuting revolve around the unspoken etiquette of train travel, emphasizing observation, discretion, and the potential for meaningful human connection.

The Homewreckers, Mary Kay Andrews. This story follows a young widow whose stalled home renovation career gets a jolt when she's cast on a beach house reality show alongside a designer who tests her patience.

Remarkably Bright Creatures, Shelby Van Pelt. Tova is a widowed aquarium cleaner, whose unlikely friendship with Marcellus, a witty giant Pacific octopus, and a drifting young man sparks a journey of mystery, healing, and renewed wonder. *While you are at it, see the movie.*

Shakespeare, The Man who Pays the Rent, Judi Densch. Densch revisits every Shakespearean role she's played, weaving in backstage mishaps, rehearsal-room secrets, and sharp insights on delivering verse – all delivered with warmth, mischief, and a deep affection for the Bard.

The Vanishing Half, Brit Bennett. Inseparable twin sisters flee their insular Louisiana hometown. One returns years later with her dark-skinned daughter, the other builds a secret life posing as White. Decades on, their daughters' paths cross, pulling old lies into the open.

The Murderbot Diaries, beginning with All Systems Red, Martha Wells. In an advanced largely hyper-capitalist space-faring society, travel between star systems is routine due to now-stable wormhole technology and, for some, the safety provided by one rogue "SecBot" or security bot who would rather be watching his favorite series.

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



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The Redeemer Community



Redeemer Confirms Kathryn Ott, Miles Smith

Kathryn Ott and Miles Smith were confirmed Sunday in a festive service that celebrated their accomplishments and their movement into full membership here at Redeemer. Both shared the significance of the symbols on their stoles as they renewed the baptism promises made on their behalf as infants.



Summer Book Group to Read, Discuss 'Separation of Church/Hate'

Redeemer's summer reading will be *The Separation of Church and Hate: A Sane Person's Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists and Flock-Fleecing Frauds* by John Fugelsang. Pastor Elizabeth writes, "The book provides practical guidance for engaging in conversations with family, friends, or coworkers who use religion to justify harmful beliefs. Fugelsang combines humor, biblical knowledge, and political insight to reveal inconsistencies in fundamentalist arguments and to encourage debates grounded in compassion and reason."

This was one of the books that was highlighted during the recent Adult Forum "Beach Reads" segment. (See separate story, this issue.)

Anyone wishing to discuss the book is welcome to gather here at the church at 7 p.m. on **Wednesdays, June 24-July 22.**

More details to follow!

Save the Date: Columbus Pride Parade Saturday, June 20

This year's Columbus Pride parade will take place on **Saturday, June 20.** The ELCA marchers will again be meeting ahead of the march at Trinity Lutheran Church downtown. Registration details will be shared in early June, but questions should be directed to **Mary Benis**. "This is such a meaningful way to show our support for the LGBTQIA+ community – please plan to take part!"

From Laura Warren: Update on RLC Special Funds

I am the Treasurer of the Special Funds Team (SFT) at RLC. The SFT provides the congregation with the following update on RLC Special Funds as of the close of 2025. We provide this update annually.

RLC has four funds that the SFT is chartered to monitor. The monies in the first three funds are placed with the Columbus Foundation and invested with their advice and consultation under Redeemer's direction. In no particular fund order, here is a brief overview, the end of 2025 status, and any notes on 2025 changes to the funds.

Mary Kohler Ministry Fund

Highlights

- An unrestricted bequest from Mary Kohler, a teacher and RLC member, and a gift from an anonymous donor established the fund.
- Principal and earnings may be distributed.
- Applications for educational purposes and for new or existing RLC neighborhood ministries, receive priority, honoring the donor's intent.
- Members may recommend uses of this fund to the SFT at any time.

Notes: A one-time contribution of \$7,000 was received in Q3. Disbursements for 2025 were \$300 for youth attending HopeWood Pines and \$5,000 to the Immigration Fund.

RLC Church Building and Equipment Fund

Highlights

- To fund the capital expenditure needs that exceed the congregation's annual budget.

Notes: Contributions were from a \$6,052.42 memorial gift specified to this fund and movement of \$22,000 from the RLC checking account to this fund as directed by Congregational Council. There were no disbursements in 2025.

Mission Endowment Fund

Highlights

- To provide for mission work beyond the operating budget of RLC.
- A donor restricted fund, with principal invested in perpetuity and earnings reinvested, with a percentage of earnings distributed annually, or as desirable, to accomplish its purpose, further defined to:
 - o Establish and support ministries of outreach within or on behalf of the congregation.
 - o Further partnerships in mission through the synodical, regional and national expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
 - o To support capital improvements, debt retirement or a building program of RLC when circumstances warrant.

Those wishing to include RLC in their estate planning as an endowment, please specify the Mission Endowment Fund

Notes: No contributions were made in 2025. Disbursements totaling \$6,454.55 were distributed to the five selected recipients that were nominated by RLC members, reviewed by the Special Funds Team, approved by Council (one dissenting vote), and recently distributed from the Columbus Foundation.

Memorial Gifts Fund

Memorial gifts are recorded and attributed to the person being memorialized.

- After six months, the total amount contributed in memory is reported to that family.
- Following consultation with the family, the SFT recommends to the Congregation Council a use for the funds.
- The recording of that Memorial is concluded upon expenditure of those funds.
- Because of the purpose of this fund, the monies shall remain liquid and not be considered for long-term investment.

I hope this information is of value. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any member of the SFT – **Wendy Stoica, Hitoshi Phillips, Don Crosely, Terry Warren, Laura Warren or John Kennedy.**

From Outreach Team: Signboard Survey Update

A few months ago, 22 of us completed a survey about the Redeemer signboard. The results were pretty emphatic:

- 100 percent said our ability to post general messages to the community was very or somewhat important.
- 100 percent said it was very or somewhat important that those messages be timely.
- 72 percent said it was very or somewhat important to maintain the current look of the signboard.

Most of the comments supported going digital but certainly not all.

To understand why this topic continues to resurface periodically, it's important to know the limitations of the current signboard. First of all, there are just three lines of space available for the 4" letters, so the message needs to be brief. In addition, we're limited by the available letters (some of which have already been created or modified with black tape). But even more significant, we're dependent on the availability of a volunteer to manually change out the letters when a new message needs to go up. And weather conditions can make that task unpleasant and/or challenging. Through the years, the number of willing sign changers has been small, with just one able volunteer and one potential backup responding positively to the recent survey.

With the information gathered from the survey, the Outreach Team set about exploring digital possibilities, to see what was available and for what price. Very quickly we learned that a digital upgrade to our existing sign would be both expensive and complicated. We were hearing rough estimates like \$50,000-\$60,000 and soon learned that we'd also need a variance since the Redeemer area is zoned residential.

The exploration process itself has also been complicated. Numerous contacts have ended up as dead ends (i.e., no follow through from the companies), even though several company representatives did come out to take measurements. Two weeks ago we finally received one solid estimate of \$42,375, but we're still waiting to see a sample of the proposed resolution.

We've also learned more about the needed variance. The cost would be \$2,500, and approval is not guaranteed. The request goes first to the Mideast Area Commission, and they then send their recommendation to the zoning commission. We think numerous factors would support our request: the current sign is already lighted; we would be using only an equivalent space for changeable messages; and the community has expressed repeated appreciation for our messages over the years.

That's what the Outreach Team knows at this point. We'll be continuing to explore the options and confirming the details, but it's very possible we'll be proposing an electronic upgrade in the not-too-distant future, which would

likely entail a multi-year effort to secure the financing. In the meantime we remain completely open to questions, comments, and suggestions -- prayers, too! All input is welcome and encouraged.

Sister Act Sets Summer Retreat for June 6

Sister Act will be holding its annual Summer Retreat on **Saturday, June 6** at 11 a.m. Join us at **Sue Yehling's** house for a relaxing day of fellowship. We will enjoy devotions, discussions, creativity stations, and conversation. Please bring some food to share for the potluck lunch as well as your own beverage. It is also helpful to bring your own lawn chair although there will be extra chairs available.

Some parking is available in Sue's large driveway as well as in the parking lot of The City Church of Reynoldsburg across the street.

Contact **Michele Disbro** if you have any questions. Hope you can join us!

Registration Open Summer Basketball Camp

Plans are now getting underway for Redeemer to again sponsor the summer Basketball Skill Building Camp. It will run – rain or shine – from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. **Mondays-Thursdays, June 15 - July 22**. Following the death of founding coach **Larry Jones, Thomas Mitchell** becomes primary coach, assisted by **Andre Mitchell**, assistant coach, and **Stan Harris**, camp director.

The camp is for both girls and boys, ages 8 to 14. The information meeting is set for **Thursday, June 11** at 6 p.m. here at the church.

One or two additional adult volunteers, male or female, are needed from Redeemer the camp. (Yes, both girls and boys participate in this program!) You may volunteer for all or for part of the sessions. Please see Mike Benis or Larry Trover if you may be interested.

CROP Walk Now Taking Donations

Although this year's CROP Walk for the alleviation of local and world hunger is not officially until **Sunday, Oct. 4**, the website is now up and accepting donations, coordinator **Connie Criswell** says. "When you donate to the CROP Walk, neighbors near and far will have the life-sustaining support they need – whether providing food for families in Honduras or assistance to hurricane victims in Florida.

"With less government assistance to hunger programs, our donations are needed more than ever."

The Redeemer Team webpage is [HERE](#).

From Kristi Hildebrand: Nehemiah Action Highlights

A total of 44 attended for the Redeemer network. *Thank you to everyone who came!*

Nehemiah reminder: When a city is in rubble, people rebuild it shoulder to shoulder. You showed up. You are the rebuilders.

Interfaith call to action:

- Pray with your hands.
- Pray with your feet.
- Pray with your eyes open.



Issue 5: A Major Win for Crisis Response (Passed May 5!) On May 5, Columbus voters approved Issue 5, a landmark step toward a safer, more compassionate crisis-response system.

Issue 5 strengthens civilian oversight of how crisis calls are handled — ensuring transparency, accountability, and community voice. The goal: when someone is in a behavioral-health crisis, they receive care, not escalation.



Major Win: Rental Registry was passed by Columbus City Council. Because of BREAD's stories, research, and people power:

- Every landlord must register every rental unit.
- Real owner + local emergency contact must be named.
- Proactive inspections every three years.
- Worst offenders placed under conditional registration.
- Tenants and agencies now know who is responsible and who to hold accountable.

"A city leader put it plainly: If you want to do business in Columbus, you must provide safe, healthy housing."



New Campaign: Livable Wage Pathways for Young Adults. The problem:

- A single adult needs \$18–\$20/hour to live in Franklin County.
- A single parent needs \$33–\$36/hour.
- 44 percent of working households don't earn a livable wage.
- Columbus ranks near the bottom for economic mobility.

The solution: Career Academies in Columbus City Schools — expanding from four to 10 high schools by 2029.

- Freshman seminar introduces real career pathways.
- Students gain soft skills, financial literacy, and workplace readiness.
- Internships + industry-aligned training.
- Early exposure = real access to livable-wage careers.
- Career Academies have a 95.9 percent graduation rate vs 78.3 percent graduation rate in Columbus City Schools overall.



The Thread Through It All

- Justice is sacred work.
- Progress comes from persistence.
- And together, we are building a Columbus where everyone can thrive.

Tuesday Bible Study Continues

Redeemer's Tuesday Bible Study continues on **Tuesdays**, 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.

Check It Out: Narthex Art Reflects Theme of Joy!

The Narthex art exhibit which is up through the Easter season reflects 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**.

Noisy Offering to Go to Columbus Diaper Bank

Contributions through Redeemer's Noisy Offering will now be going to the Columbus Diaper Bank. **Kay Ernsthausen** 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."

Volunteers Sought for Variety of Opportunities Slots Open to Sponsor Flowers for Worship

There are two slots open to sponsor the Sunday flowers moving through Summer. This is an opportunity to remember a loved one, honor someone, acknowledge a special event. Dates open include **Sundays July 19** and **Aug. 9.**

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.

Volunteers Sought to Provide Refreshments after Worship over Summer

The list to provide refreshments following summer worship services is now up. Check now and get the date(s) of your choice! **No one has signed up for any dates in June.**

It doesn't need to be elaborate. Coffee, teas are in the cupboard and packaged cookies are under the counters. Reach out to **Jon Disbro** with any questions.

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

Volunteers to Read at Summer Worship Services Needed

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for dates over the summer. The new list is on the bulletin board next to the library. **Readers of all ages, including youth and children, are encouraged to participate.**

Readings are posted next to the sign-up, and also sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings.

Transportation Assistance Needed for Two Dates in June

All dates in July and August are open for folks to volunteer to provide transportation assistance for **WilFrantz Raymond** to get to his twice-weekly English classes. If this is something you can do, please sign up on the schedule on the bulletin board next to the Library. For details, see the announcement on the bulletin board or the May 4 issue of *Reflections*.

RLC Food Pantry Team Needs Volunteers for June

Slots are open to volunteer at both of Redeemer's June dates at the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Food Pantry. Those days are **Wednesday, June 3** and **Thursday, June 18.** Check with **Kathleen Zwanziger** for details.

From Pastor Elizabeth:

Redeemer's 'Big Summer Beach Read' Suggestions Are Here!! *Cont'd from p. 1*

The Casual Vacancy, J.K. Rowling. An adult mystery novel centers on a vacant council seat in an English political constituency and the fight among various locals who want the seat for themselves.

D-Day, Stephen Ambrose. Drawing on more than 1,400 interviews with American, British, Canadian, French, and German veterans, Ambrose reveals how the original plans for the invasion had to be abandoned, and how enlisted men and junior officers acted on their own initiative when they realized that nothing was as they were told it would be.

Lincoln at Gettysburg, Garry Wills. 1993 Pulitzer Prize winner. Lincoln's 272-word Gettysburg Address, which was delivered during the dedication of the new national cemetery at Gettysburg on Nov. 19, 1863, was so powerful that it reshaped the United States by altering Americans' view of both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Separation of Church and Hate: A Sane Person's Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists, and Flock-Fleecing Frauds, John Fugelsang. The book provides practical guidance for engaging in conversations with family, friends, or coworkers who use religion to justify harmful beliefs. Fugelsang combines humor, biblical knowledge, and political insight to reveal inconsistencies in fundamentalist arguments and to encourage debates grounded in compassion and reason. **Note: This will be Redeemer's summer read!** (See separate story, this issue for more details.)

The Heart's Invisible Furies, John Boyne. The story of Ireland from the 1940s to today through the eyes of one ordinary man who struggles to discover an identity, a home, a country and much more.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Douglas Adams. When reality gets absurd, it's time to revisit this classic and laugh. And always – *always!* – carry a towel.

Andy Hays Mystery Series, Andrew Walsh Huggins: Former disgraced OSU quarterback turned private detective and his band of colorful connections solve crimes and deal with deep social issues. Fast paced and fun, set right here in your fair city and written by a former Associated Press reporter.

The Book of Longings, Sue Monk Kidd. This reimagining of the New Testament follows a fictionalized Galilean scribe named Ana who becomes the wife of Jesus during the lost years, commenting on the silencing of women across history and literature.

Lamb, Christopher Moore. Think *Jesus, the Missing Years*. A riotously fictional account of the life of Jesus Christ, told from the perspective of his childhood friend Biff. The novel explores Jesus' miracles, travels, and relationships, and may lead to deeper conclusions than readers see coming.

Good Omens, Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett. Before the Amazon series, there was this book. And it's way better. Redeemer's quirky interim insists that this is her favorite beach read on the doctrine of free will.

The Things We Do Not Say, Elizabeth Stroud. Artie Dam is a high school history teacher with deep love and insight for his family, friends, and students. What goes unsaid is understood with compassion. A thoughtful tale of a beautiful life, and how to live fully in these times.

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.

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 or call **Diane Brobeck** at 614-266-6930.

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 and health are asked for **Cora Marquez** who recently had surgery to replace a shunt. Prayers continue to be asked for **Kelley Frank** as she faces an upcoming surgery next month in her cancer battle. Prayers are also asked for her partner **Trina Thornton** as they face this journey together.

Website Ideas Sought

Laura Warren asks Redeemer members to check out the church’s website at www.redeemerluth.com and provide her some feedback on how it might be strengthened and updated, whether there are changes to be made to appeal to all ages ... and technical skills. Send them to her at Laura.Warren214@gmail.com.

Bill Boys’ ‘Garage Sale’ Continues

Special items from **Bill and Ruth Boys’** home that the “Redeemer Posse” thought should not just be donated are available for perusal in the last Sunday School room down the hall on the left. Folks are welcome to take anything they might like.

There is no cost but donations to either Redeemer’s Good Samaritan Fund or the Immigration Fund would be welcome.

‘Orange Bag’ Recycling Available in Narthex

One of the trashcan receptacles in the Narthex has been designated for “orange bag” recycling – that is plastic items that can not be recycled through the normal processes. This includes plasticware, Solo cups, straws. Just deposit those items and Redeemer members will see that the bag is recycled properly.

May Birthdays

26-Brad Dana

26-Kathie Ehrich 26-Melissa Sutphin

June Birthdays

1-Rachel Day 3-Malcolm Wells
3-Rob Skoog 4-Scarlett Ann Brush
9-Elinn Neal 11-Cassandra Reinoehl
12-Clyde Boreman 13-Jim Riley
16-Jil Williams 18-Jessica Fisher
20-Katie Jacobs 23-Nathaniel Bird
24-Andy Day 26-Eric Reinoehl
27-Micheline Saint Felix 30-Julie Brush

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

May 26 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the Upstate New York Synod assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

27 “There are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-7) Diversity and interdependence are essential qualities of creation and humanity, to be valued and affirmed, not feared, disparaged or eliminated. Lift up prayers of recognition and thanksgiving for God’s wisdom!

28 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the North Carolina and Southeastern synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

29 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the Greater Milwaukee, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, Southeast Michigan, Southeastern Pennsylvania, Southwest California and Western North Dakota synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

30 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the New Jersey, Northwestern Minnesota and Northwestern Ohio synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

31 Remember in prayer students departing from their colleges or universities to seek employment, pursue their vocations, serve as volunteers, raise families, enlist in military service or otherwise face the future.

June 1 Give thanks to God for grandparents and older adults — their service and impact are significant. Pray that we support them with gratitude and encouragement as our siblings in Christ and as neighbors with wisdom, compassion and valuable gifts to contribute to the well-being and richness of congregations, communities and families.

The Community Beyond

Singing Buckeyes Concert Set for May 30

Scott Steiner invites Redeemer members and friends to the **Saturday, 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](#).

Reynoldsburg Community Band Sets June Concert Dates

You’ve heard them as soloists here at Redeemer, come hear **Linda Williams** and **April Smith** play their flutes as part of the Reynoldsburg Community Band! June concert dates are as follows:

- **Saturday, June 6** at 1 p.m. at the Central Ohio Community Band Festival, Alum Creek Park North Amphitheater, Westerville. Bands play hourly from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Sunday, June 7** at 6 p.m. at Groveport Zion Lutheran Church, 6014 Groveport Rd., Groveport.
- **Monday, June 15** at 7 p.m. at Reynoldsburg Senior Center, 1520 Davidson Dr., Reynoldsburg.
- **Sunday, June 28** at 6:30 p.m. Concert on the Lawn at the Livingston House, 1792 Graham Rd., Reynoldsburg.

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, May 26**.

New Recycling Convenience Center Opens in Worthington

A new Recycling Convenience Center has opened in Worthington at 380 Highland Avenue. The facility was funded in large part by a nearly \$30,000 grant from SWACO, and will be a year-round collection point for residents to drop off harder-to-recycle items that can't be placed in a curbside recycling cart. The new facility is located adjacent to the Worthington's Service and Engineering Building, and is open to the public for the responsible disposal and recycling of materials such as electronics, Styrofoam, car batteries, anti-freeze and motor oil, and food scraps.

“Franklin County residents are passionate about sustainability, and every item that we recycle keeps valuable materials out of the landfill, conserves resources, and helps ensure our landfill continues to serve our community for years to come,” said SWACO Assistant Executive Director Scott Perry.

Seventy-six percent of the waste that comes to the Franklin County Landfill could have been reused, recycled, or composted, including more than a million pounds of food waste each day. SWACO's Recycle Right, Save More Than Food, and Choose To Reuse programs all provide resources to help Franklin County residents make good, sustainable decisions about the items they're throwing away. Funding for this facility was provided as part of SWACO's “Greenprint for a Sustainable Future,” a strategic roadmap designed to increase the region's diversion rate and foster environmental stewardship through sustainable waste management, community engagement, and transformational leadership.

In addition, SWACO provided more than \$275,000 in grants this year to local communities, schools, faith-based organizations, and nonprofits to fund programs that divert waste away from the landfill. SWACO also operates its own Recycling Convenience Center at 2566 Jackson Pike.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the new Worthington Recycling Convenience Center, or visit RecycleRight.org to find closer drop-off location.

Getting Ready for Worship

The Holy Trinity

May 31, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

Prayer of the Day

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of All Saints Church: All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington.

+ For Redeemer community member Jenny Young.

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' sons Greg and David Williams and sister-in-law Georgeann Neuzil, Nate and Alyssa Bird, Kathy and Tom Mimplitch's daughter Holly Ragland, LaVerna Reinoehl.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Elizabeth Hoster, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Mary Benis
Cantor	Jennifer Young
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Zak Hinkle-Moore
Communion Prep	Miles Smith, Tom Mimlitch
Producers	Michele Disbro, Sue Yehling
Hospitality	Becky Trover

*Flowers are given by Kevin Bailey in memory of Vyron Bailey.
The Noisy Offering will go to Columbus Diaper Bank.*

Upcoming Events at Redeemer May 25-June 1, 2026

Monday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
Wednesday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
Saturday	12:00 a.m.	Hymn Pickin
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
Monday	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	4:30 p.m.	Executive Team
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts 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