

This Most Amazing Gift

As I got closer to the beginning of my sabbatical at the end of July, I became clearer about what I wanted from this incredible three-month gift you all were giving me. When people asked me, "What do you want to do on your sabbatical?," I don't know what they expected to hear. I found myself saying, I wanted to practice noticing. I wanted to practice being totally present in each moment. I wanted to practice truly seeing who and what is right around me. I spend so much time in my head, so much time in the past and the future, that I miss the beauty of right now. I wanted to practice noticing that beauty, with the hope that when I returned to work, I've worked my "noticing this moment" muscles well enough that I'll do that better without having to work at it so much. When I'd answer with some form of that, while people would nod the heads, they'd often have a somewhat perplexed expression as well.

I was serious about that. And I'm glad to say I feel like I did a lot of noticing the past three months. It certainly helps that I didn't have anything on my "to-do" list that required me to produce or plan or create or study. Literally, I could just be. The best description of my sabbatical comes from this poem by **Steve Garnaas-Holmes**. It's called "The Great Blue Heron."

> The great blue heron steps into the pond, one step, exactly where she intends, thoughtful, graceful, watching. She knows the way to the Caribbean, and has seen the northern tundra. but now she is here. As readily as she attends to the magnetic streams of earth and the ancient skyward pathways, now she watches this pond, the waves of motion beneath, the glimmers of life here and there, all of them. Her wisdom is not understanding but attention, pure presence, here in this breeze, under this sun and these heron-colored clouds. The resting frog, the shadowy fish, the snake hiding in the reed all are within her gaze. Without her willing them to be there, they are there, and she watches them. The humans passing by, the drifting of the clouds,

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus 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





The Redeemer Community

Deadline for Advent Devotional Entries Is Today, Nov. 11



Thanks to everyone who has already sent in an Advent devotion to **Mary Benis** for editing. For those who have not yet sent one in, the deadline is <u>Monday</u>, <u>Nov. 11</u>. They can be sent to Mary at <u>MKBenis@yahoo.com</u>.

Just a reminder: The meditations should be fewer than 350 words, include a title and conclude with a short prayer. It will be available on <u>Sunday, Nov. 24</u> and Redeemer member **Donna Voelkel** will again provide original art for the cover.

Deadline to Order Poinsettias Is Nov. 18

The deadline to order poinsettias for the Christmas holidays is <u>Monday, Nov. 18</u>, Kay Ernsthausen reports. They are \$7 per plant and an order envelope can be found on the table in the back of the church. Or orders can be submitted by email to Kay at <u>KAErnsthausen@gmail.com</u> or to the church office at info@RedeemerLuth.com (poinsettias in the subject line).

When sending the email, please include your name, color of poinsettias (red, pink or white) and the number of each color. Then the next time you're in church, pick up an envelope from the bulletin board outside the library. Complete the envelope with your name and the dedication for the plants. Put your money in the envelope and drop it in the offering plate. The money and dedication are due to the church office by **Sunday, December 8**. The dedication can be "in memory" of a loved one, "in honor" of loved ones or "to the glory of God."

Don't wait ... Don't forget ... Order Now!!

New Narthex Art Theme Set for Advent: JOURNEY

Emily Kent reports that the theme for the Narthex Art for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany will be "Journey."

"Please consider loaning the church an item from your collection that you feel fits this theme. Submissions with paperwork should be to the church by **Sunday, Nov. 24**.

Dinners DON'T Return to First English

First English Lutheran Church will NOT begin serving dinners until the new year which means folks are off the hook for bringing in donations and/or make sloppy joes for what had been Redeemer's turn Nov. 21, coordinator **Kay Ernsthausen** reported Sunday. See her with questions.

Getting to Know You

We can worship next to someone for years, chat with them at coffee hour, serve on Council with them, bag D'Anjou pears with them month after month at the food giveaway ... and yet not really know them very well.

As a way to deepen our relationships with each other by getting to know each other better, the new adult education series will be a chance to hear **Pastor Dave** interview a variety of folks about their lives. And you'll have a chance to ask questions as well.

The class begins this week. **Ashley Bird** will be interviewed. Come and discover the wonders that lie within people you think you know!

Congregation to Meet Nov. 24 to Elect Council

The congregation will be gathering for the Annual Elections Meeting on <u>Sunday, Nov. 24</u>, immediately following the 10 a.m. church service to vote on the 2025 Congregational Council slate. As outlined in the constitution, this meeting will only be held in person; therefore, to meet our quorum of voting members, we encourage you to attend. There will not be a Zoom option.

The slate includes the following:

Vice president – (open) Secretary – **Rich Pautsch** Education – **Karen Rider** Member Support – **Kathy Mimlitch** Outreach – **Mary Benis** Special Funds Team (SFT) three-year term - **John Kennedy**



Officers continuing for a second year include the following:

President – **Brad Binau** Finance Officer – **Laura Warren** Property – **April Smith** Stewardship – **Kathy Denhard** Worship – **Michelle Clemence**

For those unable to attend in person, absentee ballots will be available the week leading up to the election.

Tuesday Bible Study to Explore Advent, Christmas Stories

What do the Gospel stories about the coming of **Jesus** really say? What would a "manger" scene based on Matthew and Luke look like? A spoiler alert: one of them wouldn't even have a manger!

So celebrate the coming seasons of Advent and Christmas by joining us from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for our weekly Bible study. You can participate in-person or on Zoom.

Berwick School Fund: Update and Thanks

At long last the Outreach Team can share that the ever-generous Redeemer community contributed \$2,290 to help needy families at Berwick Alternative K-8 School. What a wonderful effort!

The delay has come from both internal and external factors – financial reports are less immediate now with Redeemer's off-site accounting services, and communication with a busy school principal can take time. But even though the original intent was to help with back-to-school costs, the principal learned that the families' most urgent requests were for help with both food and school uniforms, and those needs are just as real now as they were earlier, especially with colder weather approaching.

So once again Redeemer has stepped up to meet some very real needs. Imagine the joy of TEN Berwick families when they open their Redeemer notecard this week and find a \$150 Kroger gift card AND a \$75 gift card to Walmart. One family will even get an extra \$40 Old Navy gift card!

Thank you, Redeemer, for living into our mission and making God's love real yet again!

Deadline Passes for Bringing LSS Thanksgiving Care Packages to RLC

If folks are still planning to fill "Thanksgiving bags" for Lutheran Social Services (LSS) they will need to be taken directly to the Food Pantry at Champion and Frebis. The deadline for dropping them off here at Redeemer was **Sunday, Nov. 10**.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this effort to help make Thanksgiving happier for many people!

Sister Act Sets Planning Session for Nov. 20

The November Sister Act meeting is <u>Wednesday, Nov. 20</u> at 6:30 p.m. here at Redeemer. This gathering is the group's planning session for 2025, so folks are asked to bring their ideas and calendars to plan for next year.

RLC CROP Walk Team Raises over \$12,000

A resounding "Thank You!" to everyone who donated to this year's CROP Hunger Walk. Team Redeemer raised \$12,696 for the cause. Some of this goes to support the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, which supplies the produce for the monthly food giveaways in the Redeemer parking lot.

Once again, Redeemer was number one in Central Ohio.

This year's walkers were Kathleen Zwanziger, Wendy Stoica, Heidi Sherer, and Connie Criswell.

Council Meeting Highlights for September/October

RLC's "Remembrance Garden" has been one of the Congregation Council's major topics recently. Funding for the "hardscape" costs were approved and work is currently in progress. Dedication for the site was on All Saints Day. The Memorial Garden team will be working on the next steps including developing procedures and policies as well as a maintenance plan. (See separate article, this issue of *Reflections*.)

As one might expect, the 2025 Budget has taken up its share of Council's meetings! The congregation will receive it for approval at the annual meeting in January. Opportunities to review the budget and ask questions prior to the annual meeting will be given during the Sunday School hour in December. Dates to come soon.



Reflections

President Krista Skipper reported that the Executive Team is working on nominations to the 2025-26 Council slate. The congregation will be asked to approve the full slate at its Congregational Meeting on <u>Nov. 24</u>.

The Executive Team moved to appoint **Kay Ernsthausen** as treasurer starting <u>Jan. 1, 2025</u>, replacing Julie Johnson whose term will end <u>Jan. 31, 2025</u>. The motion was seconded and passed by Council.

Commitments to Reconciling in Christ are currently being updated so that Redeemer's profile is up to date. Council voted and approved that for any future pastoral vacancy, council would appoint a call committee that is in agreement with item #2 of the RIC commitments: "Be open to calling an LGBTQIA+ and Black, Brown, Indigenous, Person of Color (BIPOC) Rostered Leader. " Additionally, the budget will reflect an annual financial contribution to support the national RIC program.

Remembering Garden Going Forward

"The dedication of the first phase of the Remembering Garden was a truly meaningful conclusion to Sunday's service. The idea for such a space had first been introduced and supported at a congregational meeting many years ago and had been percolating ever since. Now that there's a physical presence, and not just a vague concept, it's time to involve more folks in the continuing process of developing and then maintaining our garden," writes **Mary Benis.** "Numerous areas will need to be planned and overseen:

- "**Design**—The next step will be to consider the landscape design the contractor provides and then tailor it to our preferences.

- "Landscape care—The landscape decisions will probably include some elements that will need to be monitored—maybe pruned, sprayed, cut back annually, etc.

- "Hardscape—The paved area will need to be monitored, maybe cleaned off, and the water pump turned on and off seasonally.

- "**Memorial Book**—The book of tribute pages for those whose cremains have been scattered or buried in the main garden area will need to be designed, selected, and maintained.

- "**Statuary**—Perhaps there should be a cross of some sort in the main scattering area and maybe an appropriate statue of some sort in the smaller area reserved for our pets. These would need to be selected and acquired.

- "**Signage**—There should be some visible indication of the garden's identity and purpose—maybe a plaque or two of some sort? Again, these would need to be selected and acquired.

- "**Policies**—Every new space or activity needs thoughtful policies and procedures to guide it. These need to be considered and implemented sooner rather than later.

- "**Financial support**—The plan has been to encourage members and friends of Redeemer to "sponsor" parts of the landscape design. Those opportunities would need to be determined and then communicated to the congregation.

"Lots to think about for a seemingly small space but one imbued with lots of meaning!

"As with all other ministries at Redeemer, the most effective programs are those with broad support. So please consider how you'd like to participate. Involvement could be short- or long-term, area-specific or general -- you decide. And then let one of the current team members know – Mary Benis, Brad Binau, Michele Disbro, Kathy Mimlitch, Dave Shull, or Linda Williams. Questions, concerns, or suggestions are also always welcome."

Engel Provides Overview of Special Funds Team Purpose, Activities

Special Funds Team (SFT) Chair Dave Engel writes that the team, approved by the congregation in 2018, supervises the investment of each fund (Mission Endowment Fund, Memorial and Special Gifts Fund that includes the Memorial Fund, and the Mary Kohler Ministry Fund, and the RLC Building and Equipment Fund) as "entrusted to it by the congregation. These monies are currently invested in the Columbus Foundation. Interest earnings from the total investment are distributed proportionate to the amount in the individual funds.

"The **Mission Endowment Fund** provides for mission work beyond the operating budget of RLC. A percentage (4 percent) of the annual earnings are distributed annually" for the following purposes:

a. "Establish and support ministries of outreach within or on behalf of the congregation.

b. "Further partnerships in mission through the synodical, regional and national expressions of the ELCA.

c. "To support capital improvements, debt retirement a building program of RLC when circumstances warrant. Forms to suggest recipients of this year's distribution are forthcoming.

"Suggestions for unrestricted **Memorial Gift** funds are made to the SFT which will then make a recommendation to the Congregation Council.

Reflections

"The **Mary Kohler Ministry Fund** is an unrestricted fund created by gifts from **Mary Kohler** and an anonymous donor. Applications for educational purposes and for new or existing RLC neighborhood ministries receive priority. The Congregation Council determines disbursements. A suggestion for distribution of money from the Mary Kohler Ministry Fund are made to the SFT which may recommend a distribution of funds to the Congregational Council. Actual distribution is at the direction of the Congregation Council.

"The **RLC Church Building and Equipment Fund** funds the capital expenditure needs that exceed the congregation's annual budget. Additions to and distributions from this fund are controlled by the Congregation and the Congregation Council. The funds are distributed at the direction of the Congregation Council."

In addition to Dave, members of the Special Funds Team are Wendy Stoica, treasurer; Terry Warren, secretary; Ashley Bird; and Julie Boreman.

'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 <u>https://give.elca.org/page/68904/donate/1</u> will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete."

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the rotation of the earth, the movement of the stars through the ages all are in her stillness, in her gaze. Her watching encompasses everything; her listening goes out into all the world. Serene Adept, she takes a second step.

What did the noticing look like? I spent a lot of time sitting on our front screened-in porch reading, writing, talking with friends, watching people, dogs, cats, and the occasional deer go by. I took deep breaths. I did a fair amount of biking – again, trying to focus on looking at what was right around me, and not day-dreaming too much. I drove very little. I cooked a lot of new things. Mike and I had neighbors over for meals, as well as good friends. We had a lot more meals together than we usually do. I think our very social 13-year-old Australian Shepherd mix enjoyed having me around more than usual.

A high point was a **Rick Steves** tour to Portugal in September. Before the tour started, we spent four days in Lyon, France, with a college friend of mine who's lived in France for decades. Mike hasn't had a chance to travel very much, so he was totally thrilled. Two days into our time in Portugal, we were sitting in park in Lisbon. He said, "I just realized that this time in France and here has been the first time in my life I haven't been aware of being Black. I've just been able to relax." The tour guide was full of life and joy and knowledge, and somehow she was able to take a tour group of 28 strangers and turn us into a community of people who really cared about each other.

During the trip, a couple from Seattle was celebrating their 40th anniversary, and the day after was Mike's and my second anniversary. When the tour guide found this out, she called the hotel where we'd be those two nights and arranged so the anniversary couples got the best rooms in the hotel. And when we got to our rooms, both couples found a bottle of champagne in an ice bucket waiting for us. I found Lisbon to be one of the most beautiful cities I've ever visited. An especially enjoyable dinner took place in the medieval town of Obidos. Mike and I got involved in a conversation involving our waiter, and a Portuguese man at a neighboring table who was eating with his mother.

Reflections

We delighted in talking about all kinds of things. We thought the occasion merited a photo, so I've included that with this article.

Because Mike only gets two weeks of vacation a year, he didn't have any left after Portugal. I took two weeks in October and went to the west coast. I spent a week visiting friends from the 23 years I lived in Seattle, including four days hiking and eating in British Columbia. I saw 11 different friends during that time. Then I flew to Los Angeles, and saw my friend from first grade who lives in Palm Springs, a clergy friend from Seattle who's in San Diego, and my playmate from my year in India when I was 10 who's in Los Angeles.



when I was 10 who's in Los Angeles. Again, such rich, joyful, love-filled conversations.

My last day of sabbatical, on All Saint's Day, I went back to Wooster, to worship at the church I grew up in, the church where my parents found so many friendships and whose members helped my parents so much during the last years of their lives. I walked around my elementary school, and peeked in the windows of my 2nd grade class (it hasn't changed very much!), and walked to the edge of the schoolyard hill that went down into our backyard. I remembered all the sledding that had happened there, including the time I'd stupidly agreed to let a first grader steer our toboggan down it. We ended up smashing into a tree, and I ended up with five stiches in the back of my head!

If you haven't guessed by now, sabbatical is about having a relationship with time that is totally different from when one is working. What's difference is on sabbatical you have so much freedom. There's no pressure to get things done in time or on time. Unbelievably, there's basically always enough time to do whatever it is you're up to. There's always enough time.

As I said in the opening of worship yesterday, on the Sundays I was in town the past three months, I got to visit different faith communities. While there were things I appreciated about them, I always left with the same feeling: there isn't a group of people I'd rather be worshiping with than you all.

As I talk to clergy who work at churches which don't offer a sabbatical, I realize how incredibly fortunate I am to be your pastor. Thank you for making noticing time possible. Thank you for this most amazing gift.

Dave Shull

Important Emails

<u>Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

<u>Info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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.

<u>FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – 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 info@RedeemerLuth.com and put Reflections in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.



Prayers and Personals

Prayers are asked for **Ruth Boys** who is recuperating from a broken ankle. Prayers are also asked for **Tamara Hinkle Moore**, the mother of **Zak Hinkle-Moore**, who is recovering from a heart attack and for **Shirley Ziegler**, the mother of **Kathy Pautsch**, who fell and had to have surgery.

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Prayers are asked for the family of Redeemer member – and very important cog in the ministry of the church – **Carolyn Moehring McMeans** who died <u>Thursday, Nov. 7</u> after a two-year bout with ovarian cancer. Carolyn is survived by her brother, Edwin C. Monskie of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; her children, Martin (Karen) Moehring, Becca (Tom) Stein, and Nathan Moehring; her grandchildren, Jordan, Oliver, Elena, Raeya, Adyn, Sasha Moehring, and Maci Stein; and her great-grandchild, Elliott Moehring. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital in Carolyn's name.

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There will be no meeting of Brewing Faith during November. It will meet at its usual time in December.

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Trinity Lutheran Seminary celebrates with Redeemer member **Pastor Shari Ayers** Sunday as she was installed as the pastor for First Lutheran Church, Lorain, OH. Pastor Shari has served in many roles at Trinity, most recently as director of contextual and experiential formation.

+++The memorial service for **Mary Watts**, mother of **Karen Kent** and **Kathy Rapp** will be <u>Saturday, Nov. 23</u>. The family would appreciate having finger sandwiches and cookies after the service. If you can help in this endeavor, please contact **Kathy Mimlitch** at 6-4-439-7739 or <u>kathymimlitch@yahoo.com</u>. Thank you! \cong +++

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!

Flower Sign Up Sheet for 2025 Now Up

The sign-up sheet to provide flowers for the worship services in 2025 is now up on the bulletin board next to the Library. This is a good opportunity to remember a loved one, a special occasion or just because. To pay for the flowers use the special envelop that is also available on the bulletin board. They run \$20.

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."

November Birthdays

12-Emlyn Ott 13-Emily Ott 19-Carolyn Klopfer 20-Zak Hinkle-Moore 21-Andy Jacobs 24-Judith Bird 24-Sarah Highland 26-Grace Montgomery 26-Dereck Stewart 28-Greyson Brush 28-Dave Shull 29-Mary Bowling 29-Naomi Morgan



The Wider Church

Palestine Update

The following update is provided by Julianne Johnson:

"Last week **Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu** fired his defense minister who has disagreed with him from time to time about the offensive in Gaza. While our attention has been on our own elections, Israel has continued its military offensive especially in Northern Gaza. Virtually all the buildings and all agriculture in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed and Israel has built a buffer zone on the entire eastern border of Gaza and a buffer zone between Gaza and Egypt, as well as a military corridor through Gaza between the north and the south.

"The implications of the election of **Donald Trump** for Palestinians in Gaza and the occupied West Bank are dire. During his first term as president, Trump gave Netanyahu everything he wanted - including building the U.S. embassy on disputed territory."

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

November 12 Praise God for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who took upon himself the burden of our sins and human weaknesses so that we can know true freedom, be renewed for doing God's work in the world and take comfort in the promise of eternal life with God.

13 Remember in prayer the ELCA ministries in seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including the missionaries, teachers, International Women Leaders and Horizon seminary interns working alongside companion churches to spread the gospel, grow the church and respond to community needs.

14 Pray for ELCA Church Council members meeting in Chicago to oversee and govern the ELCA churchwide organization. Pray for the Spirit to guide their discussions, their counsel and their decisions for the well-being, vitality and growth of the church.

15 Pray for Lutheran and Episcopal school leaders gathering in collaboration at the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES) Biennial Conference in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Give thanks for the ministries of the NAES and the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association that equip, inspire and support Christian educators.

16 Ask God to help us welcome and treat immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers with respect and compassion, accompanying them through the complex process of rebuilding their lives in our country.

17 Jesus warned that being his disciple is never easy or safe, but we are never alone or ill-equipped for doing God's work in the world — we are accompanied by the Spirit and our siblings in Christ. Praise God!

18 Give thanks for those who work in hospice care and attend to the comfort and quality of life of people as they approach the end of life, and who provide emotional and spiritual support for their families.

The Community Beyond Emily Kent to Hold Two Death Cafes This Week

Grief can be an unwelcome guest during the holiday season. Want to talk about it? **Emily Kent** is hosting two Death Cafes this week: one on <u>Wednesday, Nov. 13</u> from 7-8:30 p.m., and the second on <u>Saturday, Nov. 16</u>, from 4-5:30 p.m. Cafes will be at the Gahanna Library, 310 Granville St., Gahanna 43230, Room 2.

Join Williams, Smith as They Perform in Christmas Concerts

Looking for some good Christmas music to brighten the holiday? Then Redeemer members are invited to come out to support the Reynoldsburg Community Band. Look for **Linda Williams** and **April Smith** in the flute section! As of now, the following concerts are scheduled for the Christmas season:

- Sunday, Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. at Villas at St. Therese (5253 E. Broad St.).

- Saturday, Dec. 14 around noon (time to be confirmed later) in Mechanicsburg.
- Monday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Reynoldsburg Senior Center.



Getting Ready for Worship 26th Sunday after Pentecost November 17, 2024 – 10 a.m. Lessons

Readings: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 16; Mark 13:1-8

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, 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 & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Clinton Heights Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community member Connie Criswell.

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, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, John Huber, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Roman Fisher, Terry Warren's sister Elaine, Tamara Hinkle-Moore, Ruth Boys.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Michele Disbro
Cantor	Connie Criswell
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Jon Disbro
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Michele Disbro, Sue Yehling
Communion Prep	Wendy Stoica, Sue Watson, Kay Ernsthausen
Hospitality	Judith & Ashley Bird

Flowers are given by Bruce Collins in memory of Karen. The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricane Relief.



This Week at Redeemer November 11-18, 2024

Monday	3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music TOPS
Tuesday	1:00 p.m. 2:00-8:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study Suzuki Music Berwick Civic Association (Berwick Elementary) BREAD Annual Assembly
Wednesday	9 a.m12:30 p.m.	Suzuki Music
Thursday	10:30 a.m8:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Suzuki Music Bexley / Berwick Dementia Caregivers Support Group
Sunday	8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal Worship with Holy Communion IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
Monday	3-8:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Suzuki Music TOPS Girl Scouts Troop #2462