

Reflections

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Stewardship Month: *Gary Highlights Help Received Via Good Samaritan Fund*

The "Together Creating Something Greater than Ourselves Stewardship Campaign Minute" on Sunday featured Redeemer's Outreach Ministry. **Julie Johnson** highlighted the church's outreach initiatives from the Lutheran Social Services (LSS)-MidOhio Food Collective Food Giveaway to Basketball Camp, to the more personalized Outreach Program that uses the Good Samaritan Fund. Through that fund the pastor, at his discretion, provides financial assistance to individuals who find themselves in difficult situations. This provides him the opportunity to develop relationships with the recipients.

One recent beneficiary of the Good Samaritan Fund is **Gary**. Before his sabbatical, **Pastor Dave** asked Gary if he would be willing to visit Redeemer on a Sunday and share his story. On Sunday, Gary came to Redeemer not for financial help but to share his story and his thanks. He told of the relationship that he, his wife, and Pastor Dave forged and how he never imagined that a church would help him without judgment or strings. Gary came on Sunday after getting off his night shift at 7 a.m. While not a practiced public speaker, it was important for him to thank Redeemer for their unconditional sharing God's love.

Redeemer Outreach Ministry is varied in its scope and programs. Many programs involve the feeding of people who may not have the resources to have nourishing meals. In addition to the LSS Food Giveaway, Redeemer sponsors meals at First English Lutheran Church, supports the LSS Food Pantry, and even grows and gives away fresh garden produce. The Outreach Team participates in Berwick Night Out when many community neighbors thanked us for the programs made available to them.

In addition, BREAD and the Good Neighbors Picnic enable Redeemer to reach beyond the immediate community to serve a wider need.

The Stewardship Team thanks all who have returned their pledge cards; it is helpful to formulate the 2025 budget. **Kathy Denhard**, Stewardship chair, comments, "For those who have not returned their pledges yet, we ask that you consider how God is serving Redeemer and share your thanks." The pledges will be presented during the Reformation Service, **Sunday**, **Oct. 27** at which time **April Smith** will also speak on the topic: "Creating Something Greater than Ourselves: The Nuts and Bolts of Redeemer."

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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 Julie Boreman Laura Warren Ashley Bird Wendy Stoica 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

Last Food Giveaway: 'Glorious Day'

Kathy Zwanziger reports, "What a glorious day we had for the final Food Giveaway of the season on October 17! Once again, we had many new families: 35! We had a total of 165 guests (four more than last month), for a total of 533 people served. Of those, 149 were children (17 and under), and 125 were seniors.

"We were light on volunteers: 20 of our own members (some coming after work or school), and two extra volunteers. (Since **Larry Jones** has come to every giveaway, I count him as a member!) With the volunteers' willingness to help, we managed to distribute 10,696 pounds of food and nearly ALL the extras (except 1 box of chalk) – and a box of bars of soap (which was donated to Bishop Griffin Resource Center).

"Thanks to all of you for your contributions and to all the volunteers for their time and effort. We had a great season – and look forward to our next giveaway in April of 2025."

Help LSS Pack Thanksgiving Care Packages

With Thanksgiving approaching, Redeemer will again be assisting the Food Pantry in providing some food for those who need help providing a Thanksgiving meal for their families. A few bags are available at church to fill with these items *only* so folks are asked to use their own cloth bags for the items. (They will not be returned.). LSS will add a turkey, bread, and produce. **The deadline to have items at church is <u>Sunday</u>, <u>Nov. 10</u>. Questions? Contact Kathy Zwanziger.**

- 2 pouches or 1 box of mashed potatoes
- 2 cans of fruit (peaches, applesauce, pears, etc.)
- 3 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of corn
- 2 cans of pumpkin
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box or bag of stuffing mix
- 1 turkey gravy packet
- 1 boxed yellow cake mix

Thanks for helping make Thanksgiving happier for many people!

Thanks to Everyone Writing an Advent Devotion!

Thanks to everyone who signed up to write one (or more) of the devotions for this year's Advent devotional booklet!! It will be available on **Sunday, Nov. 24** and Redeemer member **Donna Voelkel** will again provide original art for the cover.

Just a reminder: The meditations should be fewer than 350 words, include a title and conclude with a short prayer. Individual devotions should be emailed to **Mary Benis** by **Monday, Nov. 11** for editing.

Tuesday Bible Study Continues Oct. 22

Redeemer's Tuesday Bible Study continues on <u>October 22</u> 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.

Sunday Adult Ed to Conclude Look at 'Leading Causes of Life'

The Sunday Adult Ed Forum continues examining the book *Leading Causes of Life* by **Gary Gunderson** and **Larry Pray** although folks don't need to read the book to participate. The class has examined the things that Gunderson and Pray insist actually *cause* life which include "connection," "coherence," "agency" and "blessing." The final condition, "hope," will be discussed **Sunday, Oct. 27.** This deals with "our capacity to remember the future." Also, participating in the discussion will be **Pastor Brad's** wife, **Pastor Ann Palmerton.**

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.

Calling All Recyclers!

Kathy Zwanziger reports, "Last week I took several items to The Recycling Convenience Center at 2566 Jackson Pike (just south of the corrections facility) because they will recycle styrofoam (just the 'packing' kind, not the food container kind). They also took all my pill bottles, as well as the well-used aluminum pans from the garden giveaways.

"Additionally, they take batteries (car and household ones, even the corroded one I had), oil -based paint -- as well as typical recyclable items. The recycling list is found at this website. Recycling Convenience Center | SWACO, OH."

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.

Good Neighbors Picnic 2024 Wrap-Up

Carol Heacock reports that on <u>Saturday, Sept. 28</u>, the Good Neighbors of Central Ohio (GNoCO), held its 26th annual Good Neighbors Picnic. "Despite the light rain in the afternoon, guests came and enjoyed a hot meal and entertainment under the cover of numerous tents set up throughout Wolfe Park. Highlights from this day of celebration include the following:

- "165 adults and 74 children were transported from shelters.
- "7 school buses were used to pick up guests from the shelters and provide a return ride.
- "460 guests were fed a hot meal at the food tents.
- "147 men received clothing at the Free Store, including a winter coat.
- "182 women shopped at the Free Store for a winter coat, and other items of clothing.
- "92 children of all ages and sizes received a winter coat and other clothing items.
- "329 shoppers received hygiene items.
- "421 shoppers, including 92 children had their choice of a blanket.
- "Reading glasses were handed out and tables of free books were available for all ages.
- "Live music, children's craft stations, and **Ohoho the Clown** [*Editor's note*: Redeemer's own **Larry Trover**] were available all afternoon.

"The Good Neighbors of Central Ohio recognizes there are many cultural layers that make up our community. This day encourages people to work side-by-side to demonstrate that we are good neighbors to our often-forgotten community members.



"Many thanks to the Redeemer family for your generous donations to this year's picnic. For more information go to www.goodneighborspicnic.org."

'Noisy Offering' Going to Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is the latest beneficiary of Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" – the offering of coins during the Sunday service. Given the latest two hurricanes – Helene and Milton – that raked Florida and North Carolina and various locations in between, LDR works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, gift cards, tarps and other needs. Since many hurricanes also require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care.

Contributions can also be made directly to LDR by calling 800-638-3522. Checks or money orders can be mailed to Lutheran Disaster Response P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

"Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to those affected by hurricanes and related disasters, such as mudslides, severe storms and flooding. These gifts also empower us to respond to disasters whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts to 'Hurricane Response' at https://give.elca.org/page/68904/donate/1 will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete."

RLC Security Alarm Reminders

April Smith, chair of Redeemer's Property Team, reminds folks, "When you enter the building and you know no one else is present, please assume that the security alarm is on. There is a keypad next to the kitchenette and also one in the hallway of the education wing as you enter those doors. Look for the orange instruction sheet on the entrance doors. There are also instructions by the keypads.

"Please be sure to disarm the system when you enter and re-arm it when you leave. We have had a few calls recently from the monitoring company indicating intrusion when in fact it was our own folks in the building. Police are dispatched if we cannot respond to the monitoring company in a timely manner.

"If you are unsure how to use the alarm system, if you need a code number, or just have questions about what to do, please see me or **Sue Yehling** and we will help you out!"

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. Included with each is a short history and the artist who created it.

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.

Kathy Mimlitch acknowledges **Karen Rider** for the inspiration for the anniversary quilt, **Kathy Rapp** for the embroidered pieces and **Eileen Day** for her consultation on making the wall hanging. Many of the banners were made by Redeemer member **Michelle Clemence**.

Important Emails

<u>Info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

<u>MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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.

<u>Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

<u>Property@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use to report items that need repair in the church building.



<u>SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

<u>Transportation@redeemerluth.com</u> – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

<u>Communications@redeemerluth.com</u> – 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 <u>info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> 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

If anyone knows of a great house cleaning person or company who is accepting new clients, please call the church office to share their information. A member of the Redeemer community needs help!

+ + + A Note of Thanks

Kathy Rapp and **Karen Kent** are so grateful for the cards, flowers, and comments on the passing of their mother, **Mary Watts**. 'Our Redeemer Family sure knows how to surround us with love. We are planning a Memorial Service at Redeemer on **Saturday, Nov. 23**. Thank you all!"

Pastor Ann Palmerton to Share Pulpit Sunday

Pastor Ann Palmerton will share the pulpit Sunday with her husband, **Pastor Brad.** She will also participate in the Sunday Adult Forum.

Updated 2024 RLC Member Directory Now Available

The fall quarterly update of the 2024 **Redeemer Member Directory** is now available. It can be picked up in the church office. Or call the church office at 614-237-1263 to have it either mailed or emailed. Thanks to **Diane Brobeck** for keeping this resource up-to-date!

2025 Calendars Available for Pick-Up

Calendars and planners for 2025 are starting to accumulate on the shelf under the hallway bulletin board. Members and friends are encourage to take as many as you can use and feel free to share with friends and family. **Office Manager Becky Trover** suggests, "If you visit nursing homes or care facilities, oftentimes they like to have wall calendars to post in each room - you are encouraged to take a supply with you."

MONDAY, OCT. 21 IS DEADLINE to Order RLC T-Shirts Online

Today, Monday, Oct. 21 is the deadline to place an order for a Redeemer t-shirt. They are available in a wide variety of styles including sweatshirts and long-sleeve t-shirts. Also, a wide range of colors are available including red, orange, yellow, green blue, fuchsia, purple and black. A variety of styles are also available such as unisex, women's and youth. The shirts include Redeemer's logo on the front and Redeemer's values of inclusion, compassion and justice on the back. Go to https://www.customink.com/g/amh0-00cw-haan to make a selection and to order. (There is a minimum order requirement. So for those planning to order but haven't done so, now is the time. Don't forget: these would make good Christmas presents!)

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.



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. Also, folks are reminded to not open emails from Bishop Suzanne Dillahunt or members of the Southern Ohio Synod staff that use unfamiliar email addresses. The synod says to do the following:

- 1. Do not engage
- 2. Report as spam with your email or cell phone provider
- 3. Delete the email, block the sender, and block the phone number

October Birthdays

23-Skye Andree 23-Cason Day 23-Sandra Keaton 24-Bret Day 24-Leyton Wolfe 25-Madeline Gosnell 26-Kennedi Jacobs 26-Avery Martin 26-Krista Skipper 27-Brad Phillips 29 Jeremy Davis 30-Martin Binau 31-John Caron

The Wider Church

Palestine Update

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

"Last week, Israel killed **Yahya Sinwar**, the head of Hamas who was central to planning the October 7 massacre in Israel. He was the last of three leaders of Hamas that Israel had targeted - all three had been charged with war crimes by the International Criminal Court, which also charged **Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu** and the Israeli Defense Minister for war crimes in the destruction and death in Gaza.

"Israel continues its war in Gaza as well as its extensive bombing in Lebanon, where Hezbollah - a terrorist group supported by - Iran is based.

"President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have urged Israel to pursue a ceasefire and release of the hostages now that Yahya Sinwar has been killed. While Netanyahu seems determined to continue expanding the war, it is hard to imagine that the remaining hostages can continue to live through escalating conflict and the devastating and worsening conditions in Gaza.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

October 22 Pray for an end to gun-related deaths and injuries and to the trauma, grief, anxiety and anguish they spread through our communities and nation. Ask God to help us honor the gift of life and the well-being of all people through bold advocacy to reduce gun violence.

- 23 Pray for ministries and organizations that help us welcome, resettle and accompany immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees with dignity and hope, including Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA World Hunger, AMMPARO Migrant Ministry, Global Refuge and Lutheran Services in America.
- **24** "When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them" (Psalm 91:15). God is our ever-present refuge and fortress. Let our prayers and songs proclaim unceasing thanks and praise to God!
- **25** Pray for the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, which supports the 1,300 ELCA congregations and 17,000 staff offering weekday schools and early childhood education programs.
- **26** Reflect on the people around you who might hunger for a friendly word or some indication that they are loved and not forgotten. Include them in your prayers and reach out to them.
- **27** *Reformation Sunday* Praise God for being patient with us through the challenges and changes of being the church and discerning God's truth.
- 28 Pray that the Spirit will work through the traditions, rites and practices of the church, which, evolving over time and from generation to generation, affirm God's saving grace and inspire us to share it.



The Community Beyond

Key Election Dates for Nov. 5 Election

Early voting is currently underway for **Tuesday**, Nov.5 election. That means folks can vote either by mail with those ballots having to be postmarked by **Nov. 4** or in person at local boards of elections. That schedule is as follows:

- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 21-25
- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 and Saturday, Nov. 2
- 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27 and Sunday, Nov. 3
- 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. from Oct. 28-Nov. 1.

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

Reformation Sunday October 27, 2024 – 10 a.m. Folks are asked to wear red! Lessons

Readings: Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 46; John 8:31-36

Prayer of the Day

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

A Prayer for Peace

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions & Thanksqiving

- + For the people of Bethel Lutheran Church in Grove City.
- + For Redeemer community member Michelle Clemence

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, John Huber, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Paul Johnson, Karen Kent, Diane Brobeck, Roman Fisher, Terry Warren's sister Elaine, the family of Ralph Ehrich.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister Pastor Brad Binau

> Preacher **Pastor Ann Palmerton**

Assisting Minister Michele Disbro

Scott Steiner Cantor

ASL Interpreter **Marilyn Floyd**

Kathy Rapp

Organist & Senior Choir Director



Pianist & Chime Choir Director Karen Kent

Usher Jon Disbro

Verger Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips

Communion Prep Nancy Magargal
Hospitality Ashley & Judith Bird

Flowers are given by **the In-Phillips family** celebrating **Brad Phillips'** birthday. The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricane Relief.

This Week at Redeemer October 21 – 28, 2024

Monday 3:00 p.m. Suzuki Music

5:00 p.m. TOPS

5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Troop 2462

Tuesday 1:00 p.m. Bible Study

2:00-8:30 p.m. Suzuki Music

7:00 p.m. Journaling Workshop

Wednesday 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Suzuki Music **Thursday** 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Suzuki Music

SaturdaynoonHymn Picking TeamSunday8:45 a.m.Senior Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Wear red! Worship with Holy Communion IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM

11:15 a.m. Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM

Monday 3-8:00 p.m. Suzuki Music

5:00 p.m. TOPS

7:00 p.m. BREAD Team Assembly

Who's Smartest Person at Redeemer for 2024? It's Official!

Michele Disbro reports, "Wow! Do we have a lot of smart people at Redeemer! That became clear on Friday night, October 18 when we held Trivia Night at Redeemer. Topics included American history, science, celebrity caricatures, international geography, gangster cinema, and other general knowledge. It was quite impressive to see all the brain power in the room answering the questions.

However, only one team was the winner. So, it's official! **Diane Brobeck, Michelle Clemence, Zak Hinkle-Moore**, and **Sue Yehling** are crowned the smartest people at Redeemer for 2024! (although all the other teams were close behind!)

"Great job, everyone!" (Below are pictures of the evening, compliments of Michele.)



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