



Reflections

VOLUME 28

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ISSUE 38

SOS Bishop on Springfield in the Crossfire

Given the focus over the last two weeks on Columbus' neighboring city Springfield, **Southern Ohio Synod Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt** issued the following letter:

Siblings in Christ,

Many of you have watched the news over the past week regarding false statements about the immigrant community in Springfield, OH, specifically our Haitian neighbors. The events that have followed are a continuation of a quickening trend toward division and violence throughout our world.

I have been in contact with city officials in Springfield, as well as our congregations and their leadership. They are grateful for the prayers for them and their community from across the Southern Ohio Synod, the ELCA, nationally, and globally.

This past Friday, our synod posted a prayer on our social media accounts. We invite you to share that on your personal pages For those not on social media, the text of the prayer is below:

God of peace,
In a world so wired and interconnected,
our anxious hearts are pummeled by an endless barrage of troubling news (bomb threats, hate speech, divisions among community members).
We are daily aware of more grief, O Lord, than we can rightly consider,
of more hostility, hatred, horror, and injustice.
But you are not disquieted by news of cruelty.
You are neither anxious nor overwhelmed.
You carried the full weight of the suffering of the world all the way to the cross.
You carry it, still.
When the cacophony unsettles us, remind us that you are present with us.
Justice and mercy, healing and redemption are the work you are doing in the world.
Guard us from shutting down our empathy or walling off our hearts.
Move each of us to respond with compassion, to be extensions of your presence that is already there. Give us wisdom in the face of troubling news reports.
Give us discernment to know when to act, when to speak out, when to place our anxiety at your feet, and when to pray that your kingdom of peace be present within our world.
Amen.

Adapted from "A Liturgy for Those Flooded by Too Much Information," *Every Moment Holy*, vol. 1, ©2017.

What else can we do? How is God calling us to respond?

1. Pastors, Deacons, Synod Authorized Ministers (SAMs), Lay Worship Leaders

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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

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



cont'd on p. 7

The Redeemer Community

Sunday Adult Ed Resumes Looking at 'Leading Causes of Life'

The Sunday Adult Ed Forum has resumed 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 with the first examined this past Sunday being "connection" or "our capacity for interaction with all of creation." Other conditions for life and the Sundays they will be discussed are as follows:

- **Coherence/Sunday, Sept. 29:** Our ability to belong and find meaning.
- **Agency/Sunday, Oct. 6:** Our capacity to make things happen, even modestly.
- **Blessing/Sunday, Oct. 13:** Our capacity to care across generations.
- **Hope/Sunday, Oct. 27:** 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."

The Adult Ed class is held both in-person and on Zoom. To participate remotely go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>; Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581; Passcode: 752230. Phone only: 1-312-626-6799.

'Blessing of Animals' Set for Oct. 6

The blessing of members', friends' and neighbors' pets is set for **Sunday, Oct. 6** on Redeemer's front lawn. It runs from 4 to 5 p.m. and critters of all shapes and sizes are welcome: from schnauzers to snakes. *Stop by!* There will also be other activities.



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 have donated new or gently used blankets and cold weather clothing to help provide for unhoused brothers and sisters in the Columbus area but time is passed for dropping these items off for this year. 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.

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

Food Giveaway Serves 502 People

Kathleen Zwanziger reports that, "The September food giveaway was held on yet another hot day, **Thursday, Sept. 19**. Together we served 502 people, which included 146 children and 116 seniors. Once again, we had several new families (43). The traffic directors did a terrific job, utilizing three traffic lanes (to keep cars off Scottwood Road) that merged into one.

"We had a total of 24 volunteers. If you felt extra busy, keep in mind that one was a client who came early to help bag items, two were members who had worked their 'day jobs' before arriving, and two were basketball players who helped us tear down the site. Then there were all of YOU who helped by supplying us with the extras to hand out. People appreciate what we all do to help our neighbors in need. Thank you!"

The October giveaway "extras" are cleaning supplies such as wipes, paper towels, sponges, etc. These items can be dropped off in the coatroom, just off the Narthex.

Council Votes to 'Retire' Parking Lot Murals

In August, the Redeemer Congregation Council voted to retire the six murals that have been hanging on the fence in the parking lot, reports **Council President Krista Skipper**. These murals, done by Columbus artist **Duarte**, had been hanging for several years and had become warped and faded. Additionally, they were adding weight to a fence that is in need of replacement.

The property team reached out to Duarte to thank him for sharing his artistry with our community and to ask for his guidance. Duarte responded, "The murals served their purpose for a season and I have no means to restore them. You can lay them to rest, throw them out, recycle or whatever works best. Blessings and Grace."

Duarte's murals on the front fence remain.

Work Begins on RLC's Memorial Garden

Work began Monday on constructing "Redeemer Lutheran Church Remembering Garden" on the north lawn outside the Sanctuary. Council approved a motion at September meeting to spend \$24,497 for the landscape portion of the memorial garden. Funding for the project is coming from the "Memorial Fund" and the "Mary Kohler Ministry Fund."

This follows the appointment in May of a "Memorial Garden Project Team" consisting of **Michele Disbro** (convenor), **Mary Benis**, **Brad Binau**, **Kathy Mimlitch**, **Al Rider**, **Pastor Dave** and **Linda Williams**.

Stewardship Committee Thanks Those Attending Anniversary Celebration

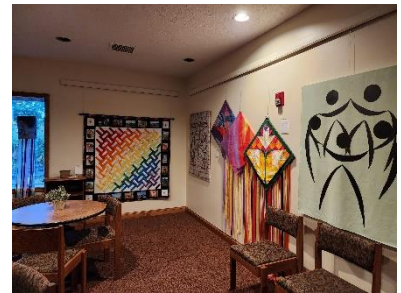
The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all those who attended the Anniversary and Celebration of Ministries Sunday Potluck, **Kathy Denhard** writes. "Great food and great conversations highlighted the gathering which featured a Crossword and Word Finder game challenge. Winners of a Redeemer Coffee mug were **Zak Hinkle-Moore**, **Brad Dana**, **Kathy Zwanziger**, **Heather Coffman**, **Heidi Scherer**, **Eileen Day**, **Elizabeth George**, **Linda Williams**, **LaVerna Reinoehl**, **Pastor Brad**, **Wendy Stoica**, **Misato In** and **Larry Trover**.

"Extra copies of the Ministries Booklet are available on the table by the library. Maybe you are called to join one of them."

Narthex Art Now Features Banners



The latest installment in the series of art exhibits "Redeemer through the Seasons" is now up featuring Redeemer's many banners used throughout the year to enhance the liturgical observances. The display also includes a special quilt created by member **Kathy Mimlitch** reflecting Redeemer's members as well as activities in the church. She created the quilt for Redeemer's 67th Anniversary. Check it out to find the square you signed. If you didn't sign a square, use the cloth marker to sign one of the white triangles.



CROP Walk Set for Sunday, Oct. 13

The 2024 Central Ohio CROP Walk will take place on **Sunday, October 13** and once again, the Redeemer Lutheran Church Team is walking to raise funds for alleviating hunger, both here and around the world.

To sign up to walk or to make a donation, go to Redeemer's web page at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/redeemer-lutheran-church-2>

Online donations are preferred, but the walkers will also accept cash and checks made out to CWS/CROP and can be given to any of Redeemer's team: **Kathy Zwanziger**, **Wendy Stoica**, **Heidi Sherer** and **Connie Criswell**. "Anyone else who would like to join us would be more than welcome!"



Tuesday Bible Study Continues Sept. 24

Redeemer's Tuesday Bible Study continues on **September 24** 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/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXPiJD5mQRc5UIxjdA.1> ;Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992. Passcode: 830218. Phone only: 1-312-626-6799.

Worship Team Seeks Comments on Creeds

As Redeemer again sends the "Apostles' Creed" on Sabbatical for a couple of Sundays, Worship Team member **Michelle Clemence** solicited comments to her and other members about the creeds. A couple of weeks ago, the creed developed by the United Church of Canada – see the Sept. 3 *Reflections* for the text – was used and this week and next, the congregation will be using the following creed from the Iona Community:

We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all human persons.
We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven
to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.
We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and eternal life.

Amen.

Upcoming Fall Events 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:

Saturday, Sept. 28 is the Good Neighbor Picnic at Wolf Park. Ahead of that, Redeemer collected 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.

Sunday, Oct. 6 will see the **blessing of members', friends' and neighbors' pets** on the church lawn from 4 to 5 p.m. All sizes of pets are welcome: from schnauzers to snakes!! There will also be other activities.

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.

Sunday, Oct. 13: CROP Walk. Redeemer has a team of folks who walk to end hunger here in Columbus and around the world. See separate story in this issue of *Reflections*.

Thursday, Oct. 17, between 3-5:30 p.m.: The last Mid-Ohio Food Cooperative/Lutheran Social Services Food Giveaway 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 October giveaway "extras" are cleaning supplies such as wipes, paper towels, sponges, etc.** These items can be dropped off in the coatroom, just off the Narthex.

Redeemer Resumes Ongoing Fall Schedule

The following highlights ongoing fall activities here at Redeemer. Check them out! There may be something you'd like to try!

Ongoing Tuesdays, 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/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXPiJD5mQRc5UIxjdA.1>; Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992; Passcode: 830218. Phone only: 1-312-626-6799.

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.**

Ongoing Sundays, 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.

Periodic Sundays through 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 and the dates of the discussions.

Second Sundays: 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.)

First Wednesdays: Redeemer serves at the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry on the first Wednesdays. 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.

October-November: Members will once again be asked to write a reflection for the 2024 Advent Devotions booklet. Watch *Reflections* for the devotion texts and deadlines.

Redeemer Offers Urgent Messages through Mobile Messaging Service Called 'Remind'

Remember last year when we needed to cancel the worship service due to some unexpected HVAC problems? What happens if there is an ice storm or snow and you're not sure if the church will be open for worship?

Now, Redeemer members and friends can sign up to receive a text message on their phone whenever there is an urgent situation regarding church. This service will be provided by "Remind," a service that many local schools use. The schools send out important messages to their families' cell phones so the families can be notified quickly.

Redeemer's **Member Care Team** would like to give this service a try for Redeemer. It's super easy to use. Once you sign up, you don't need to do a thing. To sign up, just send a text message to 81010 with the message @RLCCBUS and respond to the texts that you get back. If we need to notify you of something, we will send you a text.

Signing up for "Remind" messages is totally optional, but we anticipate it will be helpful in emergencies. Click [here](#) for more complete directions or reach out to **Kristi Hildebrand** or **Michele Disbro** for help in signing up.

BREAD Updates on Activities; RLC to Hold 'Listening Session'

Redeemer's BREAD liaison, **Rob Sievert-Wagner**, recently shared updates on BREAD's activities:

Environment: The Environmental Campaign is reenergized because they are working on the private tree ordinance. (Reminder, they already won the public tree ordinance.)

Housing: They are working on holding irresponsible landlords accountable.

Non-crisis response teams: BREAD is working to develop a ballot initiative for 2025. This bill would be for the creation of non-crisis response teams to be sent out for non-crisis situations rather than the police. Watch for more information and the opportunity to help collect signatures for this important ballot initiative. Please see more information here:

<https://www.redeemerluth.com/wp-admin/upload.php?item=5609>

BREAD House Meetings: Every fall the BREAD congregations hold house meetings to share updates on the BREAD campaigns and share their concerns about social justice in Columbus. All faith organizations in BREAD hold these listening events as a tool to determine the next project that BREAD would like to focus on. Redeemer will hold its house meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 3**, during the Sunday School hour, beginning at about 11:15 a.m.



Upcoming BREAD Dates

- **Team Assembly: Monday, Oct. 28:** North Broadway UMC at 7 p.m., 48 E. North Broadway Street, 43214.

- **RLC House Meeting/Listening Session: Sunday, Nov. 3.** Room 2 at 11:15 a.m.

- **Annual Assembly: Tuesday, Nov. 12,** Christ the King Catholic Church at 7 p.m., 2777 E. Livingston Ave., 43209.

Senior Choir Rehearses Sunday Mornings

Redeemer's Senior Choir rehearses on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Contact **Director Kathy Rapp** if you have any questions: ARappThing@hotmail.com; 614-565-2945.

Trivia Night Returns Friday, Oct. 18!!



What is the oldest city in the United States? *The Hound of the Baskervilles* is a crime novel featuring which fictional detective? Do you know the answer to any of these questions? Are you lucky to remember what you had for breakfast today? Either way, we hope you can join us for Redeemer's Trivia Night on **Friday, Oct. 18** at 7 p.m.

Bring your own beverage and a snack to share. We'll form teams (be thinking of a team name!) and the competition will fierce over numerous rounds of questions.

Don't think you can't possibly contribute to your trivia team because the questions will cover a range of topics over a range of decades. The best teams consist of diverse people to handle the variety of questions. Bring a friend! Come join the fun! See **Michele Disbro** if you have any questions.

Come have fun, laugh, learn, and may the smartest team win?!!

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 Ernsthansen.**”

SOS Bishop on Springfield in the Crossfire *cont'd from p. 1*

(LWLs), and Congregational Leaders: This is the time to remind us of the words of Jesus and of Martin Luther, through conversations, teaching, and preaching.

Matthew 22:34-40 (NRSV)

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He 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.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Small Catechism

5th Commandment: You shall not kill.

What does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we neither endanger nor harm the lives of our neighbors, but instead help and support them in all life’s needs.

2. All of us can speak up to advocate for truth, to put an end to false statements and dispel rumors that dehumanize our neighbors. How we engage with one another online is another way we live with, love, care for, and serve our neighbors.

3. Continue to pray.

God of peace, continue to accompany our siblings in the Springfield area and its leadership, for our congregations and ministries within the Springfield area, for schools, hospitals, first responders, Wittenberg University, and the immigrant community, especially the Haitian community. Bring an end to violence and rumors that are swirling. May the peace of Christ that surpasses all understanding become a reality within this city. All this we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

In Christ, the source of our peace and our hope,
Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt

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

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.

RLC T-Shirts Available for Ordering

A wide variety of Redeemer t-shirts are now available for ordering including sweatshirts and long-sleeve t-shirts. Also, a wide range of colors are also available. Go to <https://www.customink.com/g/amh0-00cw-haan> to make a selection and to order.

Care Kits Available for Distribution

Care Kits, assembled by members of Sister Act and the youth Sunday School classes, can be picked up in the Narthex and distributed to those in the community who need some additional help. Also included is a resource list of where they might go for assistance. It was also suggested folks could insert \$5 into the kits they distribute.

Follow-up to Sunday’s Sermon

Pastor Brad announced that **Kevin Hines**, who was the focus of his **Sunday, Sept. 22** sermon, will be coming to Portsmouth to tell his story: “Cracked Not Broken.” He will speak at the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts, Shawnee State University Campus, 940 Second St. from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/58kvfu4n>.

Former Redeemer Pastor Moves; Cards Welcome

Kathleen Kelley reports that her father, former **Bishop** ... and Redeemer pastor ... **Robert Kelley** has moved to Cotter House Worthington. His new address is Rev. Robert Kelley, Room 208, 800 Proprietors Rd., Worthington, OH 43085. She says if any Redeemer members are interested in sending him a note or card, they can go to him directly at this address.

***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

24-Sheryl Owens 24-Adam Darst
26-Sarah Binau 27-Karen Rider
27-Becky Fisher

October Birthdays

4-Misato In 4-May Schwarz
9-Bill Boys 11-Thea Barbour Harms
11-Sue Watson 16-Eileen Day
17-Shari Ayers 19-Renee McFarland
19-Miles Smith 20-Ryland Neal
20-Jennifer Young 23-Skye Andree
23-Cason Day 23-Sandra Keaton
24-Bret Day 24-Leyton Wolfe
25-Madeline Gosnell 26-Kennedi Jacobs
26-Avery Martin 27-Brad Phillips
27-Krista Skipper 29-Jeremy Davis
30-Martin Binau 31-John Caron

The Wider Church

Update on Palestine and Gaza

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

“This past week has been filled with news about Israel and Lebanon, and the Hezbollah fighters there. This included Hezbollah’s pagers simultaneously exploding which killed at least 12 people and injured over 3,000, and the subsequent explosions of walkie talkies, some of which exploded at funerals of those killed by pager explosions. Israel has told the United States that it was behind this sabotage. Late last week Israeli planes did their largest bombing in Lebanon. The United States and other nations are not happy with Israel for this escalation, which they fear will expand the conflict in the region.

“It is important to note that Israel continues its efforts in Gaza, which UN officials have termed a ‘moonscape’ due to the massive destruction of virtually every area of Gaza. Aid trucks trickle into Gaza, at a rate far below what arrived daily before October 7, 2023 – let alone what is needed to begin to address the starvation occurring through Gaza.

“Israel has also begun attacking in the occupied West Bank – destroying roads and then driving into towns with tanks. The West Bank economy has collapsed since October 8, 2023, when people and goods were prohibited from crossing out of their villages and towns, and over 100,000 people whose work required them to cross into Israel from the occupied territory could no longer cross.

“A ceasefire and hostage deal seems unlikely in this atmosphere. **Prime Minister Netanyahu** and his far-right coalition are unwilling to compromise on control of what’s known as the Philadelphia Corridor at the Egypt/Gaza border – an area that Egypt controlled for decades.

“As the focus continues to shift in the news to Israel’s northern border with Lebanon, it is crucial that the world does not forget the immense death, starvation, and suffering in Gaza, or the fate of the remaining hostages there. Nor should Israel’s continued and increases violations of international law in the West Bank be condoned.

“I just recently realized that the Israeli Knesset voted this summer to never recognize Palestine. Netanyahu has stated this before but now that is the official position of Israel.”

SOS Women of ELCA to Hold Biennial Convention

The Southern Ohio Synod’s Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention is 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>.

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 24 Ask God to bless our synod bishops, presiding bishop and secretary as they gather in Chicago for the Conference of Bishops, that they might support and encourage one another and help identify, invite and equip new leaders in the church.

25 Pray that our actions, words and relationships will reflect the love of God, which stirs humility, joy, kindness and generosity.

26 Pray that God will strengthen and guide us in the essential work of ending poverty, hunger and homelessness, here and around the world, for the sake of humanity and to honor God as our creator and source of life.

27 Give thanks that God is our help and strength in every situation, and that our faith will be sustained through the work of the Spirit and the care we receive from our siblings in Christ.

28 “Could it be that we are called for such a time as this?” (*All Creation Sings* 1003). In this time of unrest and uncertainty we may feel that we have nothing of significance to offer. Pray that we will hear and respond to God’s call to use our unique gifts, experiences and wisdom to be an active, compassionate and faithful presence in the world.

29 Rejoice and give thanks to God for empowering us to gather our strength and resources as communities of faith, serving our neighbors in need in ways we could never imagine on our own.

30 Pray for the new members of your congregation, that they will feel included in a faith community that responds to their need for spiritual growth, shares in their joys and sorrows, and welcomes their diverse gifts for doing God’s work in the world.

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 19th Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2024 – 10 a.m. Lessons

Readings: Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3; Psalm 19:7-14; Luke 2:8-15

Prayer of the Day

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of 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 All Saints Church: A Lutheran-Episcopal Community in Washington Court House.
- + For Redeemer community member Shirley Cannon.

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 Ehrlich; Nathaniel Bird's father-in-law Wendell Jordan, John Huber, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Paul Johnson, Karen Kent, Diane Brobeck, Roman Fisher, Terry Warren's sister Elaine.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brad Binau
Assisting Minister	Kathleen Zwanziger
Cantor	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chim24-35e Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ashley Bird
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Hospitality	Judy and Ashley Bird
Communion Prep	Eileen Day

*Flowers are given by **Becky Trover** in gratitude for Redeemer's Office Angels.*

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

This Week at Redeemer September 23-30, 2024

Monday	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
Saturday		Good Neighbors Picnic
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
Monday	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