



Reflections

VOLUME 28

September 3, 2024

ISSUE 35

Testing Tradition

In the gospel lesson from Mark 7 this past Sunday, Jesus and some religious leaders had a testy conversation about the appropriate role of tradition in religious life. At issue was why Jesus' disciples did not follow a particular tradition – not something in the Torah, not one of the Ten Commandments – but a tradition, to wash their hands (or at least pretend like they were washing their hands if no water was available) before eating. The religious leaders saw the handwashing tradition as a way of honoring the piety of their ancestors who thought all Jewish males should wash their hands before eating (or at least pretend to) just as priests were required to do before serving in the temple.

Jesus did not forbid the handwashing practice or suggest that it be abandoned forever. He did, however, reach back to another part of their common religious history and quote from the prophet Isaiah where Isaiah reminded the people that honoring God was a matter of the heart. This was quite different from going through the religious motions.

In the sermon on Sunday, I suggested that the story of the Russian Jewish peasant, **Tevye**, in *Fiddler on the Roof* might help us wrestle with the question of what role tradition should play in our religious life. Tradition in Tevye's community was that a father had the right to arrange marriages for his daughters. But his three daughters wanted to be free from this tradition and choose their own husbands. One by one, Tevye relented and followed his heart rather than tradition. (And many thanks to **Kathy Rapp** and **April Smith** for the "Fiddler on the Roof" music that helped bring the story to life!)

Last winter the adult education class considered Redeemer's tradition of using the Apostles' Creed every week to express our beliefs as Christians. We considered this in light of our fundamental mission to love God and neighbor. "To Creed, or not to Creed?" That seemed to be the question. On the one hand, the Apostles' Creed defines us. It helps us keep our balance so that, like the fiddler on the roof, we can carry on with our song of hope in turbulent times. On the other hand, though, the Apostles' Creed can interfere with our mission to love God and neighbor if it asks us to take to heart things that are hard to swallow. That can make our love of God feel insincere. And if we truly mean it when we say, "all are welcome here," do we show love for our neighbors if we ask them to recite words they may not (probably do not) yet understand?

The Worship Team reflected on all the thoughts that had been expressed and decided that the question was not "to Creed or not to Creed?" but when to use the Apostles' Creed and when to give it a rest. The question was not whether to have a statement of faith as part of weekly worship, but what kind of statement might give us fresh insights into the faith we hold dear.

The Worship Team decided that during this sabbatical time we would give the Apostles' Creed a rest – a little sabbatical of its own. On Sunday, we used the

In This Issue

[Testing Tradition](#)
[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

Fall at Redeemer

Now that it's September, activities here at Redeemer are ramping up, bringing new ways to enjoy being with people in the Redeemer community. So review the list below to see what might sound like something you'd like to check out:

Tuesday, Sept. 3, 1 p.m. and weekly in-person and on Zoom: Exploring the Bible. These 90-minute weekly afternoons sessions invite us to bring our insights, curiosity, honest questions, and favorite snacks. This fall the group will explore The Book of Revelation, led by **Pastor Brad**. Not too familiar with it? Come and change that! It meets both in-person here at church or via Zoom which can be accessed at: Zoom Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTWI1bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbK9Bdz09>; Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622; Passcode: 435549. Phone only: 1-301 715 8592.

Sunday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. During the worship service, backpacks and briefcases will be blessed. Then at 4 p.m. there will be a **Community Ice Cream Social** on Redeemer's front law that will include a blessing of backpacks of neighborhood children. (See separate story, this issue for more details.)

Sunday, Sept. 8, 8:45 a.m. and weekly: Senior Choir rehearsal. You've enjoyed listening to them as they lead worship. If you enjoy singing, why not come to their first rehearsal of the fall? There's a unique joy in making music together – and you'll be surprised at the beautiful tunes you will help create! Contact **Director Kathy Rapp** if you have any questions: ARappThing@hotmail.com; 614-565-2945.

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 8 and continuing through Sundays in September and October, a new adult education class based on the book *Leading Causes of Life* commences. See separate article in this *Reflections* for more details.

Also, beginning **Sunday, Sept. 8** is Redeemer's **monthly Sunday School for All Ages**. This month, the youth will help Sister Act assemble "Care Kits" for members to distribute to unhoused persons. (See separate story, this issue.)

Sunday, Sept. 22, 11:15 a.m. (following worship): Potluck to Celebrate the ministries here at Redeemer on its 67th Anniversary. We are so glad to be able to share our creative culinary skills with each other at these potlucks. Who knew there were so many ways to make devilled eggs? We will feast together and celebrate the remarkable variety and number of ways we are God's hands and feet.

Thursdays, Sept. 19 and Oct. 17, between 3-5:30 p.m.: The last Mid-Ohio Food Cooperative/Lutheran Social Services Food Giveaways of the year. Watching the transformation of an empty parking lot into a drive-through fresh produce market where love and joy are real enough to touch is only one of the reasons to be part of this ministry. Another is you connect with other members of this community as you bag cucumbers and put boxfuls of amazing stuff into backseats and trunks. You can just show up and you'll be put to work. Set-up begins at 1 p.m. and clean up generally runs until about 6 p.m. **The September giveaway "extras" are personal items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, body lotion, nail care kits, etc.** These items can be dropped off in the coatroom.

Saturday, Sept. 28 is the Good Neighbor Picnic at Wolf Park. Ahead of that, Redeemer is collecting blankets and warm winter clothes that will be distributed at the picnic. In addition, volunteers for the day are also needed. See separate story, this issue of *Reflections* for more details.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 11-13 Sister Act's Fall Retreat at Hopewood Pines (Lutheran Memorial Camp). See separate story, this issue of *Reflections* for more details and information on how to register.

Ongoing on Saturdays: At 9 a.m., Redeemer gives away the produce from the garden. (Harvesting begins at 8:30 a.m.) Volunteers are needed to help for a couple of hours each week. Contact **Jon Disbro** at 614-832-2639 with questions.

Ongoing Sundays: Readers are needed for the Sunday services throughout the fall. A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board next to the Library. Readings are sent out the week ahead of the service. **Readers of all ages are welcome to participate in this ministry. Readers are needed for Sundays, Sept. 8 and 22.**

First Wednesdays: Redeemer serves at the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry on the first Wednesdays, with the next day on **Wednesday, Sept. 4**. **One more volunteer is needed to fill out Redeemer's team this week.** It runs from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Questions? Call the church office at 614-237-1263. Or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the Library.

Every other month Redeemer packs 150 sack lunches to be distributed at First English Lutheran Church. The sack lunches are packed on the Saturday and distributed the next day. See separate article, this *Reflections*, for information about the items needed and the packing schedule.

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=R2pHTWl1bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbk9Bdz09>; Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622; Passcode: 435549. Phone only: 1-301 715 8592.

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 which need to be at church by **Wednesday, Sept. 4**. *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.”

Redeemer to Provide Brown Bag Lunches for First English

On **Saturday, Sept. 14** volunteers will assemble 150 brown bag lunches for First English consisting of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, bag of chips, fruit cup, cookies/treat desert, a granola bar and a juice box/pouch and water bottle.

These lunches are distributed to the people who go to First English’s Sunday morning breakfast. If there are any, leftover lunches are shared with the Friends of the Homeless shelter across the street or with people who stop at First English in need of food. No lunches are wasted.

There is a sign up in the hallway by the Library for the food needed. All food needs to be to the church by 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14. Donations can be left in the coatroom in the First English bin.

Anyone wishing to help assemble lunches can join the group in Room 3 on the Saturday at 9 a.m.

For anyone who would like to help serve breakfast and pass out the lunches on **Sunday, Sept. 15**, that starts at 7:30 a.m. with the preparing of the breakfast. Any questions please contact **Kay Ernsthausen** at KAErnsthausen@gmail.com.

Good Neighbors Picnic Set for Sept. 28 at Wolfe Park

The Good Neighbors Picnic will be held this year on **Saturday, Sept. 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 on Sept. 28 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**.

Sister Act's Fall Women's Retreat Set for Oct. 11 - 13

With Labor Day this weekend, that means fall is just around the corner and it's time to plan to attend the Sister Act Women's Retreat. This year is scheduled for the second weekend in October at HopeWood Pines/Lutheran Memorial Camp, Friday, Oct. 11- Sunday, Oct. 13. This is the same weekend as the traditional Apple Butter Festival.

The theme this year is *Walking in Nature with God*. During this time together, the group will be celebrating the beauty of nature that is all around and being mindful of God's gift of nature that is a part of our everyday lives.

The group will be staying in the Priebe Center which is set up with a large open room for meeting and fellowship, a kitchenette, and 10 bedrooms, each with two twin beds. There are two bathrooms with showers, one in each wing. Outside, there is a patio with picnic tables and a fire pit which is traditionally used for the evening campfire including smores.

The cost for the weekend is \$92; for Saturday it is only \$12. **Checks should be made out to HopeWood Pines.**

The group will be eating meals at the Priebe Center again this year with each participant asked to contribute \$25 to cover the cost of food for the weekend. This contribution is separate from the check for registration.

“We welcome your input. Let us know your ideas for the weekend whether it be activities, Bible studies, crafts, music, games, worship, meals, etc. As you're thinking about the retreat, send your ideas and questions to **Michele Disbro, Carol Heacock, or Kay Ernsthausen.**”

Next Food Giveaway Set for Sept. 19

The next Mid-Ohio Food Collective/Redeemer Food Giveaway is set for **Thursday, Sept. 19**. This month the **supplemental items** 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.

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!

RLC Garden Giveaway Coming to End This Week

Redeemer's Saturday morning veggie giveaways will be ending after this week. There just is not the quantity to continue the regular Saturday giveaways although members are free to take the produce that has ripened. Check with **Jon Disbro** or another member of the garden team for assistance.

Testing Tradition *cont'd from p. 1*

following statement of faith developed by the United Church of Canada and we will use it again next Sunday:

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

After that, the Apostles' Creed will return, and after that there are some other statements of faith we will use to expand the ways we express our faith.

We're flexing with our tradition because we believe God has given us the freedom to do so. We're doing something a little different because we want to do everything we can to express our love of God and neighbor. And the last thing we want to do is give the impression that anything other than God is eternal.

Your thoughts prayers as we live into this sabbatical experiment are not only welcomed, they are anticipated!

*Pastor Brad and the Worship Team: Michelle Clemence, Karen Kent,
Kathy Rapp, Wendy Stoica Jennifer Young*

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 Asked for Family of Madelyn Zimmer

Prayers of comfort are asked for the family of **Madelyn Zimmer** who died last week. She had just celebrated her 85th birthday on Aug. 16. The family plans to hold a memorial service later in the year.

+++

Prayers for healing are asked for **Roman Fisher**, grandson of **Becky Fisher**, who broke his leg during a recent football game, for **Ruth Murray** who broke her foot, for **Pastor Al** who is recovering from COVID and for **Karen Rider** who will be having a medical procedure this week. 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.

+++

A reminder: Pastor Dave will NOT be emailing or texting anyone in the congregation while he is away on sabbatical. Anyone who receives a missive from him should not open it and delete it.

Christ in Our Home for October-December Available

The latest edition of the daily devotional booklet “Christ in Our Home” for October through December is now available on the kiosk in the Narthex. Copies are free for anyone who would like one.

September Birthdays

5-Trina Thornton
7-Bonnie Hegreiness* 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**:

“As the news broke that six hostages were killed before Israeli forces could free them, I experienced an entirely new level of despair and anger. So much death, so much destruction, so much anger, so much grief ... Where does it end? One living hostage was rescued earlier last week.

“There is outrage in Israel not only at Hamas, but also at Prime Minister Netanyahu who is largely seen as putting his own interests above that of the hostages. A general strike has been called by the national workers union to call for immediate ceasefire and release of hostages. A general strike, which is supported by the families of the hostages and many of the large private sector companies in Israel is anticipated to largely shut down the country.

“In July, Hamas agreed to the proposed for a ceasefire and hostage exchange. The primary sticking point in negotiations with Hamas since then was Netanyahu’s new demand that Israeli troops remain along the corridor between Egypt and Gaza. The Israeli Minister of Defense stated on Sunday, *‘continuing to impose constraints such as the decision on the Philadephi corridor will result in us not meeting the goals of the war. The fact that we prioritize the Philadelphphi corridor over the lives of the hostages is a serious moral disgrace.’*

‘Pauses in fighting in parts of Gaza are happening this week to provide children under 10 polio vaccines. These will happen over four-day periods in three separate areas of Gaza. Meanwhile Israel took major military offensives in the occupied West Bank last week.

“The lives of all hostages are now considered to be more endangered than ever before. I pray that a ceasefire and hostage deal will finally be reached in coming days.”

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>.

48th Annual Hopewood Pines Apple Butter/Fall Festival Set for Oct. 13

Celebrate the fall season with the annual Hopewood Pines (Lutheran Memorial Camp) Apple Butter Festival on **Sunday, Oct. 13** from 12 to 6 p.m.! Enjoy a wagon ride through camp, sample tasty apple butter, grab a meal, and let the kids have fun in the supervised children’s activity area.

There will be craft vendors, food trucks, wine and beer vendors, and so much more!

Also, enjoy the NEW pumpkin patch. Come and buy pumpkins of all shapes and sizes and even bring them to paint during our festival!

This annual event raises funds for camp scholarships (camperships). “Your support can make a big difference — \$590 can send a child to summer camp, and \$2,235 can send a family of four to camp at Luther.

“Last year, thanks to your generosity, 269 campers were able to attend camp. Help us make camp accessible to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Every contribution matters — thank you for your support!”

Colby Martin to Appear at Epiphany Lutheran Church

Colby Martin will make two appearances at Epiphany Lutheran Church (268 Hill Road North, Pickerington) on **Saturday** and **Sunday, Sept. 28-29**. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, he will address “Why LGBTQ Affirming Christianity is Not an Oxymoron (An Exploration of the Clobber Passages).”

Then on Sunday, he will be guest speaker at Epiphany’s Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Martin is the author of *Unclobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality* and a second book, *The Shift* – “a survival guide for becoming a progressively minded Christian.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

September 3 National Suicide Prevention Month Pray for those who feel lonely, depressed and hopeless, that they will find compassion and spiritual renewal in times of darkness and suffering. Ask the Spirit how we might best respond to our neighbors and siblings in Christ who are struggling.

4 Ask the Spirit to help us be doers and hearers of the word of God, looking beyond our own needs and attending to the needs of our suffering neighbors.

5 Give thanks for the thousands of young people who attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in July and raised nearly \$100,000 for Generation Zero-Hunger, supporting ELCA World Hunger in its work to end hunger and poverty and to transform lives, families and communities around the world.

6 Pray for communities and congregations vulnerable to the hurricanes, that they will be prepared, resilient and ready to serve their neighbors affected by severe weather. Give thanks for the many ways — immediate and long term — that Lutheran Disaster Response gathers resources to relieve suffering, support recovery and healing, and stir hope.

7 Pray for ELCA campus ministries across the country as they engage students, faculty, staff and others to experience God’s abundant grace through worship, study, fellowship, service and pastoral care.

8 “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday On this annual day of service, give thanks for the opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. Give thanks for our partnerships of compassion, service and advocacy with other congregations and ecumenical partners, Lutheran health and human service agencies, and community organizations.

9 “I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long” (Psalm 146:2). Thank God for all we have and for God’s loving and merciful presence in our lives.

The Community Beyond

Key Election Dates for Nov. 5 Election

Monday, Oct. 7: Deadline to register to vote (9 p.m.)

- Check voter registration status at <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/voterlookup.aspx>
- Register to vote or update registration (including address changes) online at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/register/>

Tuesday, Oct. 29: Deadline for absentee ballot applications to be received by a county board of elections by 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 8: Absentee voting by mail begins. (Must be postmarked by Nov. 4.)

Early, in-person voting begins, including the Saturday and Sunday two weeks before Election Day but NOT the Monday before Election Day. See hours and full schedule at

<https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/current-voting-schedule/>

Tuesday, Nov. 5 ELECTION DAY – Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for mail ballots to be personally delivered to county board of elections by 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 9: Deadline for boards of election to receive mail-ballots that have been postmarked on or before Monday, Nov. 4.

Getting Ready for Worship

16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; Mark 7:24-37

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer 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 Danville.

+ For Redeemer community members Diane Brobeck and Tammy DeNune.

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, Kathie Ehrich; 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, Ranel Hoddinott, Karen Kent, Diane Brobeck, Roman Fisher, Zimmer Family.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brad Binau
Assisting Minister	Joss Dana
Cantor	Al Rider
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chim24-35e Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Helen Brunston
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith
Hospitality	Katie Jacobs
Communion Prep	Eileen Day

Flowers are given by the Steiner Family in honor of Andrea's birthday

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

This Week at Redeemer September 3-9, 2024

Tuesday	11:00 a.m.	Member Care Team
	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Executive Team
Saturday	10 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks

- 11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages, with Sister Act assembling Care Kits for unhoused persons
- 4:00 p.m. Community Blessing of the Backpacks and Ice Cream Social



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