



# Reflections

VOLUME 29

January 6, 2025

ISSUE 1

## Council Adopts Policy regarding Use of Personal Images

**Past President Krista Skipper** reports that at the December 2024 Council meeting, a procedure for the “Use of Personal Images” by Redeemer was approved. There will now be a brief notice included in the Sunday bulletin so that people (especially guests) are aware that they may be captured during the livestreaming. Those not wanting to be captured during livestreaming could then be directed by the ushers to a seat less focused on by cameras. This procedure also puts in place an opt-out option for those who would not want their image used on the website or social media. The opt-out form has not been developed yet but will be soon. The action came at the suggestion of **Pastor Dave** after discussions with other area pastors.

### Use of Personal Images by Redeemer Lutheran Church

- **General Procedure:**

Photography and videography may be taken during church services, activities, and events for the purposes of capturing moments for the church’s promotional, historical, or archival use, including but not limited to social media, newsletters, websites, or event materials.

- **Opt-Out Option:**

Any individual who does not wish to be included in photographs or videos may opt out by notifying the church staff or designated volunteer prior to or during the event. This may be done verbally or in writing.

- **Clear Notification:**

Clear communication will be provided to all members and attendees about this procedure, including signs at event entrances and announcements during services.

- **Respecting Privacy:**

The wishes of individuals who have opted out will be respected and honored to the best of the congregation’s ability.

- **Exemptions:**

In cases of special services or events (e.g., weddings, funerals, community events), individuals will be made aware of photography and videography policies in advance. Additional considerations or restrictions can be made based on personal or family requests.

- **Confidentiality and Use:**

Every attempt will be made to use personal images in a respectful and appropriate manner to preserve the dignity and privacy of individuals.

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### OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor – Rev. Dave Shull

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

### 2025 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President – Brad Binau

Vice President -

Finance Officer - Laura Warren

Secretary – Rick Pautsch

Worship - Michelle Clemence

Education – Karen Rider

Outreach – Mary Benis

Member Support – Kathy Mimitch

Property - April Smith

Stewardship - Kathy Denhard

### APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer – Kay Ernsthansen

### MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Misato In Marques Highland

Sara Auman Rich Pautsch

### SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Ashley Bird Julie Boreman

John Kennedy Wendy Stoica

Terry Warren

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1555 S. James Rd.

Columbus 43227

614-237-1263

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## The Redeemer Community

### Pastor Seeks Volunteers to Research, Write, Deliver Sermon

Ever wonder what goes into preparing and delivering a sermon? Well, Pastor Dave is looking for a few volunteers to do this together to fill in for him when he is out of town on Sunday, Feb. 23. As he wrote in the Dec. 30 Reflections front-page article, “Between mid-January and mid-February, I will work with any of you who are interested on moving from the beginning of sermon-writing process to the point of delivering it on Feb. 23.”

He is asking those interested to let him know by this Friday, Jan. 10. “Ask me your questions; just say ‘I’m in!’; or anything in-between.”

In the December article, he outlined the steps that will be taken over the next four to five weeks.

“This can be a really fun, engaging, challenging process that might take you places you never imagined going. I’d love working with whoever of you might wish to give it a try. If we get a group that is too large to work with, then we’ll see who is most interested in preaching on Feb. 23 and who’s open to doing this later in the year.

“The reflections folks have offered during Wednesday night ... services over the years prove beyond any doubt whatsoever that you are already excellent preachers. This would just give you an experience of doing a bit deeper dive into what you can already do. And if you’ve never shared a Wednesday evening reflection, so much the better! I’d love to work with you!”

### Livestream Team Seeks New Members

Redeemer's Live Stream Team is looking for a few new members to help us stream the services. If you are interested in learning how to do this, training is in two sessions and is currently scheduled **for Saturdays, Jan 11 and Feb 8.**

If interested, please contact **Tom Mimplitch**, by email or text message at: [tmimplitch@yahoo.com](mailto:tmimplitch@yahoo.com); 614-390-1072.

He reports that **Miles Smith** has already volunteered “so come and join our party.”

### Tuesday Bible Study to Look at Stories of Elijah, Elisha

The Tuesday Bible Study will begin looking at the stories of Elijah and Elisha when the group resumes meeting on **Tuesday, Jan. 7.** The group meets from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for the Bible study. Folks can participate in-person or on Zoom.

### Dinners Return to First English!! Redeemer to Serve Jan. 9

**Kay Ernsthausen** reports that, on **Thursday, Jan. 9,** Redeemer is scheduled to provide the dinner at First English. The menu, which will serve 150, includes Sloppy Joe sandwiches, individual potato chip snack bags, fruit cups, individual wrapped Hostess desserts and granola bars. There will also be lemonade and water available for the dinners. **Another 70 individually wrapped desserts are needed to fill out Thursday’s dinners. They can be dropped off at church by noon on Thursday.**

According to Kay, “Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. We will need to be at First English at between 4:30 and 4:45 p.m. We will need people to make Sloppy Joes which include two pounds of ground meat. If you are making Sloppy Joes and would like them picked up on Thursday, we have drivers who can help with this.” Just let Kay know you would like a pick up.

**In addition, folks to help serve are also needed.** Kay is hoping to have five or six volunteers.

Following is the Sloppy Joe recipe from **Kathy Mimplitch**:

- 2 pounds lean ground beef or ground turkey
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp prepared yellow mustard
- 1 1/2 cups ketchup
- 6 tsp brown sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a medium skillet over medium heat, brown the ground beef, onion and green pepper. Drain off liquids. Stir in garlic powder, mustard, ketchup and brown sugar. Mix thoroughly. Reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. This makes ~ 12 servings.

“I usually omit the green pepper (I don’t like it)! I sometimes use ketchup and barbecue sauce instead of just ketchup. I almost double the brown sugar as I like it sweet,” adds Kathy.

“Thank you all for your commitment to this ministry.”

## **Opportunities for Worship, Breaking Bread, Conversations, Book Study with Neighbors at Christ United Methodist Church**

**Pastor Dave** writes, “Since before I came to be with Redeemer in 2017, we have been doing a Good Friday service with the people at Christ United Methodist Church in Berwyn. As rich as those services are, they don’t give us opportunities for us to get to know each other and learn from each other. **Pastor Willis Johnson** and I would like to change that. So we have some invitations for people in both faith communities.

“First, Redeemer will host a combined worship service on Martin Luther King, Jr., on **Sunday, Jan. 19**, at 10 a.m. Pastor Willis and Pastor Dave will offer a dialogue message. Following worship, there will be a potluck in Fellowship Hall with folks from both congregations seated at the tables. There will be “prompt” questions at the tables that will encourage conversation about issues surrounding issues Martin Luther King, Jr. Day bring up.

“Second, from 6:30-7:45 p.m. starting **Jan. 29-Feb. 19**, we will have four **Wednesday evening** discussions of the book *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, by Duke University professor **William H. Willimon**. This is a short, readable book that explores how Christians are invited to engage with those society labels ‘outsider’ and ‘stranger.’ These classes will be held at Christ United Methodist (1480 Zettler Road) and on Zoom. Please go ahead and order a book yourself if you’re interested in joining us. If you have difficulties with that, contact Pastor Dave.

“Pastors Willis and Dave invite you to participate in these opportunities to live into Redeemer’s vision of ourselves as a place that fosters understanding and healing in community.”

## **RLC Seeks Donations of Items for ‘Care Kits’**

Redeemer youth are creating more Care Kits on Feb. 9 during Sunday School. These care kits can be given out to anyone you find in need. At this time of year, hand warmers are especially helpful. “If you are able to donate any of the following items, please put them in the black crate in the Narthex by **Sunday, Feb. 9**.” Items needed include the following:

- chapstick
- small bottles of lotion
- hand warmers
- soft breakfast bars
- small packets of wipes or
- small bottles of hand sanitizer.

## **Sunday Adult Forum to Get to Know Donna Voelkel, Part 2**

The Sunday Adult Forum continues with its series “Getting to Know You” and with **Donna Voelkel** sharing her story on **Sunday, Jan. 12**. As a way to deepen relationships with each other, these sessions help group attendees get to know each other. **Pastor Dave** continues his interview of Donna about her life that was started on **Sunday, Dec. 22**. Others will also have a chance to ask questions.

Contact the church office for links to previous discussions with **Julie Johnson**, **Nancy Magargal** and **St. Nicholas**. The session with **Ashley Bird** was not recorded.

## **Sister Act to Discuss *The Women* at January Meeting**

Sister Act’s first event of 2025 will be a discussion of the book *The Women*. This will occur at 6:30 p.m. here at church on **Wednesday, Jan. 15**.

**Michele Disbro** reports that the group has year’s schedule of events available on the kiosk in the Narthex.

## Redeemer Offers Mobile Messaging Service for Urgent Info

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

**Kristi Hildebrand** reminds folks “you can sign up to receive a text message on your 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 here.

“It's super easy to use. Once you sign up, you don't need to do anything. To sign up, just send a text message to 81010 with the message @RLCCBUS and respond to the texts that you get back. Then, If Redeemer needs to notify you of something, the church 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 or **Michele Disbro** for help in signing up.”

## Narthex Art Explores Theme of ‘Journey’ for Advent/Epiphany

The latest Narthex Art Exhibit is now up, exploring what “Journey” means to members who contributed a wide variety of pieces. And thanks to **Michelle Clemence** and **Emily Kent** for their work installing the exhibit.

There are many amazing stories represented in the exhibit.

## Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for services over the winter. Readers, including youth and children, are encouraged to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, next to the Library.

Readings are sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings. **Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate.**

## BREAD: Non-Police Crisis Response System

Since 2019, the Columbus Safety Coalition (CSC) and BREAD have advocated for a non-police crisis system to handle non-violent issues involving behavioral health, food/housing insecurity, and mediation. In February 2023, Columbus City Council allocated \$1.2 million to create a non-police alternative crisis system. However, the city has no timeline for the beginning steps, which are to begin a pilot program and to appoint a citizen advisory panel. To apply some pressure, CSC and BREAD are planning to put an initiative on the ballot for the November 2025 election, following this timeline:

- January 2025: File (non confusing) ballot language.
- February – May 2025: Collect signatures. The minimum needed is 25,000. Their goal is 60,000.
- November 2025: Vote on the initiative.

Lots of volunteer opportunities will start in 2025 once the attorneys have finished writing the initiative. They include:

- Collect signatures of registered Columbus voters (the signatures need to be registered Columbus voters, but the people collecting them only need to be Ohio registered voters).
- Validate the signatures against the database.
- Encourage people to come out on an “off year” election and vote for the initiative.

Also, BREAD network members, please note the annual Redeemer Justice Network Meeting on **Wednesday, March 19, 2025** at 6 p.m. before the Lenten Midweek Service. Those who are not a network member but who are interested in BREAD, please talk to **Kristi Hildebrand** or **Michele Disbro**.

### Upcoming BREAD Dates

- RLC Justice Network Meeting: **Wednesday, March 19, 2025** at 6 p.m. (before the Lenten service), 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.
- Celebration: **Monday, June 30, 2025** at 7 p.m. Location: TBA.

## 'Noisy Offering' Going to BREAD

For Advent and Epiphany, Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" will go to support the work of BREAD. See above article for more details about what BREAD – Building Responsibility Equality And Dignity – is currently working on.

The group is comprised of many different congregations in the Columbus area which, in turn, represent many different traditions. Each of the congregations believes something different about the nature of God and the name God. But each shares a commitment to pursue justice guided by faith – to finding, in shared beliefs the strength that unity can bring.

The "Noisy Offering" is that donation of loose change that is made as one enters the Sanctuary.

## Important Emails

[Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

[Info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for stewardship campaigns.

[Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com) – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

[Property@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:Property@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

[SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com) – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

[Transportation@redeemerluth.com](mailto:Transportation@redeemerluth.com) – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

[Communications@redeemerluth.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 continue to be asked for **Ruth Boys** who recently moved to the cottage at Wexner Heritage Village, a memory care unit; for **Karla Weaver**, sister of **Kevin Bailey**, who is going in for tests; and for the extended **Rider family**, on the recent death of a loved one.

## Churches Merge

Word has been received in the church office that area Lutheran churches Good Shepherd and Reformation have merged. They are at 1355 S. Hamilton Road, Columbus 43227.

## *Christ in Our Home* for January-March Available

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

## 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.

## January Birthdays

9-Marques Highland 11-Rich Pautsch  
13-Michelle Skoog 20-David Detweiler  
20-Corinne Montgomery 20-Tony Naess  
21-Elizabeth George 21-Shirley Miller\*\*  
22-Maureen Callahan 22-Shirley Cannon  
24-Sophia Brush 24-Marshall Edgington  
24-Kathy Rapp 24-Heath Wolfe  
25-Rosalie Highland 26-Jeff Montgomery  
28-Bebe McCoy

\*\* Shirley turns 89 this year. Cards can be sent to her at 4050 Wiston Dr., Groveport OH 43125-8910.

## The Wider Church

### New Year's Message from SOS

“Happy New Year to each of you! As we step into this fresh, new season, we have so much to look forward to and celebrate. This is a time to rejoice in the endless possibilities that God has placed before us. What a wonderful reminder that each year, each day, is a chance to start anew in faith, hope, and love.

“Every new year brings a fresh call to grow in our faith, deepen our relationships, and serve our community with open hearts and willing hands. And in the words of Proverbs 16:3, *“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and [God] will establish your plans.”* With God’s guidance, this year holds immense promise and purpose for us all.

“Together, we will worship, laugh, serve, and grow, finding strength and joy in our shared journey. May each moment of this year bring us closer to God and to each other, filling us with peace, grace, and abundant joy. Let us step forward in faith, grateful for the countless blessings that await us, and committed to sharing God’s love in all that we do as disciples of Jesus Christ in the Southern Ohio Synod.

“Wishing you a blessed and joyful New Year!”

In Christ’s love,

**Bishop Suzanne Dillahunt** and the Southern Ohio Synod (SOS) Staff

### Capital Sponsors ‘Day of Learning’ on Jan. 20

Capital University is sponsoring the “Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Learning:” on **Monday, Jan. 20** at the Harry C. Moores Student Union. The day begins at 9 a.m. in the student union and then moves to Mees Auditorium for the opening.

### ELCA, Augsburg Fortress Sponsor Online Educational Event

This year, the ELCA, in partnership with Augsburg Fortress, will join the movement of racial healing for the church and the nation. On **Tuesday, Jan. 21**, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST, the ELCA will feature a free online educational event that centers the voices of ELCA leaders of color.

This event is open to all ELCA rostered ministers, lay leaders, and members. “We welcome all ELCA synods, congregations, colleges, universities, seminaries, separately incorporated ministries, and antiracism teams, as well as the church’s affiliate organizations and ecumenical and interreligious partners. Join us in this collective effort for a more just and equitable world.”

To learn more, go [HERE](#).

### Prayer Concerns from ELCA

**Jan. 7** Pray for a peaceful transfer of presidential power in the United States and that the Spirit will influence and guide our leaders to serve all people with compassion, wisdom and concern for justice and unity.

**8** “In [Christ] we have redemption through [Christ’s] blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us” (Ephesians 1:7-8). God’s boundless love and forgiveness are lavish indeed. Give thanks and praise to God!

**9** Remember in prayer college, university and seminary students taking part in winter classes and service learning, that their experiences will deepen their faith, expand their knowledge and reveal how their gifts and passions can be used to do God's work in the world.

**10** Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner since 2009. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that we will respect our differences but embrace our unity in Christ so we can spread the gospel, serve our neighbor, and share leadership and resources for doing God's work in the world -- together.

**11** Give thanks for God's grace and the work of the Spirit, which equip us with the tools, wisdom and courage needed to face the challenges of everyday life and to bear Christ's love and hope into the world.

**12** Pray that we will affirm our baptism by telling others about the triune God, by loving and serving our neighbors, by encouraging the faith of our siblings in Christ and by seeking opportunities for spiritual growth.

**13** Pray for those who respond to God's call by working hand in hand with our companion churches and other organizations around the world through ELCA Global Mission. Ask God to sustain and strengthen their faith, their commitment and their diverse gifts.

## Getting Ready for Worship

### The Baptism of Our Lord January 12, 2025 – 10 a.m. Lessons

**Readings:** Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-22

#### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through 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 Grace of God Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community members Marshall and Haretta Edgington.

**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 Hegreiness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sisters Kleta Childs and Karla Weaver, 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, Barbara Hairston and family, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Ruth and Bill Boys.

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	<b>Pastor Dave Shull</b>
Assisting Minister	<b>Julianne Johnson</b>
Cantor	<b>Mary Benis</b>
ASL Interpreter	<b>Bryan Neal</b>
Organist & Senior Choir Director	<b>Kathy Rapp</b>
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	<b>Karen Kent</b>
Usher	<b>Jon Disbro</b>
Verger	<b>Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica</b>
Producers	<b>Michele Disbro, Sue Yehling</b>
Communion Prep	<b>Kay Ernsthause, Cathy Oldham</b>
Hospitality	<b>Katie and Ruby Jacobs</b>

*The flowers are given by Julianne Johnson in honor of all women  
The Noisy Offering will go to BREAD.*

## Week to Come at Redeemer January 6-13, 2025

<b>Monday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Executive Team
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 2462
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:15 p.m.	Outreach Team
	7:00 p.m.	Berwick Civic Association
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Suzuki Music
<b>Thursday</b>	10:30 a.m.	Suzuki Music
	4:30 p.m.	First English Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Berwick/Bexley Dementia Support Group
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Council Retreat @ Broad St Presbyterian
<b>Sunday</b>	8:45 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Ed
	11:15 a.m.	Sunday School for ALL ages
<b>Monday</b>	3:00 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