



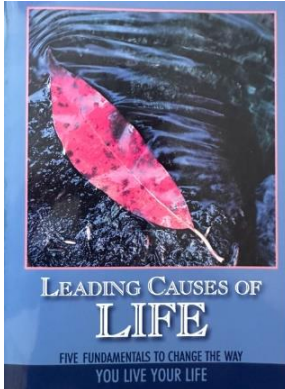
Reflections

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Leading Causes of Life



In the early 2000s hospital administrator, **Gary Gunderson**, was waiting for his turn to speak at a health care conference. The focus of the conference was societal disparities and inequities that contribute to ill health and lead to death. The speaker preceding him outlined in detail, and then lamented, the things that cause death and he wondered what he could possibly add to the litany of death's causes. Gary knew that the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) had determined that two-thirds of the deaths occurring before age 65 are preventable simply by following

some fairly ordinary social policies and making pro-health personal decisions. But the speaker's focus on the causes of death wasn't getting any traction. It felt to Gary like all the life was being sucked out of the room.

Then it struck him that as long as we focus on death-prevention, "if death defines our efforts, it wins every damn time." So Gary tore up the speech he had written, went to the podium, and spoke from the heart about the things he believed *cause life*. A few years later he pulled together his thoughts about life-causing practices and along with Presbyterian pastor **Larry Pray** published the book, *Leading Causes of Life*.

Beginning on **Sunday, September 8**, I'll be leading the adult education class for five sessions focusing on the things that Gunderson and Pray insist actually *cause* life:

connection (our capacity for interaction with all of creation)

coherence (our ability to belong and find meaning)

agency (our capacity to make things happen, even modestly)

blessing (our capacity to care across generations)

hope (our capacity to remember the future)

I believe **Jesus** came to offer us abundant life. I believe **God's** mission is to redeem a languishing creation and restore to every corner of creation a sense of flourishing. That's why I'm all in with Gary Gunderson and his plea that we stop staring at our consumer culture and all its empty promises about how we can defy death. Let's refocus on the healthy practices that actually cause life.

I love teaching because it helps me be a better learner. But what excites me the most and gives me life is the learning we can do together. Looking forward to being with you again in class in just a few weeks!

Pastor Brad

P.S. You don't need to read the book to enjoy the class, but you can get a copy of *Leading Causes of Life* at <https://tinyurl.com/55keu9mu>.

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus
Interim Pastor - Rev. Brad Binau
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

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President - Krista Skipper
Vice President - Brad Binau
Finance Officer - Laura Warren
Secretary - Sue Watson
Worship - Michelle Clemence
Education - Katie Jacobs
Outreach - Diane Brobeck
Member Support - Elyce Herring
Property - April Smith
Stewardship - Kathy Denhard

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Julianne Johnson

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland
Emlyn Ott Rich Pautsch

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, chair Ashley Bird
Julie Boreman Wendy Stoica
Laura Warren Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Columbus 43227
614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community

Youth, Sister Act Collecting Items for Care Kits for Unhoused Persons

Sunday School youth and members of Sister Act will be assembling care kits for unhoused persons that Redeemer folks will be able to take to hand out to individuals they might see on the street corners.

Sister Act is inviting the congregation to donate any of the following items for the Care Kits:

- Chapstick
- Small bottles of lotion
- Hand warmers
- Soft breakfast bars
- Small packets of wipes or
- Small bottles of hand sanitizer

There will be a box in the Narthex for the donations. *Thank you for your help!!*

Community Event: Blessing of Backpacks, Ice Cream Social Set for Sept. 8

Plan now to come **Sunday, September 8** for a community ice cream social on the front lawn. Running from 4 to 5:30 p.m., it will include **Pastor Brad's** blessing the backpacks of neighborhood children. The Education Team will also be providing the kids with special tags for their backpacks.

Come meet some of Redeemer's neighborhood kids and enjoy some ice cream!

Those willing to provide some vanilla ice cream, ice cream toppings or help scoop out ice cream are asked to sign up on the bulletin board next to the Library.



In addition, backpacks, briefcases, tote bags, purses or whatever folks use to carry their essentials every day will be blessed during the Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. that morning.

Senior Choir Rehearsals Begin Sept. 8

Redeemer's Senior Choir will begin rehearsals on **Sunday, September 8**. They will run from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Questions? Contact **Director Kathy Rapp** at ARappThing@hotmail.com.

Thrive! Update

Julie Johnson reports, "Last year individuals at Redeemer joined many across the Southern Ohio Synod in pledging support through the synod's Thrive! campaign, which continues to fund several new resources of the SOS. Thrive! is a three-year campaign and Redeemer pledges totaled just over \$34,000!

"As of last month we have topped \$17,000 (combined last year and seven months of this year.) Each month we forward to the synod the amount received the previous month.

"Redeemer greatly benefited from the expertise we received to livestream our services as part of early Thrive! ministry expansion. Keep those pledges coming!"

Worship Committee Solicits Sermon Topic

Is there a topic or a Bible passage you've always wanted to have addressed in a sermon? The Worship Committee would love to hear from you and on **Sunday, October 13** **Pastor Brad** will address the topic that stirs the most interest.

Send suggestion to info@redeemerluth.com or fill out the green form that can be found on the table in back of the Sanctuary or on the bulletin board next to the Library and drop it in the offering plate.

Submit your suggestion by **Sunday, September 8**. The Worship Committee will select the three most intriguing suggestions and the congregation will have until **Sunday, September 15** to vote on the final selection!

Sister Act to Discuss 'Lessons in Chemistry' in August

Join Sister Act on **Wednesday, Aug. 21** at 6:30 p.m. here at Redeemer to discuss the book, *Lessons in Chemistry*, by **Bonnie Garmus**. This gives folks time to get the book and read it. *Lessons in Chemistry* is a fun book about **Elizabeth Zott**, a not-so-average woman in the 1960's. [After all, Sister Act would probably ask "Is there such a thing as an average woman???"]

As the *Washington Post* wrote “Meet Elizabeth Zott: ‘a gifted research chemist, absurdly self-assured and immune to social convention’ in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show.

“Hope you can join us for a lively discussion!”

The group meets in-person here at Redeemer or via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83940727387?pwd=bbhIaWfD73DMaFlvQSIHxD1JagAlF.1>; Meeting ID: 839 4072 7387; Passcode: 079087

Latest Narthex Art Exhibit Tracks RLC Property over Time

The second installment of "Redeemer Through the Seasons" Art Exhibit, this one focusing on pictures of the church property throughout the years is now up. It is an awesome walk through Redeemer's history and the people who were here. Thanks to all who compiled the many photo albums of the church's decades of activities and to those who provided pictures for the display.

In addition, here is a link to the digital album of Redeemer street view since 2007, compliments of **Tom Mimlitch**: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/LZA6VdKPwTAsRDBG9>.

Next Food Giveaway Set for Thursday

The next food giveaway is set for this week on **Thursday, August 15** here at the church. This month, the “extra” items are paper products: paper towels, toilet paper, baby wipes, etc.

Volunteers to work that day are also needed. Just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library. People are needed starting at 1 p.m. to help set up.

RLC Garden Giveaways Now Underway

Redeemer's Saturday morning veggie giveaways are now underway. For those who are interested in volunteering, harvesting begins between 8:30 and 9 a.m. with weighing and recording the produce before starting the giveaway at 10 a.m.

Returning and new volunteers are asked to contact Jon at Jon.Disbro@nationwidechildrens.org.

Important Emails

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.

Transportation@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 are asked for **Mary Watts**, mother of **Karen Kent** and **Kathy Rapp**, who is entering hospice care. Prayers are also asked for **Karen** who is undergoing medical tests. Prayers for healing are asked for **Larry Trover** who has contracted COVID and for **Al Rider** who had a fall.

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Redeemer Welcomes Guest Pastor Sunday

Sunday, September 8 Redeemer will welcome **Rev. Dr. Rachel Wrenn** to preach and preside at the 10 a.m. worship service. In addition, she will lead a “talk back” session following the service, beginning at about 11:15 a.m. in Classroom 2. It will also be on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957366923?pwd=TnV6cFB4ZUpET25USTgzZ0diZlhnQT09> Meeting ID: 889 5736 6923; Passcode: 383835. Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

A Note of Thanks

Carol Heacock thanks everyone for their prayers and words of encouragement during her recent shoulder surgery and recovery. “I also would like to thank those who provided transportation to church and to doctor's appointments.

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Property Chair April Smith reports, "We welcome a new community support group to our building! Starting last week, TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) began meeting in Room 2 every Monday night from 5 to 7 p.m. They will be providing more information for us in the coming weeks."

Supporting the Columbus Violence Reduction Program

Leaders of the Columbus Violence Reduction program spoke to Redeemer's Adult Education Class earlier this year. At that time, the class heard some remarkable stories about their creative efforts to work with members of the gangs in the Columbus area who account for a large percentage of violent crime to help them imagine different futures for themselves that would keep them out of prison.

Class members were moved and inspired by the presentation, and asked how people might support this program independent of what the city of Columbus budgeted for its work. Any who are interested can get more information and give online at cityviewcolumbus.org/cvr.

August Birthdays

15-Sarah Kirkman 16-Cathy Oldham
16-Madelyn Zimmer 17-Thelma Johnson
23-Scott Steiner 25-LaVerna Reinoehl
26-Brad Binau 27-Matthew Bird
29-Jon Disbro 30-Kathy Richter
31-Lynn Belhorn

The Wider Church

'Death Café' Set for August 13

Emily Kent will be hosting a Death Café at the New Albany branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library (200 Market St, New Albany, OH 43054) on **Tuesday, August 13**. Join her for non-judgmental conversation about grief, death, and dying. It runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 2.

Update on Palestine and Gaza

The following update is provided by **Julianne Johnson**:

“The past few weeks I had hoped to share my thoughts on why the United States should formally recognize the state of Palestine - but the news of this past week must take precedence.

“Ceasefire talks are to resume this Thursday. The United States is sending several key administrative personnel to the area throughout this week to work to ensure that hostilities don't escalate, and that side come prepared to agree to terms for a ceasefire and return of hostages.

Last week I wrote about Israel's assassination of a Hamas leader who was in Iran. That Hamas leader was the one who was involved in previous ceasefire talks and had been advocating for a ceasefire. Both because Israel killed him, and even more because they killed him on Iran's soil it was a major escalation by Israel. Iran has vowed revenge for his killing. So far they have not acted on that.

"Death and famine continue in Gaza. The acknowledged death toll now near 40,000 (as of Saturday it was 39,800)- although estimates by respected news outlets suggest that 185,000 - or nearly 10 percent of the entire population of Gaza are now dead."

Pray, and advocate for a ceasefire, return of hostages from both sides and justice for Palestinians.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

Aug. 13 "Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:31-32). What could be more relevant than Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus? Pray that the Spirit will equip us to live by the gospel of Jesus Christ and be imitators of God in all we say and do.

14 Pray for congregational leaders and volunteers who will be launching Christian education opportunities, faith formation programs and community ministries for all ages and abilities this fall.

15 As we discern who should serve as leaders of our nation, ask the Spirit to stir within us civility, wisdom, compassion for our neighbors in need and faith that we are bound together as children of God, with abundant and diverse gifts for uplifting one another and resolving persistent problems and injustices.

16 Pray for high school, college and university athletes, that they will be safe and will embrace the values of teamwork and mutual care and respect.

17 "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!" (Psalm 130:1-2). Make time today to pray from the depths of your inner being about those things that weigh heavily on you.

18 Give thanks for the sacrament of Holy Communion, in which Jesus Christ comes to us with grace, love and forgiveness, nourishing and strengthening us for doing God's work in the world.

19 Observe the world around us and give thanks for the multitude of little things that inspire our gratitude, stir our curiosity, make us smile, remind us of someone we need to reach out to, or draw our attention to God's presence in the world.

Getting Ready for Worship

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Psalm 34:9-14; John 6:51-58

Prayer of the Day

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

A Prayer for Peace

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Trinity Lutheran Church in Marysville.

+ For Redeemer community member Mary Bowling.

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, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, her son-in-law Brandon

James, and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, John Kennedy's sister and brother-in-law Becky and Vic Wolfe, Kathie Ehrich; Terry Warren's sister Elaine Warren, Nathaniel Bird's father-in-law Wendell Jordan, Kandice Hoddinott-Ward, Brittany Amon, John Huber, Mary Watts, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Paul Johnson, Jon Disbro.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brad Binau
Preaching	Rev. Dr. Rachel Wrenn
Assisting Minister	Michelle Clemence
Cantor	Heidi Sherer
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chim24-35e Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ruth Murray
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Scott Steiner
Hospitality	Laura and Terry Warren
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Becky Trover, Karen Rider

Flowers are given by Thelma Johnson in honor of her family

The Noisy Offering will go towards construction of a tool shed at the Bishop Griffin Resource Center.

This Week at Redeemer

August 12- August 19, 2024

Monday	5 p.m.	TOPS
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 2462
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith at Columbus Brewing Company, 200 Kelton Ave.
Thursday	1-3:00 p.m.	Food Giveaway Set up and Packing
	3-5:30 p.m.	LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway
Saturday	10 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
Sunday	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Education
Monday	5 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop
	6:30 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