



# Reflections

VOLUME 30

October 19, 2026

ISSUE 42

## ELCA Bishop Issues Statement on Death Penalty

*The following statement was issued by Presiding ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry.*

Dear church,

My heart was troubled by the recent proposal to livestream an execution in the United States. I am thankful that this plan has now been cancelled. The deliberate taking of a human life should never become a public spectacle. Such actions risk deepening the wounds of victims' families, loved ones and communities while further desensitizing us to violence. Our society is diminished when violence is conflated with entertainment. Because of our ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-21), this church opposes the death penalty and the recent plans for public display of the execution of **Nidal Hasan**.

As a church, we are not strangers to the mournful effects of violent crime. Our congregations minister to victims, to offenders and to communities that experience the ripple effects of its trauma. We recognize the need to protect people from violence, to call perpetrators to repentance, and to seek restoration for victims. United in our resistance to hate and in our joy over the good news of God's grace, we minister to an often-vengeful society with words and actions of hope, justice and healing.

The 1991 ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted the social statement [\*The Death Penalty\*](#), demonstrating this church's early opposition to capital punishment. That opposition is grounded in a long tradition of Christian theology and teaching. The social statement calls the church "to respond to violent crime in the restorative way taught by Jesus (Matthew 5:38-39) and shown by his actions (John 8:3-11)." It states that the death penalty's continued use perpetuates cycles of violence, undermines the possibility of repentance and restoration, and binds our society more deeply to brutality rather than reconciliation. It fosters suffering rather than ends it, as we saw in the attempted execution of **Christa Pike**.

The statement affirms that God ordains government to be a source and guarantor of safety and justice. Abundant research shows that the death penalty does not give us safety or justice. It does not provide healing to victims' families or safety for the broader community. It does not deter future crimes. It does not serve the ends God calls government to serve, nor does it reflect the kind of society we are called to be.

*Cont'd on p. 6*

## RLC Leaders

### OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor - Pastor Kayla Hopgood

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 Mimplitch

Property - Sue Yehling

Stewardship - Brad Phillips

### APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Kay Ernsthausen

### MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Misato In Sara Auman

Emlyn Ott Rich Pautsch

### SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Wendy Stoica, Chair Don Crosley

Hitoshi Phillips John Kennedy

Terry Warren Laura Warren [ex officio]

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

[www.redeemerluth.com](http://www.redeemerluth.com)



# The Redeemer Community

## Last Day for Photos for New Picture Directory: Oct. 25

**Kristi Hildebrand** writes, “Can you believe it has been three years since we created our last picture directory? It’s time for a refresh — and just in time to give the Hopgoods an updated copy!

“We would love to include a photo of everyone who regularly attends Redeemer, including both members and friends. We have welcomed many new members and friends since our last directory, and we’d love to add their photos. We’ll also be happy to take a new photo of anyone who would like one, especially our kids as they grow and change! If you were included in the 2023 directory and would prefer to reuse your previous photo, that’s perfectly fine, too.”

The photography area will be set up in the Library **for one more Sunday morning, both before and after worship on Sunday, Oct. 25.**

“We hope everyone will participate and help us create an updated directory that reflects our wonderful Redeemer family!”

## Redeemer Meets Goal for 2026 CROP Walk!!

According to **Connie Criswell**, Redeemer made its 2026 goal of \$17,368, and “as of this week, we are #4 in the country in funds raised!” Anyone who still wishes to contribute may do so [online](#), as the team web page will be active until the end of this year.”

In addition to Connie, Redeemer’s team included **Kelley Frank, Heidi Sherer, Wendy Stoica, Trina Thornton, and Kathy Zwanziger.**

## Uno! Spoons! Scrabble!

The Fellowship Team is holding a **Game Night** on **Friday, Oct. 23!** Folks are asked to bring their favorite game, a snack to share, and a desire to have fun. The game could be simple and short – or more complicated and take more time. The snack could be popcorn or pizza – and could serve as supper or not.

It will start at 6 p.m. here at Redeemer. Hope to see you there! (And ask **Kathleen Zwanziger** about her grandfather.)

## New Narthex Art Theme Announced

Inspired by the installation of Redeemer’s new pastor and the upcoming holiday season, the next Narthex art theme is “Excitement,” **Emily Kent** announced Sunday. “If you have a piece of art that fits this theme you’d like to lend for the display, please bring it to church by **Friday, Oct. 30.** We will be changing the art on the morning of **Saturday, Oct. 31.**”

## Sign Up for Advent Devotions Now Available

**Connie Criswell** announced Sunday that the sign-up sheet for this year’s Advent devotional booklet is now up on the bulletin board next to the Library. The deadline for entries is **Monday, Nov. 9.** They should be sent to **Mary Benis** at [mkbenis@yahoo.com](mailto:mkbenis@yahoo.com). Sign up early to get a choice of scriptures which is what the daily devotions are based on.

## Book Discussion Continues on Third Wednesdays

**Sheryl Owens** announced Sunday that the discussion of the summer’s book, *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 Fegelsang** on the third **Wednesdays** beginning at 2 p.m. in the Narthex. The next meeting is set for **Oct. 21.**

## Volunteers for Council Positions, Special Funds Needed

The Congregational Council is seeking nominations of voting members to fill the following positions for the 2027-28 term (two years), effective **Jan. 1, 2027.** Interested individuals may nominate themselves or another voting member, with their permission.

### Vice President

- During the first year, performs the duties of the President in the President’s absence or incapacity or at the president’s request.
- During the second year, assumes the position of President

- presides over meetings of the Congregation and Council
- ex-officio member of all congregational committees
- empowered to implement decisions of the congregation and the Council

#### **Secretary**

- Keeps accurate written record of all proceedings of the Council and meetings of the congregation.

#### **Education Ministry Representative**

- Ensures regular meetings of the Education Committee are held and written minutes provided to Council.
- Attends Council meetings, representing the Education Committee's perspective in Council matters.
- Ensures that opportunities for spiritual growth are offered to all ages, including Sunday School for youth, preparation for confirmation, encouraging and supporting all youth in their participation in the life of the congregation.

#### **Special Funds Team Representative**

This position is open for a term of three years, beginning Jan. 1, 2027. The Special Funds Team monitors and administers the Mission Endowment Fund, Memorial and Special Gift funds.

If interested or wanting more information, contact **Vice President Lynn Belhorn**, phone: 419-722-3921 or email at [lynn.belhorn@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.belhorn@gmail.com).

### **Collections for Thanksgiving Bags Underway**

Thanksgiving is coming! To make it a joyful holiday for many neighbors, Redeemer will again be assembling Thanksgiving bags that will be distributed by Lutheran Social Services. Please use reusable shopping bags or the thicker plastic bags like the Kroger Click List style bag. (Paper bags tend to rip while being stored and distributed.) DO NOT include any item in glass jars.

Bags are now being accepted until **Monday, Nov. 16**. Just like last year, the foods needed are the following:

- 13.75 oz box mashed potatoes (or one box)
- 2 cans of mixed fruit (suggestions: peaches, applesauce, pears)
- 2 cans of corn
- 3 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of pumpkin
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box (or pouch) of stuffing mix
- 1 gravy packet
- 1 box dessert mix



### **Youth to Pack Thanksgiving Bags**

**Katie Jacobs** announced that for the Youth Sunday School in November, the kids will put together some Thanksgiving bags. They are seeking food donations (see above) from folks who may not want to provide an entire bag of Thanksgiving provisions. "That way, if people come across a great sale on corn or pumpkin, etc., they can still help out." The class will be held on **Sunday, Nov. 8** so items should be brought by then.

### **Sister Act to Explore 'Taste of SoulCollage'**

Sister Act will gather **Saturday, Nov. 7** from 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Redeemer for a **Taste of SoulCollage**. According to **Kelley Frank**, "SoulCollage is an intuitive, creative collage journey to embrace self-discovery and deepen your relationships with your inner self, your community, and your higher power (however you name it). No artistic talent is necessary! The SoulCollage process utilizes 8x5 cards, a variety of images, and your intuition and imagination. Please bring a notebook or journal and a pen. You are welcome to bring any of your own images as well.

"As this gathering will be reflective and contemplative, it will be an in-person only gathering. All supplies will be provided, thanks in large part to the generosity of Thrivent Financial. Feel free to bring a snack to share if you want. Please RSVP to Kelley by **Saturday, Oct. 31**. You can reach out to Kelley at [kelleynotez@yahoo.com](mailto:kelleynotez@yahoo.com) or [740-475-8498](tel:740-475-8498) for any questions, as well."

## 'Come From Away' on Stage at Wagnalls Community Theater

Experience the heartwarming and inspiring story of "Come From Away" at Wagnalls Memorial Friday-Sunday, Nov. 6–8 and Nov. 13–15. This award-winning musical tells the remarkable true story of nearly 7,000 stranded airline passengers and the small Newfoundland town that welcomed them in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001.

Filled with music, humor, and humanity, "Come From Away" celebrates kindness, community, and the connections that bring people together during extraordinary times.

Check with **Brad Binau** about possibly going down for a performance together.

## Tuesday Bible Study

**Pastor Kayla** will lead Redeemer's Tuesday Bible Study as it continues, both in-person and online, beginning at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20.

Treats are solicited if anyone is so inclined.

For Zoom link, see separate "Zoom Links" story this issue.

## Next Movie Night Set for Nov. 15

"The Holiday" with **Kate Winslet** and **Cameron Diaz** will be shown at Redeemer's next Movie Night on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 5:30 p.m. here at the church. Two women who are fed up with love find each other's homes on a home swap website and decide to get away for the holidays.

They are both trying to forget their troubled love lives, but love finds them anyway!

## What RLC's Sanctuary Art Portrays ... Part 8

*Editor's Note: Michelle Clemence has been asked to explain some/all of the artwork in the Sanctuary. This is the eighth in a series of articles.*

From the left: A variation on the Amish Roman Stripe pattern creates a Crossed Paths design suggested by the book *Raise the Banners High* and signals outward movement as the Gospel spreads, always beginning with the cross.

"I made Redeemer Tree for our 60th anniversary in 2017. There are 60 pieces of "fruit" in the tree, one for each year. **Donna Voelkel** helped me work out the design. What should I make for Redeemer's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year?

"I made Teardrops from a Cozy Quilt Designs pattern that I just loved. It makes me think of baptism."



## Remembrance Garden Update

There are now a few permanent pages in the Memorial Book, as well as a sign by the door to the garden that gives helpful information and guidelines. Please take a look.

**Mary Benis**, council liaison for outreach, reminds the congregation, "Just as we welcome 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. Memorial pages can be included in the Memorial Book regardless of whether the person's or the pet's remains are included in the garden. Just contact the office for more information or guidance.

"Congratulations to us all for bringing this dream to fruition. Beyond fulfilling its intended purpose, the Remembrance Garden has greatly enhanced the appearance of the north side of our building."

## Noisy Offering to Go to Lutheran World Relief!

For now until the Advent season, Redeemer's Noisy Offering will be given to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). According to LWR, its mission is "affirming God's love for all people." They do this by working with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice and human suffering. LWR's vision is "a healthy world forever flourishing in dignity and justice" and its values include the following: "Disruptive, Interconnected, Agile, Inclusive." More information on LWR can be found [HERE](#).

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Cookies, Cookies, Cookies!!**

The supply of cookies for after-worship refreshments is at an all-time low. So those who might see a good sale on packaged cookies are invited to purchase a second package to donate to the church. Just leave them on the kitchenette counter in the Narthex.

### **Volunteers to Read at Fall Worship Services Needed**

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for dates over the fall. 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.

### **RLC 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.”

### **ELCA Bishop Issues Statement on Death Penalty** *cont'd from p. 1*

We hold in prayer all who are impacted by violent crime, including victims, families, workers in law enforcement and corrections, and those accused or convicted of violent crimes. We give thanks for prison chaplains and ministries that accompany people through suffering and that witness to the possibility of redemption.

I invite you to talk with people in your community about the death penalty. Let our churches continue to be spaces for respectful, faithful dialogue about moral issues. Study the ELCA's social statements *The Death Penalty* and *The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries* together. Be part of the whole church's [witness in society](#) to urge public officials to work toward abolishing the death penalty, including support for the [Federal Death Penalty Prohibition Act](#). Together let us build a society that keeps us safe from violence, reflects God's compassion, honors the dignity of every person and demonstrates that God is always working for and toward abundant life.

### **Zoom Links**

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

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

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

**Adult Education Forum** Zoom can be found [HERE](#). Meeting ID: 883 2879 6239; Passcode: 890127.

### **Important Emails**

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

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

[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

Prayers for healing and strength are asked for **Michelle Clemence** as she recovers from knee replacement surgery and for **Kathie Ehrich** who is awaiting heart surgery as she recovers from an infection. Prayers for strength and patience are also asked for Kathie's caregiver, her sister **Nancy**. Prayers for healing and restoration continue to be asked for **Jon Disbro** who hurt his back and continues to be laid up at home and for **Shirley Cannon** who has begun cancer treatments. Prayers for healing continue to be asked for **Bill Boys** who is in OSU East.

Prayers of thanksgiving and celebration are asked on behalf of **Maddie Sutphin** whose cataract surgery went well.

Prayers for comfort are asked for Redeemer's former interim pastor, **Pastor Leslie Fox**, on the death of her husband, **Tim**.

### October Birthdays

19-Renee McFarland 19-Miles Smith  
23-Skye Andree 23-Cason Day  
23-Sandra Keaton 24-Bret Day  
24-Leyton Wolfe 25-Madeline Gosnell  
26-Kennedi Jacobs 26-Avery Martin  
26-Krista Skipper 27-Brad Phillips  
30-Martin Binau 31-John Caron

### Meal Train Set Up for Michelle Clemence

A Meal Train has been set up for **Michelle Clemence**, who had knee surgery. Folks who would like to participate can go online [HERE](#) or contact **Kathy Mimplitch** at [kathymimplitch@yahoo.com](mailto:kathymimplitch@yahoo.com). Thanks!!

### Toshi Phillips Selected for Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra; Concert Set for Oct. 25

This year **Toshi Phillips** has been selected to be a part of the 2026-27 Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra. He plays tenor sax, sometimes alto sax and clarinet.

There is an upcoming "Swing Sunday" concert on **Sunday, Oct. 25** at 7 p.m. at Mees Hall at Capital University. It will showcase the four student Big Bands, sponsored by Columbus Jazz. For more information, go [HERE](#).

## RESOURCES

### Latest Church Directory Available

Hard copies of Redeemer's latest directory are available in the church office. Folks interested in a digital copy, should email the church office at [info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com).

### Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**October 20** Give thanks for farmers, ranchers, agricultural workers and others involved in the production, tending and harvesting of food. Remember in prayer those in other countries who produce and distribute food to us and other people around the world.

**21** "We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3). Pray for siblings in Christ, congregations, synods and ecumenical companions with whom we share a common mission of proclaiming God's saving grace, following Jesus Christ and spreading love, mercy, peace, justice and hope in the world.

**22** Give thanks and pray for the leaders, teachers and volunteers of faith-based day care centers and preschools where children learn, play, socialize and experience the joy and good news of God's love and forgiveness.

**23** Give thanks for the Resourceful Servants initiative of the ELCA, which encourages habits that strengthen the financial wellness of congregations, seminarians and rostered ministers.

**24** Give thanks for the faith, gifts and wisdom that your synod staff shares with congregations, ministries and leaders, strengthening faith communities, serving neighbors in need, nurturing new ways to share the gospel, and doing God's work in the world with joy and enthusiasm.

**25** "[The lawyer asked,] 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' [Jesus] said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Matthew 22:36-39). Love is at the core of who we are as children of God and followers of Christ. Offer each morning a prayer of commitment to express your love for God and your neighbor through words and actions.

**26** As of Sept. 8, there have been approximately 8,963 murders, 16,620 injuries and 327 mass shootings related to gun violence. Remember in prayer those impacted by gun violence, especially the families and friends of victims. Ask the Spirit to help us provide long-term care and support for those impacted and to guide and sustain our efforts to prevent gun violence in our nation.

## **The Wider Church**

### **ELCA Looks to Update Social Message on 'Homelessness'**

As National Homelessness Awareness Month approaches in November, the ELCA is looking to update its 1990 social message "Homelessness: A Renewal of Commitment." This social message has guided the church's advocacy and public witness for nearly four decades.

But much has changed in those years, in the church and the world. "Our understanding of homelessness, including the words we use to describe homelessness, has grown and deepened. Emerging ministries with and among people who are unhoused have challenged our perspectives on housing, homelessness and what it means to be a neighbor.

"Given these changes, the ELCA Church Council, at the request of the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, has authorized reconsideration of two sections of "Homelessness: A Renewal of Commitment." A reconsidered draft of the social message is now available for public comment from all ELCA members until Nov. 30.

To learn more and to download the draft social message [HERE](#)

### **First English Discussion Series Returns**

The First English Lutheran Church Discussion Series "Impacting Community ... Discussion. Action. Change." returns on Sundays at 4:30 p.m. with the next ones featuring a speaker from the League of Women Voters on **Sunday, Oct. 25.**

The sessions, which run from 4:30 to 6 p.m., are sponsored by First English and Urban Connections. They will be held at First English, 1015 E. Main St., Columbus.

Questions should be emailed to [info@urban-connections.org](mailto:info@urban-connections.org).

### **Luther Seminary Finalizes Move to New Location**

According to a release from **Luther Seminary President Robin Steinke**, the seminary has finalized the sale of its Upper Campus property in St. Paul and will be moving to a location on River Parkway Place, about one mile from Augsburg University, which will be offering housing to the seminary students starting June 1, 2027..

For more information on the move, go to the seminary's relocation website [HERE](#). Folks are asked to continue holding Luther Seminary in prayer as they move forward.

### **HopeWood Announces New Staffer**

HopeWood Outdoors announced that, beginning **Monday, Oct. 21**, **Ryan Neurer** will serve as associate program director for education and formation. He is a lifelong HopeWood camper, with deep roots in family camping during Camp Luther at HopeWood Shores. Ryan has degrees in conservation and zoology as a background for the environmental education program. He even began volunteering with the team that revamped the EE curriculum before the position became available!

Ryan notes, "I am so excited to begin serving as the associate program director for education and formation! I found my joy to be an educator during my time on staff at HopeWood Shores and while working at a wildlife center where I got to see the excitement on the faces of so many people when learning something new. As a life-

long camper and nature enthusiast, I cannot wait to bring those two together to help people connect with God and the natural world in a camp setting!

"When I'm not enjoying time at camp or outdoors, I spend my time playing with my two cats, watching sports, and playing games."

## The Community Beyond

### Early Voting Now Underway

Absentee voting by mail and in-person is now underway. Boards of elections are open for early voting under the following schedule:

- Monday, Oct. 19 through Friday, Oct. 23: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 24: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 26 and Wednesday, Oct. 28 through Friday, Oct. 30: 7:30 a.m. through 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 27: 7:30 a.m. through 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 31: 8 a.m. through 4 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 1: 1-5 p.m.

Polls will be open on **Tuesday, Nov. 3** from 6:30 a.m. through 7:30 p.m.

Additionally, absentee ballot applications to vote by mail must be received by boards of elections by 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27. Completed absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Mailed UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by Saturday, Nov. 7 in order to be counted.

The election protection hotline phone number is 1-866-OUR VOTE.

## Getting Ready for Worship

### Reformation Sunday

### October 25, 2026 – 10 a.m.

### Lessons

**Readings** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Ibada ya Kiswahili Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community members Paula Carson, Skye Andree, Chelsea and Sabraya Hood.

**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, Becky and Larry Trover's son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Sue, Tim, and Lisa Watson, Heidi Carman, Debbie Turner's friends Sherrie and Jim Tompkins, Grace and Ken Jones and their son Dan Jones, Emily Crosley, Bill Boys, Ranel and Neil Hoddinott's sister and brother-in-law Paulie and Jerry Shaffer, Barbara Hairston; Wilfrantz Raymond's sister Cheslie; Don Luck, Greg Williams, Kathy and Tom Mimplitch's daughter Holly Ragland, Linda Williams' sister-in-law Georgeann Neuzil, Karen Rider's friends Nancy McGinnis and Eileene (Judith) Welker, LaVerna Reinoehl, Drusanne Shaulis, Don Crosley's mother Wanda, Bob Rapp, Shirley Cannon, Michelle Clemence.

### Worship Leaders

|                                             |                               |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Presiding Minister</b>                   | Pastor Kayla Hopgood          |
| <b>Assisting Minister</b>                   | Mary Benis                    |
| <b>Cantor</b>                               | Wendy Stoica                  |
| <b>Organist &amp; Senior Choir Director</b> | Kathy Rapp                    |
| <b>Pianist &amp; Chimes Choir Director</b>  | Karen Kent                    |
| <b>Usher</b>                                | Mike Benis                    |
| <b>Communion Prep</b>                       | Becky Trover, Melissa Hackim  |
| <b>Producers</b>                            | Toshi Philips, Sachio Philips |
| <b>Hospitality</b>                          | Karen Rider                   |

*Flowers are given by Judith and Ashley Bird celebrating daughter-in-law Sarah's birthday.  
The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response.*

### Upcoming Events at Redeemer October 19 - 26, 2026

|                  |            |                                       |
|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | 1:00 p.m.  | Bexley/Berwick Dementia Support Group |
|                  | 3:00 p.m.  | Suzuki School                         |
|                  | 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 School                         |
|                  | 6:30 p.m.  | Congregation Council                  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 10:00 a.m. | Coffee and Conversation               |
|                  | 2:00 p.m.  | Social Justice Conversations          |
|                  | 3:00 p.m.  | Suzuki School                         |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 3:00 p.m.  | Suzuki School                         |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 10:00 a.m. | Chime Choir Rehearsal                 |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 8:45 a.m.  | Choir Rehearsal                       |
|                  | 10:00 a.m. | IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship      |
|                  | 11:15 p.m. | BREAD Listening Event                 |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 3:00 p.m.  | Suzuki School                         |
|                  | 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