



Reflections

VOLUME 28

November 18, 2024

ISSUE 46

Congregation to Meet Nov. 24 to Elect Council Members

The congregation will gather for the Annual Elections Meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 24**, 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 Mimplitch**

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 are available this week by contacting the church office.

Find Calm during Redeemer's Midweek Advent Services

With the beginning of the season of Advent on **Sunday, Dec. 1**, Redeemer offers a space to rest in the calmness, beauty, and joy of a darkened sanctuary filled with the sounds of *Holden Evening Prayer*.

Wednesday evenings, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, and Dec. 18, will be oases in the midst of everything else that is going on in your lives. Folks are invited to gather in the Narthex at 6:30 p.m. for dessert and coffee (sign-ups are in the hallway outside the library), and then in the Sanctuary for the 7 p.m. service.

“Let yourself let go of all you might be carrying right now, and receive the gift of this time to be reminded of what life, love, and peace feel like.”

Advent Devotional Booklets Now Available

Redeemer's 2024 *Advent Devotional Booklet* is now available in the Narthex in regular and large print versions. The devotions are also available on the Redeemer website: www.RedeemerLuth.com.

If anyone would like a print version mailed to them, please let the office know. Those who would like to receive a daily email with that day's devotion, please contact the office.

Please feel free to take copies to share with family and friends – more can be printed if needed.

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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

www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community

New Narthex Art Theme Set for Advent: JOURNEY

Emily Kent announced recently 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.**"

Michelle Clemence noted Sunday that the theme came as the group considered the journey of Mary and Joseph as well as the journey of the Magi. "It's not where you're going, but it's how you get there. But 'journeys' can refer to other events such as a learning journey, faith journey, an educational journey"

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.

This week **Nancy Magargal** will be interviewed. Come and discover the wonders that lie within people you think you know!

Tuesday Bible Study Explores 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 the group from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for the Bible study. Folks 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!

Redeemer Provides 71 LSS Thanksgiving Care Packages

Kathy Zwanziger reported Sunday that she took 71 Thanksgiving Care Packages to Lutheran Social Services from Redeemer, not counting any that might have been taken directly to the Food Pantry.

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



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 Ernsthansen** reported Sunday. See her with questions.

Sister Act Sets Planning Session for Nov. 20

The November Sister Act meeting is **Wednesday, Nov. 20** 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.

Non-Police Crisis Response System

Since 2019, the Columbus Safety Coalition and BREAD have advocated for a non-police crisis system to handle non-violent issues involving behavioral health, food/housing insecurity, and mediation.

They are currently undertaking a ballot initiative for the November 2025 election to create a non-police crisis response unit. There will be a town hall giving more information on **Monday, Nov. 18** at 7 p.m. at First Unitarian Universalist Church (93 W. Weisheimer Road, Columbus 43214) where they will explain the model that they propose, the city's contract to study the program, and the need for this ballot initiation.

Other Ohio cities such as Cincinnati and Dayton already have such programs.

For more background see this [article](#) from NBC4.

Watch *Reflections* for more information on how to become involved in this important initiative.

Upcoming BREAD Dates

- Research Kickoff meeting: Monday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at Church of Christ (1889 Genessee Ave.).
- **RLC Justice Network Meeting:** Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., Room 2 and on Zoom.
- Rally: Monday, April 7, 2025 at 7 p.m. Location: TBA.
- Nehemiah Action: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 6:40 p.m. at the Celeste Center on the State Fairgrounds.
- Celebration: Monday, June 30, 2025 at 7 p.m. Location: TBA.

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.

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 **Nov. 24**.

The Executive Team moved to appoint **Kay Ernsthansen** as treasurer starting **Jan. 1, 2025**, replacing **Julie Johnson** whose term will end **Jan. 31, 2025**. 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 Mimplitch, Dave Shull, or Linda Williams**. Questions, concerns, or suggestions are also always welcome.”

‘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](#)’ will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.”

Important Emails

Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

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

MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com – use for stewardship campaigns.

Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with Redeemer’s IT Team for items related to the website.

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

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

Communications@redeemerluth.com – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer’s social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put Reflections in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

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

Prayers and Personals

Prayers are asked for **Ruth Boys** who will be having surgery Friday, Nov. 22 for a broken ankle. Prayers are also asked for **Pastor Al Debelak** who is dealing with some medical complications following another diagnosis of COVID. Prayers are also asked for **Shirley Ziegler**, the mother of **Kathy Pautsch**, who fell and had to have surgery.

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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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Following **Pastor Shari Ayers'** installation as pastor of First Lutheran Church, Lorain, OH, she and **Lynn Nakamura** have moved there. The church address is First Lutheran Church, 1019 West 5th St., Lorain 44052.

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The memorial service for **Mary Watts**, mother of **Karen Kent** and **Kathy Rapp** will be **Saturday, Nov. 23**. The family would appreciate having finger sandwiches and cookies after the service. If you can help in this endeavor, please contact **Kathy Mimplitch** at 614-439-7739 or kathymimplitch@yahoo.com. Thank you! 😊

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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

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**:

"I'd like to start a series of articles about the history of Palestine, because that history has had surprises for me as I've tried to learn more about the complexities of the conflicts. We hear of ancient Israel in the Bible and in church, but I want to speak of Israel from the time of World War I to the present. And this article will only cover the time before the modern-day state of Israel was founded. One other fact before World War I that needs to be noted is that in 1897 the World Zionist Organization voted to work to establish a Jewish state in the land of Palestine.

"World War I (1914-1918) was a war between the Allies (France, United Kingdom, United States, Russia, Italy and Japan) against the Central Powers (The German Empire, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria). The Ottoman Empire included the area of Palestine which was ruled by the Turks.

"The Allies were looking for additional support and engaged in secret negotiations with the Arabs, but also with the World Zionist Organization. The rebel Arabs wanted an independent and united Arab state from Aleppo to Aden which the British agreed to recognize. Secretly in 1916, the British government signed the Sykes-Picot Treaty with

France, with assent from Russia and Italy, over how the Ottoman Empire would be divided once it was defeated. The agreement gave the United Kingdom control over what is today southern Israel and Palestine, Jordan and southern Iraq, as well as a small area that included the ports of Haifa and Acre.

Tickets on Sale for Capital's Chapel Choir Christmas Concerts



Tickets are now on sale for the Capital University Chapel Choir Christmas concert “Fear Not. I am with you.” The concerts are set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7 and 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. All concerts are held in Mees Hall on the campus and run 2½ hours, with no intermission.

“Expect an unforgettable evening filled with traditional carols you love (and that you can join in singing!), spectacular new pieces, and delightful surprises. Don’t miss this magical event – more than a concert, it’s a wonder-filled experience that will leave you both changed and filled with joy. We can’t wait to share this message with you. Join us for a night where music, tradition, and community come together in a celebration of the true spirit of Christmas!”

Buy tickets [HERE](#).

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

November 19 Ask the Spirit to nurture and sustain the confidence, wisdom, humility and faith of leaders in our church, synods, congregations and special ministries.

20 “You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy” (Psalm 16:11). Express your gratitude to God, the light that guides us through life and brings true joy and fulfillment.

21 There are approximately 369,000 infants, children and youth in foster care in our country. Pray that foster families will provide them with stability, love, support and encouragement so that they thrive. Give thanks for foster parents and pray for the Spirit to equip them with wisdom, empathy, strength and skills for parenting.

22 “Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Pray that we — individually and as communities of faith — will be catalysts for love, kindness and inspiration in the church, our society and the world.

23 Remember in prayer our ministries in nine countries in the Latin America and Caribbean regions. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including the missionaries, teachers, International Women Leaders and Young Adults in Global Mission working alongside global companions to spread the gospel, strengthen and grow the church, and respond to community needs.

24 In a world of force, intimidation and superiority, pray that we will take to heart the leadership of Jesus Christ, whose power manifests in humility, love, mercy and justice.

25 Give thanks for the people and experiences that break into our daily routines, interjecting joy and laughter.

The Community Beyond

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: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-11; John 18:33-37

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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 David Lutheran Church in Canal Winchester.
- + For Redeemer community members Brad, Lorien, Joss and Eowyn Dana.

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, Terry Warren's sister Elaine, Tamara Hinkle-Moore, Ruth Boys, Al Debelak.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Karen Rider
Cantor	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ashley Bird
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith
Communion Prep	Wendy Stoica, Sue Watson, Kay Ernsthausen
Hospitality	Julianne Johnson and Sara Auman

*Flowers are given by Ashley Bird in honor of Judy's birthday.
The Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricane Relief.*

This Week at Redeemer

November 18-25, 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
	6:30 p.m.	Congregation Council
Wednesday	9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
	6:30 p.m.	Sister Act
Thursday	10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.	Suzuki Music
Saturday	1:30 p.m.	Mary Watts Memorial Service
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM
	11:15 a.m.	Congregational Meeting - Election
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
	3:00 p.m.	Girl Scout #1143
Monday	3-8:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	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