

Redeemer Record



SENIOR PASTOR'S COLUMN

Heavenly vs. earthly citizen?
How can we live our earthly lives while still considering our arrival in heaven?

Read More on Page 2

FALL PREVIEW

Throughout the fall there will be a myriad of activities to aid us in living into the season with its changes and dualities.

Read More on Page 10

2024 YOUTH GATHERING

Over the summer, Redeemer's youth traveled to NOLA for the tri-annual ELCA youth gathering. See pictures and a recap.

Read More on Page 12

Senior Pastor's Column

BY PASTOR KATIE HINES-SHAH



Last week was one of my favorite days of the year - Redeemer's Annual Picnic. I love everything about the picnic, the tables set on the lawn, the people of Redeemer in their picnic clothes, the delicious food (that I don't have to make), and the joy of the children playing in the bouncy house. But what I love best of all is the way so many people contribute to make the picnic work. People were here early setting up tables and chairs. People stayed late, cleaning up and taking out the trash. People took care of one another, monitoring the bouncy house for the sake of the little ones, getting a napkin or cup of water for the elders, inviting a new member to sit down next to them, asking a new high schooler how the first week had gone. People invited special guests, neighbors, grandchildren, parents, and siblings were all in attendance (read on in the newsletter for a recap and photos.)

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

-Philippians 3:20



It seemed to me to be a sign of what it means to be a church member, or, in Paul's terms, a "heavenly citizen." Because we have hope in Jesus Christ, because we know we belong to one another, we act in particular ways - helping, inviting, sharing and caring. It seems to me that our church picnic is glimpse of heaven right here on earth.

And it makes me wonder - how might our heavenly citizenship influence our earthly citizenship this season?



Our Fall Focus: **Between Two Kingdoms: Citizens of Heaven and Earth** borrows its title from a concept of Luther's. Luther's idea, built off of Paul's and later Augustine's works, recognizes the realities of human life and organization (earthly citizenship) while at the same time points us to a higher calling (our heavenly citizenship). Luther encourages Christians to own their heavenly citizenship even in their earthly lives. In other words, to prioritize our calling to love God and to love one another, in everything we do.

What might that look like? Probably something like the church picnic. We might help set up something for others to enjoy or clean up messes that aren't even our fault. We might go out of our way to help those who are smaller or older or who just need a little help. We would welcome newcomers and engage people different from us in conversation. We would invite others to join us in good things, at church and in the world. All earthly citizens would benefit. It sounds like a little bit of heaven right here on earth.

Join us this Fall as we embrace our heavenly citizenship here at Redeemer.

- *Sunday Worship returns to our regular schedule – 8:30 and 11AM in the Sanctuary. Childcare for children 6 and under will be offered during the 11AM Service.*
- *Join us for Fall Focus – Citizens of Two Kingdoms. An exciting set of Adult Forum Speakers is scheduled for 9:45-10:45AM Sundays and Small Groups are forming.*
- *Godly Play Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, and High School Youth Group resume in September. Talk to Pr. Kelsey for details.*
- *There's no better way to come together than to make music! Join the Chancel or Handbell Choirs in making a joyful noise in praise to God. Talk to Music Director Graeme Shields for more details.*
- *Help with a Mission Project – Make a School Kit for LWR, donate clothing for new arrivals with Redeemer Engaging Refugees, help rake leaves for area seniors. Watch for more details.*
- *Join in Social Events – Redeemer's Annual Picnic is August 25th at 11AM. Enjoy a Rainbow Cone from Women's Connection. Sign up to attend the Progressive Dinner September 14th.*
- *Attend a concert – October is our Berghaus Organ's 40th Birthday. Come and celebrate with us!*
- *Become a member – Our new member class will be in October. Talk to Pr. Katie for details.*
- *Give – The work of the church relies on your generous gifts. Thank you!*

You don't need to wait to take part. Join us this Fall as we embrace our heavenly citizenship here at Redeemer. Thanks for joining Redeemer in the in work of God's Kingdom.

Thanks be to God!

Associate Pastor's Column

BY PASTOR KELSEY JOHNSON



Fall Focus Invitation

As the summer months fade into fall, we as a community have yet another opportunity to focus on and explore a central theme through programming and life together. I can't help but feel a little turbulent when I reflect on all that is going on in our world and country during this time: wars, illness, famine, and a heated election. It's easy to become overwhelmed and pessimistic, focusing on the many chaoses of our world. But here's the thing...we don't just live in the perspective of our world. We live also in the hope of the gospel, and as followers of Christ are called to bring that lens and action of hope, grace, and love into our world to make it a better place. I want to be clear here, because Christians too can fall victim to using the gospel in ways that are rooted in force and discrimination. I would point to Christian nationalism as a case study in what not to do.



Instead, we are called as siblings in Christ to care for one another, to welcome those who are different from us, and to root together in love during turbulent times to find grounding in real hope and peace which can only be found through walking in the way of Jesus. As citizens of both heaven and earth, we are commanded and called to love one another throughout the New Testament. Sharing God's love in community together offers a powerful and healing counter-narrative to the divisiveness, war, and lack of care we are so often steeped in.

“Love one another” (John 13:34)
“Love one another” (John 13:35)
“Love one another” (John 15:12)
“Love one another” (John 15:17)
“Love one another” (Rom 12:10)
“Love one another” (1 Thess 3:12)
“Love one another” (1 Peter 1:22)
“Love one another” (1 John 3:11)
“Love one another” (1 John 3:23)
“Love one another” (1 John 4:7)
“Love one another” (1 John 4:11)
“Love one another” (1 John 4:12)
“Love one another” (2 John 5)

Fall focus is an opportunity to come together and explore what it means to be both a citizen of the earth and a citizen of God's heavenly kingdom and how we might be catalysts for bringing these two 'places' more closely together for a better present. What I love about this theme is that it offers us food for thought, and invites us to take action in ways which bring us closer in community with one another, and grow our faith and closeness to God. I think it is a relevant theme for the time we find ourselves in. I hope you engage in the many opportunities planned for the season: joining a small group and engaging in discussion each week, hearing from leaders near and far, and bringing your curiosities to adult education.



Our programming kicks off with Precious Blood Ministries of Reconciliation: a ministry in the Back of the Yards neighborhood which fosters restorative justice and healing among broken communities through peace circles. What an incredible ministry we might glean some tools from for dialogue in our own community! There will be an opportunity to attend a peace circle at Redeemer following the Adult Education session.

We will also hear from Rev. Dr. Kurt Hendel, beloved professor at LSTC and long time friend of Redeemer. He will share about Martin Luther's Doctrine of Two Kingdoms; the realms of which we are part of and called to be co-creators of for the sake of the world. This will offer some grounding and perspective from our Lutheran heritage.

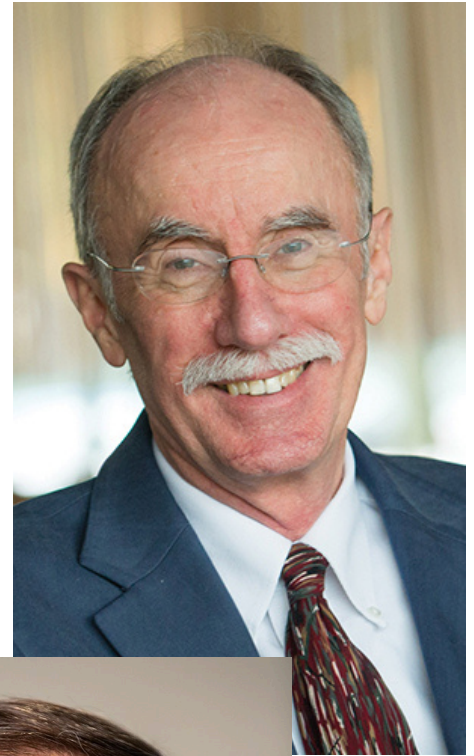
We will also have the opportunity to learn from Rev. Dr. Roger Willer, the Director for Theological Ethics on the Theological Discernment Team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop, and a publisher for the Journal of Lutheran Ethics. He will facilitate a conversation about the ELCA's contemporary position and perspective on the intersections of civics and faith, in the most recent draft social statement.

Finally, we are collaborating with St. Luke's Park Ridge (Rev. Kyle Severson) and Grace River Forest (Rev. Troy Medlin) on a panel discussion regarding Christian nationalism featuring Red State Christians author Angela Denker.

You are invited and encouraged to engage in this theme and all it might offer our community of Christ at this time! Read on for more specifics and dates of our Fall programs.



Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation



Music & Worship

BY GRAEME SHIELDS



SUMMER RECAP and THANKS

This summer's midweek workshop, Created to Be, focused on the psalms. This was an especially difficult theme because of the incredible vastness of emotions that the psalms cover. That being said, our homilists this summer picked a very wide range of psalms and many that never show up in the lectionary. A big thank you to all of our homilists and the deep consideration and hard work that went into their sermons this summer: Pastor Katie, Graeme, Vicar Brent, Laura Lingo, Linnea Wilson, Sarah McCabe, Lanny Wilson, Tom Reeder, Kate Howell, Margaret Schlegel, Jane Reeder, Rodney Holmes, and Galen Banashak.

Both Pickup Summer Choir and Summer Ringers have been, in my eyes, wildly successful over the past few months. The programs brought fresh musicians into the folds of our steadfast volunteers at Redeemer who otherwise could not commit during the academic year or who had never tried ringing or singing in one of our groups before. It also offered an opportunity for our more established musicians to continue their good work through the summer. I will certainly plan to continue this practice next year!



Musical Groups resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4th. Alleluia Ringers will begin at 6pm downstairs in the handbell room (106D at the eastern end of the hallway) and Festival Choir will begin at 7:30pm downstairs in the choir room. There will also be more opportunities this fall for soloists, instrumental or vocal, to sign up and share their gifts with Redeemer. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please get in touch with me at:

music@redeemerhinsdale.org,

stop by to see me at church Monday-Thursday, after Sunday worship, or give me a call at Redeemer 630-323-5530 (extension 404). I'd love to make sure there's a spot for you.



INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH FALL WORSHIP?

Worship Assistants

Last September, we began reintroducing Assisting Ministers to our team of worship leaders in the chancel on Sunday mornings. They lead portions of worship including the prayers of the people and assist with communion. That tradition has remained through the summer and will continue this fall. Anyone can fill this role and we'd always love to have more volunteers in our pool. If you are interested in being an assisting minister, please get in touch with me for a briefing of responsibilities.

Altar Guild

In the past, Altar Guild has been through its paces with many changes in communion methods as we came out of COVID. While the group did a wonderful job, they have enjoyed a much more consistent setup each week. They could, however, always use some more help. If you are interested in joining the group that prepares communion and stewards the altar, please get in touch with Graeme Shields.

Speaking of the altar and communion preparation, we are continuing to use home-baked bread for communion this fall and beyond. If you're interested in becoming one of our Bread Bakers, please let Graeme know. There is a particular recipe that we have been using and a bread baking workshop that will take place in the future to help answer any questions about the process.

Virtual Worship Camera Operators

We have been lucky to have a handful of Camera Operators up in the balcony on Sunday mornings. It would be very helpful to have a few more in our pool to share the work. If you're interested in what this role entails, get in touch with Graeme. He'll teach out how to operate the cameras (you get to use a joystick!) and will make sure all of your questions are answered.

Ushers

Ushers are often the very first interaction visitors and new members have with a church. We have an excellent team of ushers but could always use some more help at the 11am services. If you're interested in serving on a team of ushers who serve three months a year, or even being on our substitute usher list, please get in touch with Graeme Shields.

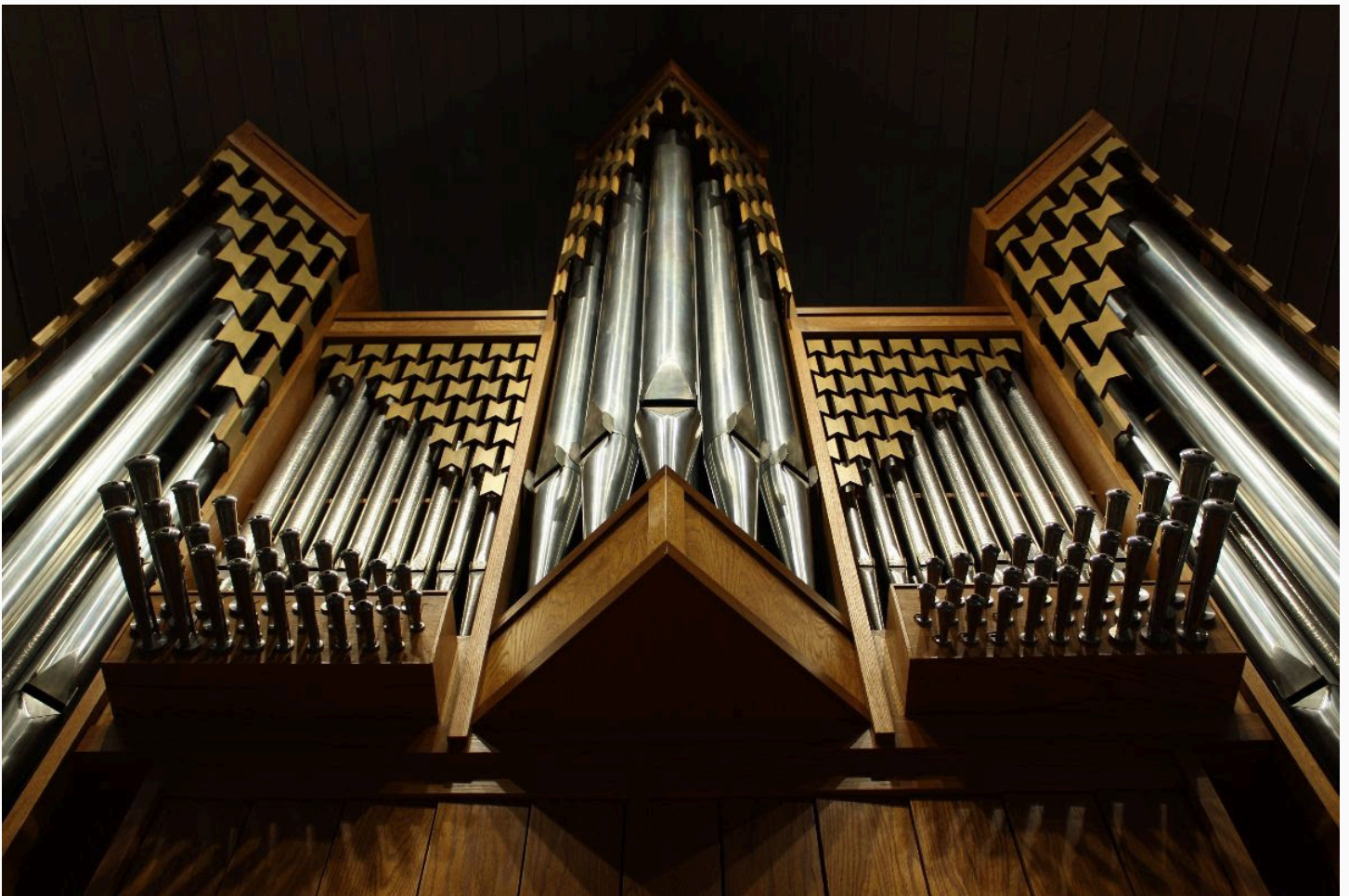


REDEEMER'S BERGHAUS ORGAN TURNS 40!

Lordy, Lordy! The Berghaus is 40! Redeemer celebrates our amazing Berghaus organ's 40th birthday this October (and they don't look a day over 29!) There are two events where you can join in celebration:

Tuesday, October 8th at 7:00pm, Brenda Portman will give an organ concert. Brenda is a champion of the organ, winning several awards in national and international performance competitions. Dr. Portman's compositions have also garnered a following after numerous commissions and competition awards. She is primarily published by Sacred Music Press and Augsburg Fortress – Festival Choir will be singing one of her choral anthems this fall. Although she is the resident organist at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church in Cincinnati, she will grace us with her presence between a concert event in Frederick, Maryland and Salt Lake City, Utah. You won't want to miss!

Sunday, October 13th at 12:30pm is our Fourth Annual **Bach Around the Block!** There will be more information coming soon, but you can look forward to Redeemer's portion featuring Graeme's mother, Cathy Shields, in some piano/organ selections. You won't want to miss!



You can read more about the history and specs of our organ on the “Music” page of the Redeemer website. Next time you're in the sanctuary, look behind to take in the sight.

Thank You!

BY VICAR BRENT



Dear Redeemer,

I have just been approved by the ELCA to become an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament. I share this with you because it would not have been possible without this community. It amazes me just how much I learned in a single year of internship at this church. I learned much about myself, much about God, and much about service. But above all, I learned what a healthy and blessed community of God looks like. It is quite amazing to think that the experiences and lessons I have gained here will go with me to be a blessing to my future ministries. You are truly doing God's work in hosting and shaping interns, and I hope Redeemer will be able to host interns again in the future, as y'all truly have a gift for it. I am grateful for all the wisdom, joy, and love you all have shared with me, and for the memories I will carry with me throughout my life. I am also grateful for the generous financial assistance you have offered to my call to ministry. It is enormously helpful for me and my family in this in-between time. May all God's blessings be upon you Redeemer, and may you continue to be 'united in love, sharing God's love in an ever-changing world.' Oh, and I also just found out that I have been assigned to the Metro Chicago Synod for my first call, so hopefully I will see you around!



Getting out and caring for God's creation was another highlight!



Worship was always my favorite.



TEAM
REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

I was also impressed at Redeemer's dedication to Mental Health.



2024 Fall Programming

BY PASTOR KELSEY



ADULT EDUCATION RETURNS SEPTEMBER 15th

As fall is approaching quickly, read on to see what is in store for Adult Education this fall. We have a number of interesting speakers and topics to be discussed. Adult Ed is presented between services from 9:45am-10:45am on Sundays. There are also some other events and learning opportunities this fall at Redeemer and beyond. Watch the Weekly E-Blast for more info!

September 15

Precious Blood Ministries of Reconciliation,
Nick Schafer, Father Kelly

Restorative Justice in Divided Communities, Peaceful Dialogue

September 22

Rev. Dr. Kurt Hendel, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Martin Luther's Two Kingdoms

October 6

Rev. Dr. Roger Willer, director for theological ethics on the theological discernment team, office of the Presiding Bishop, publisher for the Journal of Lutheran Ethics

Civics and Faith in the ELCA

Other Events and Learning Opportunities

September 8

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday-Check and pack LWR School Kits

September 21

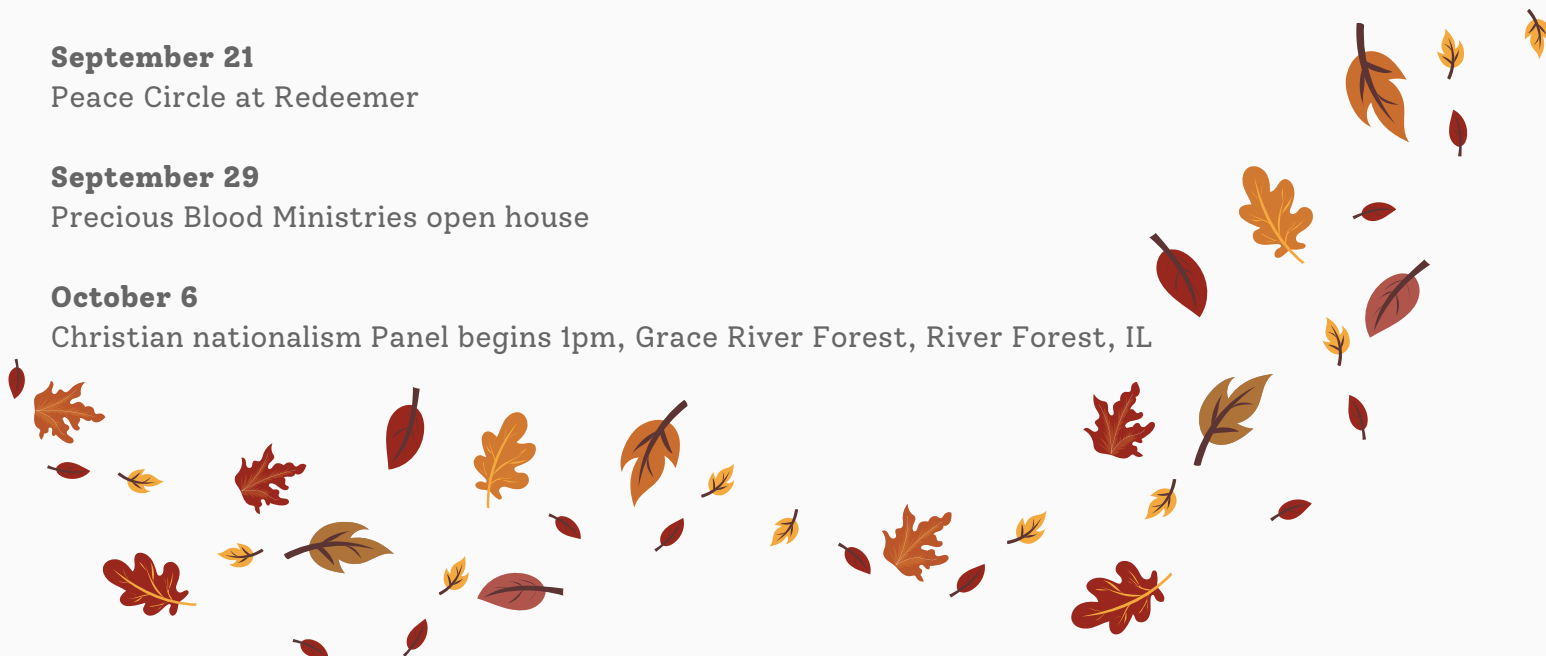
Peace Circle at Redeemer

September 29

Precious Blood Ministries open house

October 6

Christian nationalism Panel begins 1pm, Grace River Forest, River Forest, IL





Between Two Kingdoms: Citizens of Heaven, Citizens of Earth

September 15

Precious Blood Ministries of
Reconciliation,
Nick Schafer, Father Kelly
*Restorative Justice in Divided
Communities, Peaceful
Dialogue*



September 21

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October 6
Christian nationalism
panel 1pm, Grace River
Forest

Civics and Faith in the ELCA



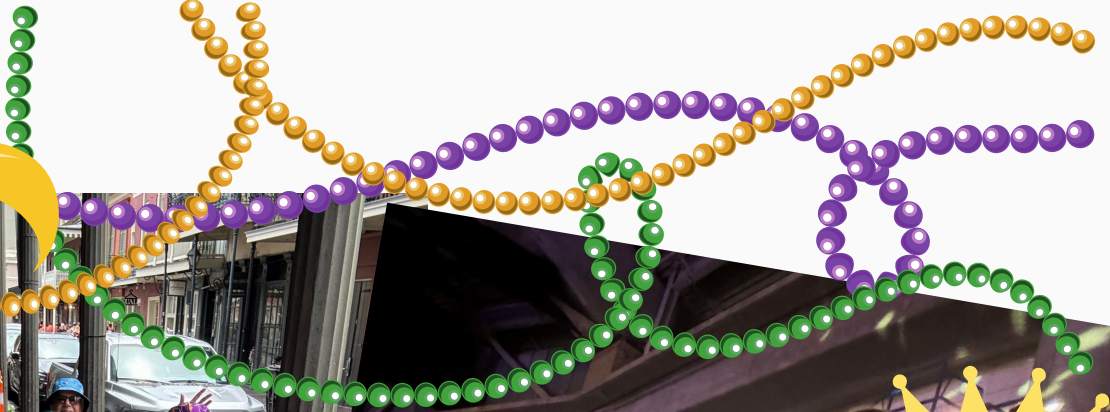
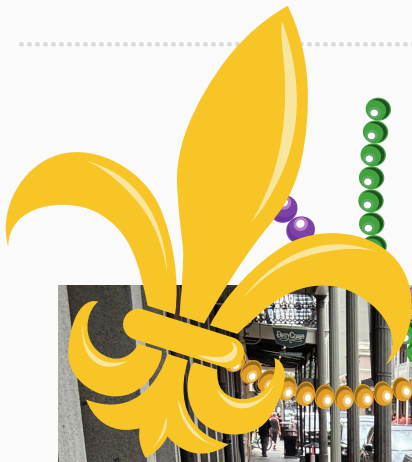
2024 YOUTH GATHERING-NEW ORLEANS, LA

The Redeemer Youth Group had an exciting summer getaway. They visited the Big Easy for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. A great time was had by all. Thanks to Pr. Kelsey, Vr. Brent, and all the chaperones who accompanied our youth.



Check out our matching hats!

We made it to the front row for Mass Gathering worship!



We received sparkle blessings in God's abundant garden from friends at The Naming Project



Redeemer Engaging Refugees (RER)

BY KRIS MAHON



REDEEMER ENGAGING REFUGEES UPDATE

Thank you Redeemer for purchasing and dropping off all items to complete a “Welcome to America” pack for an incoming Exodus World Service refugee family. We hope to be matched with a family so we can set up a home for them soon!

SAVE THE DATE:

Global Refuge: Fresh Change Packing Party: Sunday, November 3rd

When immigrants are released from Customs and Border Protection custody, it is often with nothing but the ill-fitting government-issued clothes on their backs. Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services) is working in partnership with Border Service Corps to meet the ever-increasing need for services.

Fresh Change welcomes our new neighbors with dignity, and, with your help, a fresh change of clothes. Please support one of Redeemer’s Mission partners, Global Relief.

More details coming this Fall.



FAITHFUL GARDENERS FALL UPDATE

Thank you for your time Faithful Gardeners! Our gardening season ends in October. Fall clean up will be completed in November by Oberdale.

Thank you to the following gardeners:

- Pat Quast, East
- Connie Bothen, South
- Linnea Wilson, North
- Natalie McGee and daughter Iris, West
- Bruce Forbush, weeds in rocky areas
- Tom Bothen, watering
- Graeme & Gabbie Shields, helping in various areas



We always need more volunteers: families, individuals, Youth Group. We do light weeding, watering, dead heading of plants. Join us next May! Please Contact the office or any gardener.

Church and Community Updates

BY MARY LANDIS



UPCOMING CHURCH and COMMUNITY EVENTS



Church and Community is making BIG plans for next year:

Stay tuned for a congregational outing, book study, and an environmental project. In addition, we are hosting the 4th Community Recycling Event in the Spring. The recycling cart continues to be available the first Sunday of the month, so save those batteries, corks, crayons, keys, and square bread tabs. We restart our monthly meetings on Thursday, September 5th at 5PM with a ZOOM option. Come and be a part of making a difference in our environment and in the larger community.

Contact Mary Landis for more info or to join the Zoom meetings.

Mission Outreach Summer Recap

BY MARIE MCGANN & KRIS MAHON

WHAT HAS MO BEEN UP TO?

Mission Outreach had a busy summer with organizing and serving three of our area mission partners. A big thank you to all who contributed to one or more of our projects:

- Hinsdale Community Services (HCS): Food pantry donations in June.
- Love Inc: Gym shoe collection for local kids in July.
- Lutheran World Relief (LWR): 250 school kits assembled and collected in August.

On September 8th, we will bless and package the school kits during God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.

Please join us at 9:45am-10:30am to check all bags and pack the kits in boxes. Then enjoy a Rainbow Cone ice cream treat sponsored by the Women's Connection!



Mission Outreach Needs You!

BY MARIE MCGANN & KRIS MAHON

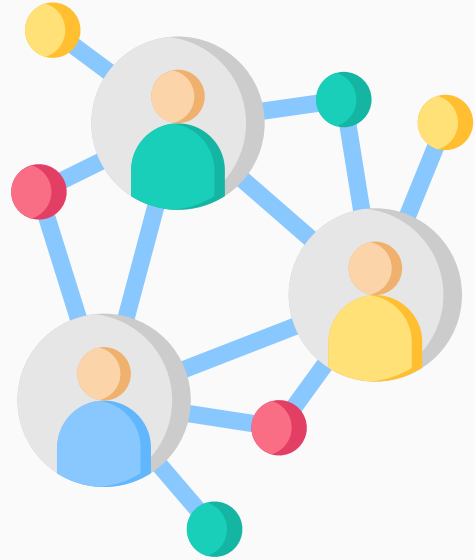


CALLING ALL REDEEMER MEMBERS:

Looking to learn more about Mission Outreach at Redeemer? We would love to have you join us for an informational meeting on:

Monday, September 30th at 7:00pm
Fuller House, Downtown Hinsdale (outside)
(if raining, meet at Redeemer)

Any questions, please ask a member of MO:
Marie McGann, Diana Kritzer, Jacquie Ravnic, Bruce Forbush, Jay Hines-Shah, Jim Krillenberger, Trish Rosland, Kris Mahon



Pastor Katie Celebrates 20 Years of Ministry



Thank You

For celebrating the 20th Anniversary of my Ordination with me! I was so touched by all the well wishes and by your thoughtful congregational gift! 20 years feels like I'm just getting started.

I feel so blessed to be your pastor!

P. Katie Hines-Shah

In 2024, Pastor Katie celebrates 20 years in ministry. At the Annual Picnic on Sunday, August 25th, we celebrated with a cake and thanksgiving. Congratulations Pastor Katie! We are so grateful that you've chosen to spend over 10 years of that time with us here at Redeemer!

As the Door Revolves

BY LAURA LINGO



My grandma watched the soap opera, “As the World Turns.” She enjoyed keeping up with the characters and their improbable lives. My favorite soap was “All My Children” because, really, who **didn’t** want to know what disaster would next befall Erica Kane?!

In January, many of you tuned in to Redeemer’s production of a new soap: **As the Door Revolves**. You may remember my stunning portrayal of an office manager at the front desk, thrown into a new environment that might as well have been another planet. It was a very challenging and dramatic role. I received rave reviews and ended my three month stint a fan favorite.

Lloyd Evans played the role of office manager for three months. When his run ended at the beginning of August, the director called me back to reprise the role; I’m appearing at the front desk Mondays through Thursdays until September 9th.

Beginning September 9th, Brent Ellerbee will be appearing in the role of office Manager in **As the Door Revolves**. You’ll no doubt recognize Brent; he’s coming to this role directly from his year-long run as the lead character in the highly acclaimed comedic drama, **The Vicar**.

When there’s a change in the actor playing a role, there are bumps in the road. The new actor has a lot to learn and the rest of the cast must adapt during the learning process. Rewrites to accommodate the changes create unexpected twists and turns. Don’t be alarmed; soap operas are known for surprise twists...

...but there is almost always a happy ending. While the search for a permanent office manager has not yet begun, new episodes of **As the Door Revolves** will keep everyone informed as the story unfolds. One thing is certain: the front desk will **not** go empty—even if the person sitting behind it is a secret twin, a millionaire spy, or has total amnesia! So sit back, relax, and enjoy the story...**As the Door Revolves!**



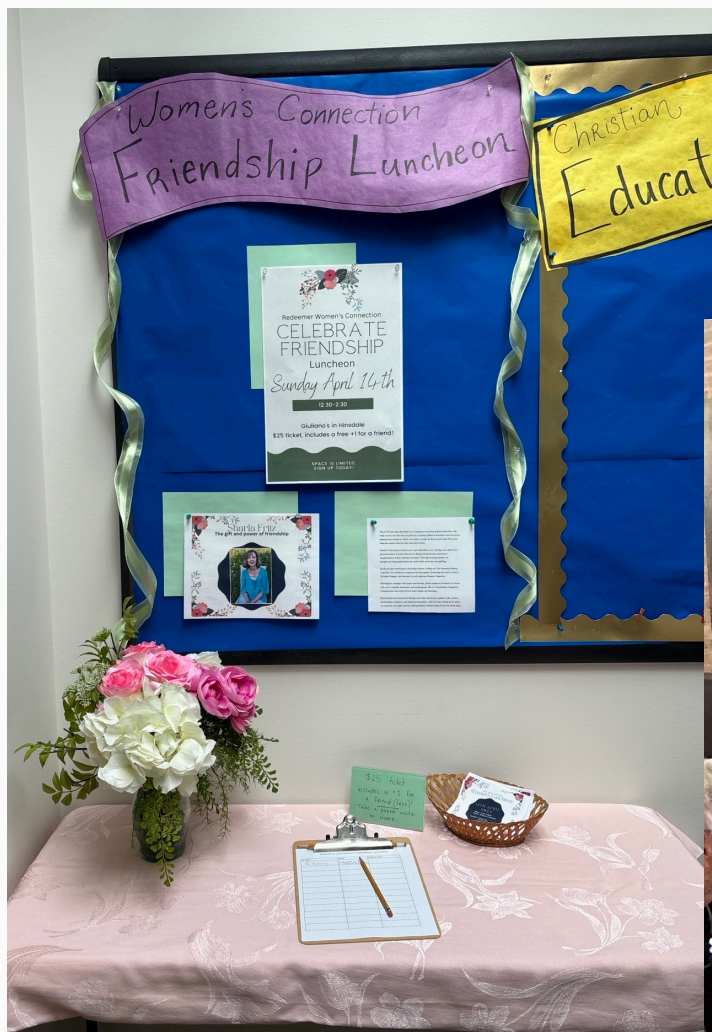
Womens Connection Recap

BY KATHY SELCKE



WOMENS CONNECTION

Over the last two years, Redeemer Womens Connection (WC) has sponsored several activities for both the women and members of Redeemer, including events associated with Redeemer's 100th Anniversary, Trivia Night, play attendance, philanthropy, a speaker's luncheon, and the yearly Progressive Dinner. All brought women (and often men) together to engage in fellowship, entertainment, and educational engagement. Some events raised money for Lutheran Social Services Foster Care Program—the largest in Illinois.





The September 2023 Progressive Dinner was very successful with over 50 participants. It included cocktails, main course, and dessert hosted by nine Redeemer members at their homes. A raffle took place during the cocktail hour and fun was had by all! The 2024 Progressive Dinner will again take place on Saturday, September 14th. Be sure to mark your calendar!

WC hosted a luncheon on April 14 2024 with Sharla Fritz as speaker. She talked about the “The Gift and Power of Friendship,” and Redeemer Members were encouraged to bring a friend! It was well attended and has made WC interested in hosting more speaker events that will stimulate and educate our women with interesting topics, as well as provide a time for fellowship.

Womens Connection was awarded a \$3,000 Redeemer Endowment Grant to maximize our budget and allow us to have additional speaker engagements for both Redeemer members, especially our younger members, and potentially reach the local community. We are also tentatively planning to host a fundraiser for Lutheran Social Services Foster Care Program and provide more opportunities for pure fellowship.

Most recently, WC has been partnering with the Mission Outreach Committee by providing the Chicago Rainbow Cone Truck as a part of the School Kits Donation day!

A survey will be going out to Redeemer women to ask for new ideas and participation in Womens Connection.

Redeemer Quilters

BY CONNIE BOTHEN



Celebrate Redeemer's Quilting Mission! Fall Quilt Sunday...September 29th

Learn more about this important outreach project, and participate in the blessing of the quilts before they are shipped overseas.

Support Redeemer's quilting mission:

1. Quilts on display will be available for purchase (\$40 each). Donations are also appreciated. Proceeds from sales and donations go toward costs of batting, fabric, notions, sewing machine repairs, etc.

2. Drop off clean, gently-used sheets/fabric in the fabric donation box.

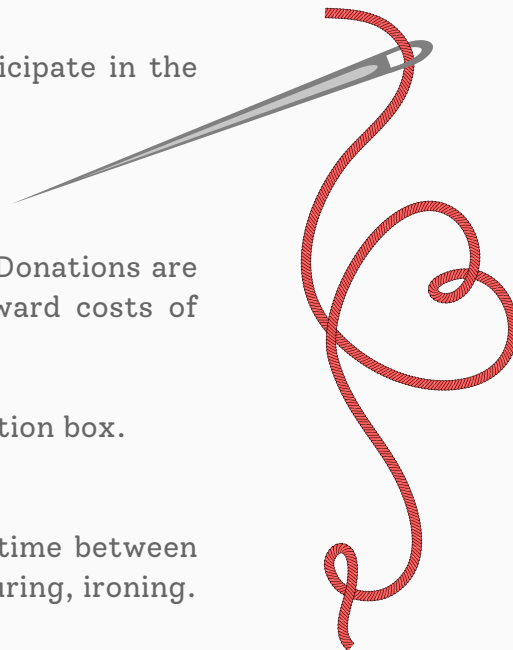
3. Volunteer your time.

*Stop by the Fellowship Room on Wednesday mornings any time between 9am and noon to help with assembling, sewing, cutting, measuring, ironing.

*Sign up to work from home cutting fabric and/or sewing, as your time permits.

Please join us on Sunday, September 29th, to experience the Quilting Mission story!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Holiday and Gift Quilt Sale coming up on Sunday, December 8th.



Financial Update

BY KIM ENDERS



REDEEMER LUTHERAN 2023-24 SECOND FISCAL YEAR END REVIEW

Redeemer ended the Income/Expense fiscal year with a \$55,800 Net Surplus. Income was over the budgeted amount by \$82,821, largely due to a one-time gift of \$100,000 from a non-member donation. Expenses were \$26,146 over the budgeted amount due mostly to some additional administrative expenses for outside accounting services and electronic systems. One other contributing factor to overbudget expenses is the salary expense of Associate Pastor vs. a Christian Education Director. On its balance sheet, Redeemer's assets increased by \$109,882, due to additional cash on hand from offering donations and increases in held investments from market changes. For the fiscal period July 2023 through June 2024, Redeemer donated seven percent, or \$48,264, to the ELCA. This is contrasted to \$39,019 donated to the ELCA in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is again aspirational. The Finance Committee has set a goal of total revenue from Offerings, Interest Income, and Property Usage of \$665,000. This is an increase of \$43,100 over the previous year, a six percent increase. Redeemer has budgeted to expend \$14,800 from the Balance Sheet funds to make outlays for youth, music memorials, and building projects. Total expenses are projected to be \$681,300 for the 2024-2025 Fiscal year, which is an 8.6% increase over the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year goal of \$622,775. The budget for the 2024-2025 Fiscal year includes a salary for the Associate Pastor but not for a Pastoral Intern.

Fiscal Year End Income and Expense	Revenue (All Sources)	Expenses	Net Surplus/Deficit
July 2023 - June 2024	\$704,721	\$648,921	\$55,800
July 2022 - June 2023	\$557,399	\$531,827	\$33,765*
2023-24 Total Budget	\$621,900	\$622,750	
2023-24 % Actual to Budget	113%	104%	

*Net surplus also includes \$8,194 added due to reconciliation discrepancies that were resolved.

Fiscal Year End Balance Sheet	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2024
Total Assets	\$1,384,036	\$1,493,918

Kim Enders, Outgoing Treasurer

Redeemer thanks Kim Enders for dutifully serving as Treasurer. We welcome Nancy Ellen Hagan to the post as the Incoming Treasurer.

Church News and Updates

BY PASTOR KELSEY



New Member Class at Redeemer

This November, Redeemer will be holding a new member class for prospective members. If you are not yet a member and are curious about learning more about our community, we invite you to join us. We would love to get to know you better, as well! If you are already a member and someone has asked you about Redeemer, please pass this info along. We are always open and ready to welcome new faces.



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS

NEW MEMBER CLASS

NOVEMBER 2ND 2024

9AM-11AM

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT REDEEMER!



Redeemer Annual Picnic



On Sunday, August 25 Redeemer held the Annual Picnic. We started with a lovely worship service (including a baptism) and then moved outside for fellowship, food, and a bouncy castle for the kids! A huge thank you to the volunteers who set up, served, and broke down the event. Your service was invaluable! Another huge thank you to Nathan and Sonja Will! Nathan and Sonja orchestrated and cooked the fabulous BBQ feast. THANK YOU!



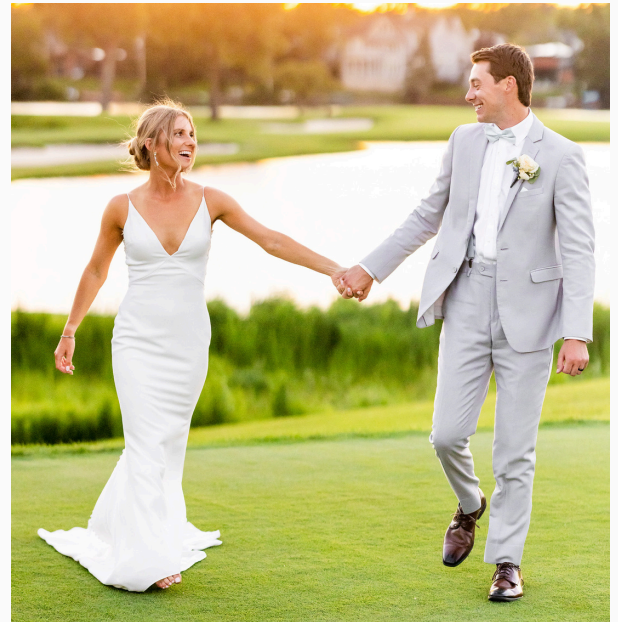
Redeemer Annual Picnic



Redeemer Wedding

Alix & Derek

Alix McArthur and Derek Parola were married at Redeemer on June 28th 2024. Alix is the daughter of Douglas and Lesley McArthur. Many blessings Alix and Derek!



Redeemer Baptism

Wesley Thomas Jaron

On Sunday, August 25th, Wesley Thomas Jaron was baptized at the 10am service. Parents are Vince Jaron and Lauren Moeller-Jaron. Jennifer and ___ are the proud grandparents. Blessings to Wesley!

Redeemer Birth

Colette "CC" Berkowitz Campillo

On May 18th 2024, CC was born to Luke Campillo and Bri Berkowitz. CC is granddaughter to Matt and Melanie Campillo. Blessings to the family!



Healthy Spiritual Journey

BY LANNY WILSON



THE ANSWER IS BLOWING IN THE WIND

Our physicians' poetry club elected to discuss the poetry of musical lyrics for our latest session. After I joined the group a couple of years ago, we discussed such poet masters as Wendell Berry, Wallace Stevens, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and Langston Hughes. Since the singer and lyricist, Taylor Swift, recently released "The Tortured Poets Department", it seemed appropriate to have a conversation about another genre of poetic expression, poetry set to music. Looking back to 2016, another poet lyricist, Bob Dylan, won the Nobel Prize in literature "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition". So, for this session, we elected to focus on the works of Dylan rather than Swift. Admittedly, we are mostly older physicians and gravitated to Dylan's works. We also related to his song lyrics better than to Swift's. Maybe she will be our next dive into the poetry of musical lyrics. "The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind. The answer is blowin' in the wind."



"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- John 3:8

At that gathering, we discussed several of Bob Dylan's songs: The Times They Are a-Changin', Like a Rolling Stone, Dark Eyes, All Along the Watch Tower, and Lay Lady Lay; but the one that we could all sing best was Blowin' in the Wind. He wrote the song in 1962, but the questions he posed, when the United States was poised to send combat forces into Vietnam, are many of the same questions with which we struggle today. Humanity is evolving, but why are we not living up to our potential? "How many times must the cannonballs fly before they're forever banned?" could be asked about assault weapons and large-capacity magazines. "Yes, and how many deaths will it take 'til he knows that too many people have died? The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind. The answer is blowin' in the wind."

More pertinent questions:

“Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head and pretend that he just doesn’t see”

all of the poverty and injustice that exists in our world?

“And how many years can some people exist before they’re allowed to be free”

in the face of human trafficking, forced labor, debt bondage, and domestic servitude today?

“Yes, and how many times must a man look up before he can see the sky?”

as climate-change wildfires send up smoke and our skies get more and more polluted?
“And how many ears must one man have before he can hear people cry” in the wars that are killing, disabling, creating orphans and refugees?

“The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind. The answer is blowin’ in the wind.”

“...you ride on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers...”
- Psalm 104:3b-4a

Psalm 104 of the Judeo-Christian scripture reassures with a spirit-filled message; God rides on the wings of the wind and God makes the winds God’s messenger. Maybe, if we listen for God’s messages through prayer, through meditation, and through the simple act of breathing in and exhaling that wind, we would have the answers to some of life’s most pressing questions. As Dylan, the poet, singer, song-writer intones: “The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind. The answer is blowin’ in the wind.”

In God’s Love,

Lanny F. Wilson, MD





**CELEBRATE OUR ORGAN'S
40th
BIRTHDAY!**



**Tuesday, Oct. 8th
at 7pm**
Redeemer Lutheran
139 E 1st St
Hinsdale, IL

**Brenda Portman,
organ**

**a freewill offering
will be collected to
benefit the series*

