



Reflections

VOLUME 28

August 26, 2024

ISSUE 34

Bring More of What I Dream

(A poem-prayer by Ted Loder)

O God,
 Who out of nothing
 brought everything that is,
 out of what I am
 bring more of what I dream
 but haven't dared;
 direct my power and passion
 to creating life
 where there is death,
 to putting flesh of action
 on bare-boned intentions,
 to lighting fires
 against the midnight of indifference,
 to throwing bridges of care
 across canyons of loneliness;
 so I can look on creation
 together with you,
 and, behold,
 call it very good;
 through Jesus Christ my Lord.

As summer winds down and we gear up for a season of new efforts – at school, in church, in our country – it strikes me that this is a good season to dream.

Pastor Ted Loder's prayer from his book, *Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle*, gives us poetic words with which we can live into our personal dreams. August 28 marks 61 years since **Martin Luther King, Jr.** stood in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial and proclaimed his expansive dream of a nation that keeps its promises and fulfills its potential as he proclaimed “the fierce urgency of now.”

In a quiet moment perhaps Ted Loder's prayer can help you to articulate your own dreams. And any search engine can take you to the text and the video of Martin Luther King's dream. Whether personally or corporately, whether in our own bodies, the body politic, or as the Body of Christ, this is not a good time to fall asleep, but it is a great time to dream!

Pastor Brad

In This Issue

[Bring More of What I Dream](#)
[The Redeemer Community](#)
[The Wider Church](#)
[The Community Beyond](#)
[Prayers & Personals](#)
[Getting Ready for Sunday](#)

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

1555 S. James Rd.
 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.

To that end, 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 is 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.

Support for Berwick School

Over the years Redeemer has found a variety of ways to help needy students and families at Berwick Alternative Elementary School. We've offered holiday baskets, provided school uniforms, and even sponsored two families with gift cards at Christmas one year. Redeemer has been generous!

Recently the Outreach Team connected with the school principal once again to see whether Redeemer might be of assistance. She shared that last year she had eight students in shelters and one family from Haiti, so the needs have been many. She also stressed that all of the church's previous efforts have been greatly appreciated.

A number of possible approaches for this year were discussed and it was concluded that the simplest way to help would be for Redeemer to hold on to any contributions and then let her refer any families in need directly to us. She was sure there would be requests for help with uniforms and other back-to-school costs.

So once again, "let's live into our mission and our values by supporting families in need at Berwick School. Any contributions should be designated for the Berwick School Fund, and just as a guide, **Dave and Joanie Engel** remember that uniforms cost about \$30 six years ago. So, since school is starting as you're reading this, let's try to be both generous and speedy." 😊

Sunday Adult Ed Begins Sept. 8

The Sunday Adult Ed Forum resumes **September 8** with classes based on the book *Leading Causes of Life* by **Gary Gunderson** and **Larry Pray** although folks don't need to read the book to participate. **Pastor Brad** will examine 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.

Pastor Brad writes, “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 health practices that actually cause life.”

Good Neighbors Picnic Set for Sept. 28 at Wolfe Park

The Good Neighbors Picnic will be held this year on **Saturday, September 28** at Wolfe Park on the east side of Columbus. Redeemer members and friends are invited to begin donating new or gently used blankets and cold weather clothing and accessories to help provide for unhoused brothers and sisters in the Columbus area. This all-day event was started in 1999 by Redeemer member **William McCulley** along with a few volunteers as part of the National Make a Difference Day. Volunteers are also needed.

On the day of the Good Neighbors Picnic, volunteers work to provide a day of celebration including food, music, games, books, family photos, crafts, and shopping at a Free Store for blankets and winter clothing. Last year, individuals shopped the Free Store for items such as coats, blankets, winter clothes, shoes, socks, underwear, and personal hygiene items.

Men, women, and children of all ages from local shelters are transported to the park for this day of celebration and fun.

Redeemer, along with other faith organizations, community leaders, local businesses and organizations work to gather items for those who are unhoused or in shelters. Donations may be placed in the bin located in the Narthex. Cash donations or gift cards are welcome and may be dropped off at the church office.

To learn more about the Good Neighbors Picnic, go to www.goodneighborspicnic.org or contact **Carol Heacock**.

Tuesday Bible Study Resumes Sept. 3

Redeemer’s Tuesday Bible Study will resume on **September 3** with a look at the Book of Revelation, led by **Pastor Brad**. It runs from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. both in-person here at church and on Zoom. To Zoom in, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTW11bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbK9Bdz09>; Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622; Passcode: 435549. Phone only: 1-301 715 8592.

August Food Giveaway

The too few sprinkles during the afternoon did nothing to relieve the drought nor dampen the spirits of the 30 volunteers on Thursday, August 15. “The 172 families kept everyone busy as we gave away everything from cantaloup to grapes. Fifth-graders Livy and Harper (“family/friends”) did a great job of distributing the paper products and remaining school supplies. We served 584 people, with 53 new families matching the number in July – as did the number of children: 191. There were 53 seniors. Thanks to all of you for your tremendous generosity in giving the extras and donating your time. You ARE the hands of God!”

Don’t forget: the **supplemental items for the September 19 giveaway** are personal products such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, baby lotion, nail care kits, etc. They can be deposited in the specially marked bin in the coatroom. Also, the sign-up sheet for September volunteers is now up on the bulletin board.

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!

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 Mimplitch**: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/LZA6VdKPwTAsRDBG9>.

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 **Roman Fisher**, grandson of **Becky Fisher**, who broke his leg during a football game this weekend. Prayers continue to be asked for **Mary Watts**, mother of **Karen Kent** and **Kathy Rapp**, who is in hospice care. Prayers are also asked for **Karen** who is undergoing medical tests.

+ + +

Judith Bird thanks the congregation for their prayers and their reaching out during her recent health issues.

+ + +

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

26-Brad Binau 27-Matthew Bird
29-Jon Disbro 30-Kathy Richter
31-Lynn Belhorn

September Birthdays

1-Joanie Engel 5-Trina Thornton
7-Bonnie Hegreness* 8-Julie Boreman
8-Tom Kent 8-Andrea Steiner
13-Ashley Bird 14-Elyce Herring
15-Kris Kauffman 16-Michele Disbro
16-Sarah Binau 18-Bryan Neal
20-Paula Carson 21-Jenny Peresta
25-Sheryl Owens 24-Adam Darst
27-Karen Rider 27-Becky Fisher

** Bonnie will be 96 this year. She is Redeemer's longest-term member. For folks who might want to send her a card, her address is 3392 Medical Center Dr., Apt. 320, McKinney TX 75069-2067.*

The Wider Church Update on Palestine and Gaza

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

“Ceasefire talks have resumed in Cairo and Hamas is sending a delegation. The United States has sent several key administrative personnel to the area. Israel has made what it termed a preemptive strike on Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Lebanon launched rockets and drones with bombs into Israel. It is also widely agreed that a ceasefire agreement must be reached if there is any possibility to avoid an Iranian military action against Israel. Iran has said that Israel will pay for the assassination of a Hamas leader who was visiting Tehran when he was killed.

Bombings and fighting continue in Gaza. Israel regularly calls for evacuations of parts of Gaza that was supposed to be a humanitarian zone. Sewage and water infrastructure were destroyed by Israel months ago so conditions for disease are rampant. Humanitarian aid remains far below needed levels, and aid trucks continue to be backed up in Egypt because of Israeli restrictions.

The acknowledged death toll now tops 40,000 in Gaza, although the actual casualties are considered to be much higher - some estimates now near 200,000. - or nearly 10 percent of the entire population of Gaza are now dead.” Israel claims over 17,000 of the 40,000 deaths are militants, which means that 23,000 are civilians. Experts state that still means that 20,000 Hamas fighters remain. Netanyahu's stated goal is to eliminate Hamas – a goal that even the Israeli defense minister has said is unrealistic.

War with Iran would be a huge escalation of this fight, potentially involving the United States and other nations. Pray, and advocate for a ceasefire, return of hostages from both sides and justice for Palestinians.

SOS Women of ELCA to Hold Biennial Convention

Registrations are due by **Monday, September 9** for those interested in attending the Southern Ohio Synod's Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention set for **Saturday, September 28**. It will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Piqua beginning at 8:45 a.m. Cost is \$50 and includes lunch.

For additional information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/4xp87fsr>.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

August 27 Give thanks and praise to God for young adults who served at Lutheran summer camps across the country, impacting the lives of children, youth and adults. Pray that they will continue to seek opportunities for ministry in response to God's call for service and leadership.

28 Pray for understanding that the "whole armor of God" (Ephesians 6:10) is a gift from God to protect our faith in Christ when we are confronted by temptation and things that weaken our faith.

29 Pray for our siblings in Christ around the world who are baptized as children of God, and for our common journey of lifelong growth and learning as we witness to God's mercy, care for others and celebrate God's presence in our lives.

30 Give thanks and praise to God for responding to our cries for help — silent and spoken — in times of trouble, when our spirits are crushed.

31 Who or what has drawn your attention and inspired your prayers today? Ask the Spirit to embolden you to move forward and respond.

September 1 "It is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly." (Mark 7:21-22) Recognizing that evil intentions and actions come from the human heart, confess your weakness to God, who is rich in mercy and loves us even in our imperfection.

2 Labor Day Recognize and pray for the work people do to sustain their families and benefit their communities and society. Pray that all will receive fair wages, work in safe environments, be renewed through times of sabbath, and experience joy and fulfillment in their labor. Pray for those who seek employment and for the care, support and well-being of people unable to work.

Getting Ready for Worship

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: 1 James 17-27; Psalm 15; Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

Prayer of the Day

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, 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 Zion Lutheran Church in West Jefferson.

+ For Redeemer community members Edwina and Earl Bradley.

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 Ehrlich; 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, Judith Bird.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brad Binau
Assisting Minister	Jon Disbro
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chim24-35e Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Zak Hinkle-Moore
Vergers	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Hospitality	Michelle Clemence
Communion Prep	Eileen Day

Flowers are given by members of Redeemer

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

This Week at Redeemer

August 26- September 2, 2024

Monday	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Team
Saturday	10 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
Sunday	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
Monday		Labor Day – Office Closed



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