

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church



A monthly publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church submissions by the 15th of each month to: insight@crlcbrecksville.org

INSIGHT

FEBRUARY 2024

CRLC STAFF

The Reverend Randy O'Donnell, PASTOR

James Alfieri, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jill Koubal, PARISH NURSE, RN, BSN

Laurie Siebert, SECRETARY

Marci Kehoe, SECRETARY

Paul Travaglianti, YOUTH DIRECTOR

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME: 8:00 & 10:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL: 9:15 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church Office is Closed on Monday

9:00 AM—2:00 PM TUES/WED/THURS

9:30 AM—1:00 PM FRIDAY

FROM THE PASTOR

"But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' (Luke 5:8)

We are just about into our second month of 2024 already and here comes Lent. It is one of those rare years in which Easter falls in the month of March. It seems we just got done putting the Christmas decorations away. I have to hurry up and finish the leftover Christmas cookies so I can give them up for Lent!

This year our Lenten season will be guided by the theme: "Wandering Heart – Figuring Out Faith with Peter". Many have heard me talk over the years about Peter being my favorite disciple, so when Sanctified Art communicated that their theme for the 2024 Lenten season was about this major follower of Jesus, my interest was piqued. So, during this season of Lent, we are going to explore our faith with stories from the journey of Peter with Jesus, from his calling- to him witnessing the resurrection of our Lord.

Perhaps I most connected with Peter, right from the very start. The above passage from the Gospel of Luke is from Peter's earliest recorded conversation with Jesus. Upon witnessing Jesus's sign of filling his fisher nets, Peter believes this encounter is too big for him, too much for him, and he just kind of begs for Jesus to go away from him. He felt unworthy. He kind of just wishes for his regular uninterrupted life. In my own call story, I really identify with Peter.

Hopefully this Lent will also be a time to explore your faith with this rock of the church, who in all his humanity, often stumbles at the crossroads with Jesus.

See you in worship,

Pastor Randy

PGSO



THEO-THURSDAY

Theo Thursday continues this month. This informal time is led by Pastor Randy and is open to all. This month we will again be at Royal Breakfast restaurant (Broadview Heights) on Thursday, February 22nd @ 9:30AM.

WE LOVE PARKING LOTS!



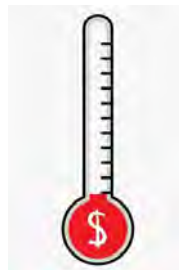
At the 2023 Annual Congregational meeting not only did the congregation pass a 2024 Mission Investment plan but we also approved funding for a major re-asphalting of the parking lot and new concrete work on the driveway apron. With existing funds, the church is going to pay for 75% of this project. We are hoping to raise the additional 25% from the congregation. Therefore, in general rounded numbers this translates to a goal of raising \$25,000 from the congregation. The good news is that we have already received \$1500 for the project since our congregational meeting, so we are already on our way.

Mark Donations: For any donations that you would make to this project, please make sure to mark and check the envelope for the purpose as “Parking Lot.” Thank you!

Added Bonus: For anyone who makes a donation for the new parking lot – Pastor Randy will deliver a chunk of the old parking lot asphalt that you can keep as a special Lutheran keepsake!

SPEAKING OF RAISING FUNDS

Here is an UPDATE on last year’s 50th anniversary project of “50K for 50 years.” We were able to raise \$35,211! This money was designated for an ‘inreach’ to refurbish the outdoor chapel and an outreach for our ministry partner – The Redeemer Crises Center to help those in need. Thanks to all who donated!!



INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH?

If you are interested in joining Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, speak with Pastor Randy.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Pastor Randy’s message
- Parking lot
- Lent Begins February 14th
- 2024 Leadership
- Altar Flowers
- LMM Volunteer Opportunity
- Redeemer Crisis Center Winter Clothes collection

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 14TH!

The 2024 Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday on Valentines Day!. We are planning to have for Ash Wednesday two worship opportunities – 12NOON and 7:00PM. Both communion worship services will include the option to receive the imposition of ashes. We will also have our midweek Lenten services each Wednesday beginning at 7:00PM, with prayers around the cross. Beginning on Wednesday, February 21st there will be a soup supper meal offered beginning at 6PM. Watch for more details on Holy Week as the time draws near. The theme for our Lenten pilgrimage this year is “Wandering Heart – Figuring out Faith with Peter.”



ASH WEDNESDAY – February 14, 2024

Noon and 7:00PM

WEDNESDAYS – Prayers around the Cross

February 21 & 28, March 6, 13, & 20 – Services at 7:00PM

Soup Suppers beginning at 6:00PM

+++++

FANTASY FOOTBALL CHAMPION!

One more did you know... Did you know that we have a “4-peat” fantasy football champion at CRLC!! Our back-to-back-to back-to back season winner is Al Siebert! Congratulations Al! If you would like to play in our fantasy football league this fall talk to Pastor Randy, we need some new players in order to defeat Al!



FORMAL COMMUNION INSTRUCTION:

The formal instruction for communion for our 5th graders will take place on Sundays March 17th and March 24th following the second service. While some students are already taking communion, this is our formal study of the sacrament, and it is meant for all 5th graders. Please RSVP to Pastor Randy about your 5th grader’s participation in this upcoming class. If due to other reasons, you have a 6th or 7th grader who has not yet gone through this class with Pastor Randy, they are invited as well.

WITH DEEP APPRECIATION

Thank you for the many prayers, cards and good wishes for me as I recover from my shoulder surgery. Needing assistance, instead of being the caregiver is humbling. We have found the wonderful meals we received thru CRLC's meal ministry to be delicious & very helpful.

Looking forward to being present in your midst again soon.

Jill Koubal

2024 LEADERSHIP

The leadership of Vision Board had their initial 2024 meeting in January. They elected the following officers (except the treasurer which is elected by our congregation). This is our executive committee, along with Pastor Randy, for this year:

President: Steve Wilson
Vice President: Tom Weber
Secretary: Gail Stelmaschuk
Treasurer: Laura Kiick

Thank you to all who are sharing of their discipleship in this place!

SCAM ALERT

Beware of scam emails asking for money or gift cards. Pastor Randy and the office staff will not send you emails like the example below and will not ask for money or gift cards. The email address in the "From" line will display the scammer's email address.

From: Pastor Randy O'Donnell <churchoutlook91@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 6, 2024 7:09 PM
To: Laurie Siebert <office@crlcbrecksville.org>
Subject: Laurie Siebert



Hey! Let me know if you have a minute, I have a request.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign up on the flower chart in the Narthex Message Center to reserve a Sunday or call the church office to reserve your date. Cost of flowers is \$35 and you can place your check in the offering plate (or send it in the email), marked Altar Flowers. Flowers can be picked up after the second service.

The Stations of the Cross



The Stations of the Cross refers to a series of artistic representations, often sculptural, depicting Christ carrying the Cross to his crucifixion. The tradition of moving around the Stations to commemorate the Passion of Christ began with St. Francis of Assisi. The object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death.

In her book, *The New Stations of the Cross—The Way of The Cross According to Scripture*, Megan McKenna explains the devotion of the Stations of the Cross. Many people wanted to walk the land where Jesus lived and trace his path from the Garden of Olives to the High Priest's house and courtyard, then on to Pilate's residence and the Praetorium, through the city of Jerusalem and outside to the hill of Calvary, the garbage dump outside the city, and then at last to the tomb in a garden. Yet many couldn't get to Jerusalem, or if they could, only once in their lifetime on pilgrimage. They desired to follow literally in the footsteps of their Crucified Master and Risen Lord, stopping along the way to reflect on his life, on his sufferings, and his death by crucifixion. This led to the ritual devotion of walking the Way of the Cross based on the Scriptures.

Of the fourteen traditional Stations of the Cross, only eight have clear scriptural foundation. To provide a version of this devotion more closely aligned with the biblical accounts, Pope John Paul II introduced a new form of devotion, called the Scriptural Way of the Cross on Good Friday, 1991:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane | 8. Jesus is helped by Simon to carry his cross |
| 2. Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested | 9. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem |
| 3. Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin | 10. Jesus is crucified |
| 4. Jesus is denied by Peter | 11. Jesus promises his kingdom to the repentant thief |
| 5. Jesus is judged by Pilate | 12. Jesus entrusts Mary and John to each other |
| 6. Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns | 13. Jesus dies on the cross |
| 7. Jesus takes up his cross | 14. Jesus is laid in the tomb |

The Stations of the Cross are a compass, a guide for the heart, a blueprint, and a source for sounding out our responses to what prevails and happens in our world today. They offer wise counsel on how to walk with dignity, with grace, with compassion, and with the freedom that the children of God have, no matter what we encounter along the way. The central prevailing symbol of the Stations is the person of Jesus and by extension the cross. When we do the Stations, we look into the mirror of God and get a glimpse of our dark hearts. The devotion of doing the Stations affords us time to stand before the Cross, reverence it, and let it touch our skin and hearts again to make us human and to save us. The Stations are powerful, even more so because they precede Eastering, resurrection, glory, baptism, inspiring, freeing, everything blooming, bursting, and dancing out of themselves because God raises the Crucified One from the dead, and we are all alive again.

The devotion of the Way of the Cross may be conducted personally by the faithful—making their way from one station to another and saying the prayers—or by having an officiating celebrant move from cross to cross while the faithful make the responses or sing a psalm or hymn verse for each station. Traditionally, this included the verses of the *Stabat Mater*, one of the most powerful and immediate of medieval poems. This 13th century hymn is generally ascribed to Jacopo da Todi and Innocent III: “At the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful mother weeping, where he hung, the dying Lord. For her soul of joy bereaved, bowed with anguish, deeply grieved, felt the sharp and piercing sword.” We, in reflecting on Christ's Passion in such an intimate way in the *Stabat Mater*, as with the Stations of the Cross, our hearts should be filled with gratitude as well as sorrow for His sacrifice for us, so that we can love Him as he loved us, and show others that love by how we treat them.

Most follow the ancient practice of beginning each station by singing or reciting the words of the *Adoramus te*: “We adore You, O Christ, and we praise you: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the World.”

At the conclusion of the fourteenth station, the *Parce Domine* may be sung or recited. The text is derived from Joel 2:17. Israel is God's special possession. The theology behind the *Parce Domine* antiphon is the Old Testament concept of a God angered by sin. The verses themselves speak of the penitent soul pleading for the Divine Mercy upon all.

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 4

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

FEBRUARY 11

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

FEBRUARY 18

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

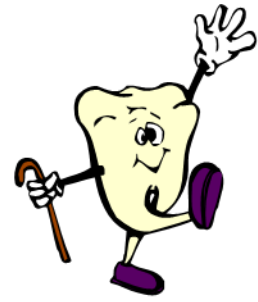
FEBRUARY 25

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

...The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Health News



Dental Health & Heart Health: Teeth are important for eating; they also help us to speak clearly. OK, you know that it is important to brush your teeth – what more is there to say . . .

Present research is that *gum disease **does not directly cause** heart disease*, but when you think about your health, don't forget that your oral health is part of the bigger picture. Everything is connected, so when you take care of your teeth, you take care of your heart.

Researchers suspect that bacteria present in gum disease can travel throughout the body, triggering inflammation in the heart's vessels and infection in heart valves.

People with gum disease (also known as periodontal disease) have a 2-3 times greater risk of heart attack, stroke or other serious cardiovascular event. Untreated gum disease is an inflammatory condition, and we now know that inflammation is a significant risk factor for coronary artery disease. If it is untreated & becomes chronic, it can contribute to other health problems. Long-term gum disease is not only bad for our oral health but may also indicate inflammation in the rest of the body, which can be a predictor of cardiovascular disease. Gum disease also creates an environment where bacteria can enter the bloodstream. Certain studies suggest that the same bacteria in the mouth have been found in plaque and blockages of heart arteries, leading to heart attack and stroke.

Diabetes – Periodontal disease is one of the complications of diabetes. Many diabetics also have periodontal disease, due in part to an increased susceptibility to infections. Diabetics with periodontal disease have more difficulty controlling their blood sugar levels.

Oral cancer – may correlate to long-term use of tobacco products and alcohol. A dental exam will include screening for oral cancer.

Respiratory Ailments – Respiratory conditions can be aggravated when bacteria from periodontal disease travel from the mouth to the lungs and lower respiratory system.

Periodontitis is an inflammation and infection where bacteria grow below the gum line. Gingivitis is the early stage of periodontal disease; in the late stages a pocket develops and can lead to an abscess and tooth loss.

Can Periodontal Disease Be Prevented? How Do You Stop Plaque Attacks? Two key factors in preventing dental caries are fluoride and dental sealants. Plaque attacks can't be stopped, but you can help to prevent plaque build-up by following a good oral care program of brushing (2 ½ minutes is proven effective), daily flossing, rinsing, and regular visits to your oral health care professional.

Professional dental care can be expensive, but the benefits are important. Clean, healthy teeth help keep the rest of your body healthy, too.

A sparkling smile always helps you look and feel your best!



Jill Koubal

Parish Nurse, RN, BSN

Youth Quake

Quake exists to help youth become established in their Christian faith, empowered for Christian living and enabled to live a life of ministry and Christian leadership.

Quake events are weekend retreats created specifically for youth in grades 6-12 .

Bill Yonker, Speaker

Pastor Bill Yonker serves as the Senior Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Dundee, Illinois, a large suburban congregation with a large school.

Jessica Maupin & Lloyd Garrelts, Musician

Jessica is a singer/songwriter and has led worship for events all over the nation and for all different age groups.

Singer and songwriter Lloyd Garrelts has toured extensively with Echelon, Peder Eide, and Jonathan Rundman, as well as shared the stage with Switchfoot, Newsboys, Third Day, Lost and Found, Beki Hemingway, Audio Adrenaline and many other top musical acts.



February 9th—11th,
Pittsburgh, PA

BREATHE. Matthew 11:28

MUSICIAN

 JESSICA MAUPIN & LLOYD GARRELTS

SPEAKER

 BILL YONKER

PITTSBURGH

FEBRUARY 9-11

COST:
CONTACT:
DEADLINE:

REGISTER TODAY AT
QuakeEvent.com



Civic Life and Faith

Last September and October the adult Sunday School class studied the ELCA introduction to its Civic Life and Faith statement. Participants and anyone else may continue to participate in the formation of the statement as described below.



Greetings,

How as Lutherans should we understand our relationship to civic life — including government — as individuals and as a church body? After studying the questions for the past three years, a social statement task force has posted a draft social statement on civic life and faith.

Social statements are important documents because they govern church teaching and policies, and support ministries. They also serve as discernment tools for ELCA members as they think about social issues such as civic life.

Between now and Sept. 30, 2024, you are invited to study and give feedback on the draft by filling out an [online survey](#) or attending a hearing in your synod, as available. To access the draft and the survey, and to find information on how to host a hearing in your synod, go to www.elca.org/civicsandfaith.

After the feedback period has closed, the task force will revise the draft with attention to the public input and submit a proposed version of the social statement to the ELCA Church Council, which will vote on sending it to the ELCA 2025 Churchwide Assembly for consideration. If adopted at the assembly by a two-thirds margin, the social statement will become official social teaching of this church.

May God's Spirit, which seeks the well-being of all in civic life, guide you in your reading, reflection, and response.

Rev. Roger Willer
 Director, Theological Ethics
 Rev. Carmelo Santos
 Director, Theological Diversity and Engagement

Sunday School Updates

Watch for these events and dates.

February 11th—Valentines Party

March 31st—Easter no classes

April 21st—Earth Day Celebration

May 5th—Pentecost Party

May 19th—Last day of Sunday School until September. Burning the prayer chain!!!

We will collect books to be shared with others as our mission project for the 2nd half of the year.

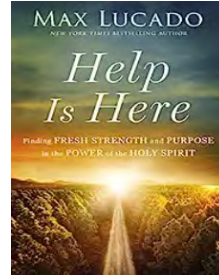
All dates NOT mentioned will be Sunday school as usual.



Women's Bible Study

We will meet on Thursday, February 1st at 7:00pm and Wednesday, February 7th at 10:00am.

Read chapter 8, Soul on Fire and chapter 11, Speak Up.



CRLC Faithful Readers

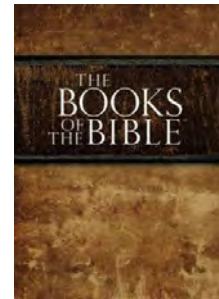
Meeting on February 21st at 10:00am in Chapelview Room.

The book for February is "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls.



Adult Sunday School—*The Books of the Bible*

Pastor Blair Morgan continues his series doing an overview of the books of the Bible in February. Anyone can come any time – most of the sessions are stand alone on books of the Bible! Come and join this class!



Christian Yoga at CRLC

Renew your mind, body, and spirit on Mondays, 7:00PM led by Jenna Waltz in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

The cost is a free will offering. Bring your own yoga mat.. For more information please contact Jenna at jenna.waltz@gmail.com.

PROPERTY

MIKE SKWARSKI, FACILITY MANAGER

Building Repairs

If you notice something that needs to be fixed around the building, please complete a **Brown Maintenance Request Form** next to the mailboxes in the office and put it in Mike Skwarski's (our Facility Manager) mailbox.



Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Volunteer Opportunity



CRLC has maintained a long partnership with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry. For over 50 years, LMM has worked diligently to promote peace and justice through Christian service and advocacy, for those most in need.

Many of our members have been active in support of the various programming and projects over the years.

The Men's Shelter, one of the LMM's facilities, is located at 2100 Lakeside in Cleveland. The Shelter is the largest in Ohio, and can serve more than 350 residents per night. Lydia Bailey, the volunteer director of the Men's Shelter, has provided a listing of volunteer tasks currently available for individuals or groups.

Please consider how you may wish to help out. Contact Lydia at Lbailey@Lutheranmetro.org or 216-649-7723.

OUTLINE OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TEACH

Computer Lab Assistant: Assist residents with basic computer questions, job search and resume writing.

Job Readiness: Assist one-on-one with those who are seeking jobs.

Housing Readiness: Help residents prepare for housing in a program covering such topics as rights/responsibilities of being a tenant, budgeting/credit counseling.

Housing Locator: Work 1:1 with shelter residents on locating housing and speaking with landlords on behalf of the resident.

KITCHEN

Cook and/or serve a meal (Breakfast, lunch, dinner).

SPIRITUAL

Scripture Study: Reading and reflecting on Scripture with a volunteer group that welcomes all faith traditions.

Listening: Be a listening/pastoral presence, training sessions on the Listening Program at 2100 offered.

MAINTENANCE

Help with neighborhood clean-up, painting, construction, and clothes sorting.

LEGAL CLINIC

Join with paralegals and lawyers, assisting residents with legal issues including child support, divorce, and expungements.

VISUAL ARTS OR MUSIC WORKSHOPS

Paint indoor, outdoor murals with shelter residents
Lead simple art workshops
Lead music therapy groups

LIFE SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Lead recovery workshops & other life skills

BOARD GAMES

Chess, checkers, Jenga, dominoes, Scrabble.

HAVE AN IDEA?

We love to work with volunteers who have specific interests & skills. Examples of workshops that grew out of volunteers' ideas: Bicycle Repair workshop; sewing sessions to sew the residents clothes; current events discussion groups to talk about news, sports, world events.

For further information, please contact Lydia Bailey, Coordinator of Volunteers, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter, 2100 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114. Lbailey@Lutheranmetro.org Office: 216-649-7723

Journey Center for Safety and Healing

Thank you for your donation of \$967.00 to Journey Center for Safety and Healing (from the Advent Tea). Your generous gift provides vital services to victims and survivors. Because of donors like you, 16,943 people experiencing abuse found strength and support last year as they determined their best path toward health and safety.



South Hills Lend-A-Hand Food Pantry

On behalf of South Hills Lend-A-Hand, I would like to express, again, our sincere appreciation for your support of our programs. Your generous donation of 797 pounds of food items and paper goods will be put to good use (includes 46 boxes of tissues, 108 rolls of paper towels, and 583 rolls of toilet paper). We served about 70 families during our recent Thanksgiving distribution event! Thank you for arranging for several food drives this year—the need is still there.

Each month we were able to purchase about 4,000 pounds of food items and produce from the Cleveland Food bank as well as purchase an additional 500 pounds of meat. It's been an amazing year for us and we truly appreciate the support that others give us!

The Lend-A-Hand program could not exist without the support of area churches, groups, companies, and individuals. These types of donations enable us to continue to provide assistance every month to an increasing number of families in need. Thank you for your generosity!!

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry



On behalf of LMM and the people we serve, thank you for your contribution on November 29, 2023 in the amount of \$2,500.00. Your support of LMM is greatly appreciated!

Pablo Picasso once said that the meaning of life is to find your gift, but the purpose of life is to give it away.

We are thankful you have chosen a gift to LMM to express your commitment to our neighbors in need.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Thank you for your gift of \$3,000.00 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders.

Through your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA you share this amazing grace with others and help people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your gift ensures that students at ELCA seminaries who display tremendous promise can answer the call to leadership for this church and for our future. By making their education more affordable you help future ministers attend seminary but graduate with less debt. Ultimately you empower those whom God calls into ministry to serve as the church needs and the Holy Spirit leads.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

Latest Winter Needs for Redeemer Crisis Center

Can you imagine in our harsh Cleveland Winters, having no warm clothes to wear??

No good coat, no boots, hat, gloves, scarf? Sleeping in a cold house? No Blanket?



Let's help our brothers and sisters in need with warm items. Many of us have numerous coats and boots that we probably don't wear anymore. A blanket hiding in the back of the closet.

Please donate new/used donations to CRLC anytime now through the end of February. They can be placed in the Coat room for delivery.

SOUTH HILLS LEND-A-HAND

We continue to collect food for the food pantry in Broadview Heights that serves residents of Brecksville, Broadview Heights, Independence and Seven Hills.

Call 440-526-0514 if you would like to help or need assistance.

Need on a more regular basis:

Tissues, Laundry Detergent and Canned Fruit

ITEMS NEEDED THE MOST:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| canned meals/stew | canned soup |
| canned beans | canned fruit |
| canned vegetables | tuna fish |
| peanut butter & jelly | pancake mix |
| cereal rice | spaghetti sauce |
| macaroni & cheese | toilet paper |
| Tissues paper towels | diapers |
| hygiene products | liquid laundry detergent |

USED CELL PHONES

Used cell phones are being collected throughout the year and will be donated to the **JOURNEY CENTER FOR SAFETY AND HEALING** (formerly *Domestic Violence Center*). There is a marked bag located on the coffee counter in the Gathering Space by the front entry doors.

The **JOURNEY CENTER FOR SAFETY AND HEALING** provides services that foster safety and healing for those affected by child abuse and domestic violence. Their model is grounded in self-determination and operates from a strengths-based philosophy while incorporating best practices and evidence-based strategies. Services are delivered through a trauma-informed lens with an emphasis on individual empowerment as persons navigate their own journey.

**We are collecting aluminum pull-tabs for
RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES.**

There is a large jar in the Gathering Space by the stairwell as well as in the coat room at the bottom of the food shelf.

REDEEMER CRISIS CENTER***NEW EMPHASIS ON ITEMS NEEDED***

**Peanut Butter, Boxed Cereal and Toilet Paper,
along with winter items**

Coats, Boots, Hats, Gloves, Scarfs

Hand/toe warmers, Towels

Blankets and Comforters

Hand can openers, Pots and Pans

Electric fry pans & hot plates

Shampoo and Conditioner

Lotions, Body Wash, Shaving Cream

Toilet paper, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

OASIS COLLECTION***NEW ITEMS***

Food items are needed for the OASIS ministry in Akron. There are about 50 children in the program that need to be fed.

Items can be dropped off at church into the NEW donation area of the coat closet.

Healthy after-school snacks for the children OASIS partners with. This would **include bags of small apples, bags of clementines or mandarin oranges, fruit cups, granola or fruit bars and peanut butter or cheese crackers**

Lutheran Disaster Response actively works in areas affected by tornados, hurricanes, flooding, wildfires and war. Donations can be made on our website home page or click on the donate tab. Checks can also be written to CRLC and write LDR on the memo line. CRLC will send your donation to LDR.

Men's Fellowship Group

All men from CRLC are welcome to join us on February 10th, at 8:00am.

We will meet for breakfast at Royal Breakfast at 500 E. Royalton Rd. in Broadview Heights.

Email Don Laubacher at donlaubacher@gmail.com if you plan to attend.



Hobby Days

Hobby Days are two days/nights of creative fun with time for yourself, your favorite hobby, and fellow crafters. All proceeds go to our Youth Group (YAC) to put towards their summer youth mission trips.

February 16th & 17th, 10:00am—12:00am

Weekend includes:

- Half of a round table
- Coffee, ice tea, water



Please bring:

- Snack to share
- Drink if you want other than above
- Cost is \$10 each day (welcome to donate more)
- Payment due to reserve your spot
- Firsts come, first served
- Make checks payable to CRLC—YAC
- Include who you'd like to be seated with/near
- Include your email and phone number
- Place in the Fellowship mailbox

Game Night

Game night returns on February 18th. Mark it on your calendar. Time to be determined.

Adult Fellowship Card Group

Contact Blaine Coleman to be a host.

Fellowship Committee Update



Thanks to everyone who made time to attend and participate in the Fellowship planning meeting held at CRLC on Saturday, January 6th. It was a pleasure to get to know everyone better and learn the tremendous level of experience we have among our members.

I am in the process of reviewing all the wonderful suggestions that were generated during the meeting in anticipation of the Ministry Board meeting and planning Fellowship activities for the coming year.

My thanks also go out to those who have helped me get a basic handle on the various components involved in the overall Fellowship realm.

If anyone else has ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at EJKroepel@outlook.com before January 26th.

2024 LENTEN SOUP SUPPER & SERVICE

Soup: 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall
Service: 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Wednesdays during Lent:

- February 14th (Ash Wednesday Soup following Noon Service)
- February 21st
- February 28th
- March 6th
- March 13th
- March 20th

Hosts/Helpers: See sign-up Sheet in the Narthex Message Center

Questions or RSVP: Contact Gail Berzins or Lis Kroepel

February Volunteers In Parish Service

As always, if you are unable to serve on a scheduled date, *please find your own replacement*
and let the church office know by Wednesday of that week.

Thank you for your service!

| February 4 | 8:00 am | 10:30 am |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Assisting Minister | open | Linda Eckenbrecht |
| Communion Assistants | Al Radefeld | Jan Hansler, Ilene Privara |
| Ushers | Todd Kiick, Ken Blank | Amy Marek, Dana Vrcan |
| Altar Care | Dorthea Kramer | Ilene Privara |
| Counters: Jeff & Cathy Smith, Jeff Luksa | | Coffee Hour Hosts: Jenni Halter |
| February 11 | 8:00 am | 10:30 am |
| Assisting Minister | Diane Wilson | Chris Schuhle |
| Communion Assistants | x | Elaine Foss, Lisa Witzke |
| Ushers | Lou Carouse, Mark Evans | Jeff Dentzer, Jennifer Eisenmann |
| Altar Care | Cheryl Stiefvater | Jan Hansler |
| Counters: Jeff Dentzer, Mike Bodanza, Todd Romance | | Coffee Hour Host: open |
| February 14 Ash Wednesday | NOON | 7:00 pm |
| Assisting Minister | open | open |
| Communion Assistants | Ilene Privara | open |
| Ushers | open | open |
| Altar Care | Ilene Privara | Ilene Privara, Linda Eckenbrecht |
| February 18 | 8:00 am | 10:30am |
| Assisting Minister | Deb Blank | Karla Perry |
| Communion Assistants | x | Kathie Bruska, Karl Koubal |
| Blessors: | Barb Wojtala, Suzana Koch | Jan Romance, Pam Waltz |
| Ushers | Mike Berzins, Lisa Antonucci | Bill Waltz, Frank Boulton |
| Altar Care | Pam & Bob Bertsch | Pam & Bob Bertsch, Linda Eckenbrecht |
| Counters: Andrew Perry, Lisa Witzke | | Coffee Hour Host: open |
| February 25 | 8:00 am | 10:30am |
| Assisting Minister | Linda Radefeld | Christina Wells |
| Communion Assistants | x | Lisa Witzke, Dennis Nagy |
| Blessors: | Joan Huber, Gail Berzins | Ina Stanek, open |
| Ushers | Don Laubacher | Wendy & Chris Dralle |
| Altar Care | Dorthea Kramer | Dana Vrcan |
| Counters: Joy Petrovic, Dan Bartik, Dennis Farney | | Coffee Hour Host: open |



*Happy
Birthday!*



*Happy
Anniversary!*

- 1 George Stelmaschuk
- 1 Evan Garvas
- 2 Robert Stiefvater
- 2 Tori Benza
- 4 Steve Wells
- 6 Nicholas Travaglianti
- 7 Ryan Witzke
- 10 Jackie Lewison
- 10 Matt Beery
- 10 Molly Neubeck
- 10 Paige Neubeck
- 10 Nathan Singleton
- 11 Bob Springer
- 11 Kari Beery
- 11 Tess O'Donnell
- 12 Rachael Glissman*
- 12 Caitlin Cotter
- 13 Charles Pohle
- 15 Madison Myers
- 17 Lauren Jirousek
- 17 Zachary Persuric
- 17 Kendrick Dobbins
- 18 Eric Kramer
- 19 Don Brusk
- 24 James Alfieri
- 26 Mardell Boulton
- 26 Ed McTernan Jr.
- 26 Michael Bandsuh*
- 28 Sandy Crites*

***= Milestone birthday*

- 8 Kathy and Tom Hoinski
- 14 Denise and Michael Bandsuh
- 15 Karen and Michael Guzi
- 22 Kay and Jim Helle
- 27 Kathie and Don Brusk



*Wishing Everyone
a happy, healthy, blessed
Day!*

Pastor Randy

James Alfieri

Cecile Mastroianni

Jill Koubal

Marci Kehoe

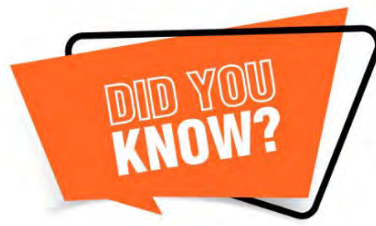
Laurie Siebert

Paul Travaglianti



Did you know that we have the ability to receive online giving through our website?
(www.crlcbrecksville.org)

This option will allow for folks to contribute to our congregation using their credit card or debit card. There is not a cost for the church to host this ability, however this is a cost to us for every transaction that is processed. The donor however, can add this fee to any donation they make using this process so that the church receives the full amount intended. This will allow for folks who prefer to handle their giving in this way. This can be used for a one-time donation or it can be set up for reoccurring contributions. It also will allow specific giving to specific funds in our church. You also can download an app for your phone, and after a one-time set-up, you can easily use your mobile device for giving. Donors also have the ability to have recurring donations directly charged to their Bank or S&L checking or savings account through the church Simply Giving program without needing to use the on-line system. Please contact the church office to get more information or to set up this option."



- ◆ Did you know that Easter is in March this year – March 31st?
- ◆ Did you know that some of our youth are attending a Youth Quake weekend in Pittsburgh this month?
- ◆ Did you know that the ELCA National Youth Gathering is this year in New Orleans?
- ◆ Did you know that the youth raised over \$500 at their December pancake breakfast? Thank you!
- ◆ Did you know that Art Connections will be back this year?
- ◆ Did you know that in order to publicize something in the newsletter we need it by the 15th of the month prior?

... and Now You Know!

CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH PRAYS FOR. . . Our Vision and Ministry Boards

Andy, Haberny, Jill Koubal, Paul Cameron, Missy Koch,
Doris Caldart, Lauren Jirousek, Krause Family, Kathie Brusk,
Linnet Fritz, Ken Kasper, Karen Knicely, Nick Dobrinich,
Marlene Kasper, Jacob Cordiak, Janet Johnston,
Kim Jennings, Melissa Candage, Denise, John,
Colby & Quintin, Alice, Marcine, Lois Smith,
Chris & Dave Foelber, Cole, Kerri Weber, Bob Gallik,
Don, Marc, Adalyn, Tanya, Celine Fernandez, Joanne North,
Stuart, Bishop, Charles, Ben, Nuvia, Jim Miller, Saul Orelinus,
Kristin Abbott, Phyllis Hassler, Bev Kan, Bottesch family,
Bill Zellmer, Lynne Kiick
All those impacted by war and natural disasters



>>> February

Practicing God,
Serving Others

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------|---------|--|--|---|---|
| <p>8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All 10:30am Worship</p> | | | <p>10:00am Ladies Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:30pm Back to the Beginning</p> | <p>7:00pm Ladies Bible Study</p> | <p>Groundhog Day</p> | |
| <p>8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All 10:30am Worship Youth Quake in Pittsburg</p> | | | <p>10:00am Ladies Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:30pm Back to the Beginning</p> | | <p>Youth Quake in Pittsburg</p> | <p>Youth Quake in Pittsburg 8:00am Men's Fellowship - Royal Breakfast & More</p> |
| <p>8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All 10:30am Worship Youth Quake in Pittsburg</p> | | | <p>12:00pm Ash Wed. worship 1:00pm Soup Luncheon 7:00pm Adult Choir & Ash Wednesday worship 7:30pm Back to the Beginning</p> | <p>Monthly INSIGHT Deadline</p> | <p>10:00am - 12:00am Hobby Days</p> | <p>10:00am - 12:00am Hobby Days</p> |
| <p>8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All 10:30am Worship Games Night at CRLC-time TBD</p> | | | <p>10:00am Faithful Readers 6:00pm - 7:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Back to the Beginning</p> | <p>9:30am Theo-Thursdays</p> | | |
| <p>8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All 10:30am Worship</p> | | | <p>6:00pm - 7:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Back to the Beginning</p> | | | <p> Valentines Day February 14th</p> |

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440.526.2303 www.office@crlcbrecksville.org
Monthly insight submissions: insight@crlcbrecksville.org

The monthly newsletter of:

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Praising God. Serving Others.

The Reverend Randy O'Donnell, Pastor



2024