

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church



INSIGHT

SEPTEMBER 2024

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

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SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME: 8:00 & 9:30AM-SEPT. 1ST,

8:00 & 10:30AM BEGINNING SEPT. 8TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL: 9:15AM-BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8TH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church Office is Closed on Monday

9:00 AM—2:00 PM TUES/WED/THURS

9:30 AM—12:00 PM FRIDAY

FROM THE PASTOR

"The wind blows to the south, and goes round to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns." (Ecclesiastes 1:6)

The ninth month of 2024. Already. Unbelievable. The month of September has always meant so much in the households I have been in during my journey through this life. For me growing up September meant school, it meant allergies, it meant returning to getting up so early in the mornings – which I really disliked (and truth be told still do). For my house now, it means that Theo, incredulously, will be in first grade, Tess likely to start preschool, and Karen and I schedule's kick into full swing with church activities. In some ways, like many households with teachers and students, there can be a dreaded sense as we are back in the 'grind' as summer vacations end, and even the weather and nature start to give us a peak toward some gray and cold days on the horizon. However, September can mean new teachers, new classmates, the twinge of the fall colors and of course the return of football.

"Getting back into the swing of things" "Returning to a routine" are just some of the phrases one hears during this month. I hope for you this also includes a return to worship and participation in the life of ministry at CRLC. It has been an eventful summer here for sure, but we are already looking at what we will be doing in the months ahead and even in 2025. I hope you will be a part of that.

Some things I think I think this month...

...I think I think that the anticipation of a new football season with a 0-0 record might be the most exciting time to be a Browns fan,...after that....not so much. 😊

...I think I think that the election season continues to be a wild ride. Is there a time when we will recall and hold on to the fact that what makes us great as a country is in part the diversity of different opinions?

...I think I think our congregation has many talented artists as witnessed in the recent Art Connections show.

...I think I think stewardship in the church is often difficult to address with tact and clarity, but yet is essential to the mechanics of an active church.

See you in worship,

Pastor Randy

PGSO

THE PARKING LOT FUNDRAISER!

The parking lot project is now complete. This was a major accomplishment and a big financial undertaking. We are still wanting to raise the remainder of the 25% of this cost. If you haven't had time to make a donation to this project, please give it consideration. Thank you!



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

Due to your generous donations, we are now more than **80%** of our 25K goal!!! Thank you!!

THEO-THURSDAY

Theo Thursday is back after its normal summer hiatus. This informal time is led by Pastor Randy and is open to all. This month we will again be at Royal Breakfast & More on **Thursday, September 19th @ 9:30AM**. This is located at 500 E Royalton Road in Broadview Heights.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE CONTINUES

After Labor Day weekend we will return to our normal worship schedule of worship at 8:00AM & 10:30AM as Sunday school resumes at 9:15AM.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Our time, talent and resources...

Later this month you will be receiving a letter about our stewardship resources for 2025. This includes our time, talent, and financial resources.

On Sunday, **October 13th**, we hope to collect any remaining Intention of Giving cards that help guide us in our financial planning for 2025.

Also, that day, we would like to collect any remaining time and talent brochures that you have completed for the numerous and various roles in our ministry at CRLC.

Our congregation is truly blessed by those who serve and support this great community of faith. Let's keep growing with each other and sharing our journeys as we are "Praising God, Serving Others."



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.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor Randy's message
- Stewardship Sunday
- Art Connections Success
- Confirmation
- Rally Day
- Faithful Readers
- Serving Committee

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ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting on **Sunday, November 24th following the 10:30 service**. The annual reports and proposals will be made available 2 weeks ahead of this meeting. On the agenda will be the proposed 2025 Mission Investment Plan and the election of our leadership positions.



TIME CAPSULE

Remember our 50th anniversary celebration? At that time we were collecting items for a time capsule to be buried on our property for a future anniversary celebration. We waited until the end of the year to collect all the items for it. It was then winter. We finally are now ready to bury this capsule. Weather permitting, we are planning to do this on **September 22nd at 9:15AM**, just prior to the start of Sunday School behind the cross at the outdoor chapel. Watch for more details!

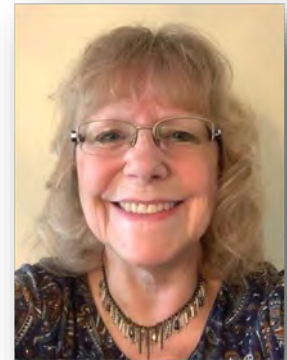
SEND YOUR LOVING THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Our beloved Laurie will be out of the office beginning September 3rd. She will be recuperating from surgery for approximately 6 weeks.

As you know, Laurie is our “rock” when it comes to all things CRLC; however, we will do our best to support you.

Please send Laurie thoughts of love and support as she heals. We will miss her dearly! Also, please contact the office with any questions and church concerns instead of Laurie directly.

During this time period, Marci and Pastor Randy will be seeking to “hold down the fort” until Laurie returns. Please know that this might mean some occasional switching of hours of office availability. If you do not hear back from us in a timely manner, please try again. Thank you for your prayers and patience!!



NOISE CANCELING HEADPHONES

We now have 3 sets of children's sized noise canceling headphones available for use at worship.

These are located in the Narthex area.

Please feel free to use them and return after service. Wipes are provided to clean them before or after use.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH?

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

YOU ARE MINE

*I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear,
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice,
Be still, and know I am here.
I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see;
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light;
Come and rest in me.*

Refrain:

*Do not be afraid, I am with you;
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home,
I love you and you are mine.*

These are the words of the hymn “You Are Mine” by David Haas. I’d like to share some information on this hymn and its composer. Be sure to come to worship on September 22 to hear Mark Hayes’ arrangement of “You Are Mine.”

David Robert Haas (b. 1957) is a well-known author and composer of music for choirs and congregations. He studied vocal music performance and conducting at Central Michigan University and theology and music at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has served congregations in Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota as parish musician and currently serves as a cantor at St. Cecilia’s Parish in St. Paul, Minnesota, and is director of the Emmaus Center for Music, Prayer, and Ministry in Eagan, Minnesota, where he resides. Haas is committed to encouraging young liturgical musicians, so he directs a summer program for high school and college-age students.

David Haas is one of three liturgical composers who formed what was informally called the “Minnesota School” of liturgical composition, all graduating from the University of St. Thomas., David Haas, Michael Joncas (b. 1951), and Marty Haugen (b. 1950) produced “some of the most popular and effective music for the Church’s worship that has appeared in the days following the Second Vatican Council”.

Though Haas is prominent as an author and composer of modern Roman Catholic liturgical music, his many popular songs have found their way into a wide variety of hymnals and songbooks. In addition to “You Are Mine,” three additional hymns that are widely sung in the ecumenical community are “Blest Are They”, “We Are Called”, and “Without Seeing You”.

In 2017, The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) conducted a hymn survey in which 3,000 participants ranked hymns. Haas’s “You Are Mine” was number four on the list. Written in the early 1990s, this hymn, is now included in fourteen current hymnals across numerous denominations. The words are based on texts from Psalm 46:10, “Be still and know...”; Isaiah 43:1b, “Do not fear...you are mine”; and John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid”. The hymn’s text is written in God’s voice, assuring, comforting, and encouraging – “I am with you,” “Come and rest in me,” and “I love you and you are mine.” The themes of this hymn are God’s care, strength in troubling times, baptism, and confirmation. “‘You Are Mine’ is a reminder that no matter where we are and how low we may feel, God is always there, calling to us, and inviting us to follow’.

YOU ARE MINE—Continued

The hymn first appeared in the composer's collection, *Who Calls You by Name: Music for Christian Initiation*. This gives some clues as to the liturgical intent of the song. Though hymnologist and hymnwriter Carl P. Daw, Jr. finds the scriptural allusions to be ambiguous, he adds a helpful note in understanding the song's meaning:

As it seems initially to have been conceived, the present song was a corporate affirmation for newly baptized persons that they now belonged to the body of Christ, which could be construed as a reasonable extension of the verse in Isaiah [43:1b]. But because of the ambiguity of the word "you" in modern English, this song can also be understood in an individualistic rather than a corporate way. In John 14:18b, for example, Jesus does say something very close to the opening line, "I will come to you" (translations vary), but the context makes clear that he is speaking to all the disciples, not to an individual. In modern English, the singular is taken as the default intention if the plural is not specified, allowing this song to be appropriated as a personal assurance rather than one shared with a community (Daw, 181-182).

This hymn will continue to be a source of hope in an unpredictable world – "I am the peace the world cannot give" (stanza 4) and a source of strength for those in turmoil – "I am the strength for all the despairing" (stanza 3).

Mark Hayes was raised in a creative musical environment, beginning piano lessons at age ten and developing his improvisational skills at an early age. He earned a B.M. in piano performance, magna cum laude, from Baylor University. During his college years his dream of becoming a composer and arranger was born and nurtured. Now an internationally known writer, conductor, and concert pianist, his career has blossomed into international tours to Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, South Africa and Canada.

Hayes' music is found in the music libraries of churches and universities around the world. His compositions and arrangements are known for their unique American sound, drawing from such diverse musical styles such as gospel, jazz, pop, folk and classical. Mr. Hayes' personal catalog, totaling over 2,000 published works, includes work for solo voice, solo piano, multiple pianos, orchestra, jazz combo, small instrumental ensembles, and choruses of all kinds. He is honored to have his music regularly featured at ACDA, MENC and Chorus America conventions. Hayes is regularly commissioned by churches, universities, children's choruses, and community choruses to write original choral works.

Mr. Hayes is also sought after as an orchestrator and music producer. He has recorded over 25 solo piano recordings ranging from jazz to classical to gospel and is a favorite arranger of church pianists throughout the world. Mark Hayes is a recurring recipient of the Standard Award from ASCAP, and his album, "I've Just Seen Jesus," received the Dove Award, the equivalent to a Grammy in gospel music. In June 2010 Mark released his first CD of original songs titled *All Is Well*, featuring Kansas City jazz artist, Monique Danielle.

In 2010, Baylor University Center for Christian Music Studies awarded Mark the Award for Exemplary Leadership in Christian Music. Hayes received the first-place composition award in the eighth annual John Ness Beck Foundation competition.

Whether concertizing on the other side of the globe or composing at his home in Kansas City, Missouri, Mark is blessed to live out his mission "to create beautiful music for the world".

Information from: Discipleship Ministries and www.markhayes.com

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 1

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

SEPTEMBER 8

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

SEPTEMBER 15

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

SEPTEMBER 22

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

SEPTEMBER 29

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16,
24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

“O Lord, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? . . .” (Habakkuk 1:2)

Our bodies are fearfully & wonderfully made, but it is the awesome complexity of our bodies that creates challenges, such as is experienced when living with **chronic pain**. Chronic pain *lasts longer than 6 months*. It can be mild or excruciating, episodic or continuous, merely inconvenient or totally incapacitating. Pain signals remain active in the nervous system for weeks, months, or even years. Overcoming suffering & pain is difficult – sometimes it even seems impossible. Hanging on to hope & increasing your *understanding of your condition & the treatment options available* are two keys to living with pain. Chronic pain takes a **physical, financial, and emotional** toll on those who have pain and their family & friends.

Medication alone often is **not** enough, especially in chronic pain. Relieving pain requires work both on the part of the physician and the patient. People with chronic pain must be active participants in their care, and one aspect of this is caring for your body. Adequate rest, eating a healthy diet and engaging in physical activity are vitally important to maintaining function and health. ***It may seem like a catch-22 – you're in pain, so you don't want to move or you're finally feeling a little better, but you're afraid to move because your pain might come back.*** Avoiding exercise can be detrimental to your health – you lose muscle tone and strength, your heart and lungs work less efficiently, and your pain can increase. Benefits of exercise include: increased muscle strength & flexibility, improved sleep, and stress relief. Getting the right treatment can be tricky. If your doctor can't seem to help, get a referral to an expert. For arthritis pain, see a rheumatologist. If you have migraines - a neurologist. Or seek out a pain specialist. No matter what, listen to your pain. If you have chronic pain, don't ignore it. Seek help.

Pain touches all aspects of life. It can be especially hard on financial well-being. Pain is expensive—even if you have insurance, co-pays for prescriptions & doctor's visits add up. Even more, pain can result in job loss, which means loss of income and health insurance. Financial stress adds to overall stress, and stress can lead to anxiety and depression.

Emotions have a direct effect on your health. *Pain so often is accompanied by loss: loss of function, loss of employment, loss of money, loss of friends & relationships.* Taking care of the emotional aspects of chronic pain is necessary to treat your overall pain condition. Your physician may want to prescribe medication for sleep disturbances and, in addition, may suggest cognitive behavioral therapy (e.g., relaxation techniques, coping strategies, psychological therapy). *Successful treatment is a team effort. It is important for your doctor to treat you as a "whole" – not just the part in pain.* Avoid isolation & loneliness - consider joining a support group. Share your thoughts & feelings with loved ones and allow them to share their feelings with you. People cannot read your mind – just as pain is an invisible disease, emotions can be difficult to discern.

We are blessed to live in an area with access to many options. May God Bless your journey to improved health of body, mind and spirit.

“I am leaving you with a gift – peace of mind and heart.

And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid.” (John 14:27)

Resources for more information: American Chronic Pain Association - www.theacpa.org

This link is to a short video: <https://www.acpanow.com/#/>

Jill Koubal
Parish Nurse, RN, BSN

ART CONNECTIONS SUCCESS

Thanks to you, Art Connections 2024 was a huge success! The theme of “God’s gifts, our hands” was abundantly apparent throughout the entire process.

- ◆ Thanks to all the creative artists and their willingness to share their talents that touched all our senses, including taste!
- ◆ Thanks to everyone who enjoyed the show, voiced their praise, and shared with their friends and family.
- ◆ Thanks to Pastor Randy, Laurie Siebert, and Marci Kehoe for their critical support and patience as they answered questions, received deliveries, updated so many communication channels, and accommodated our needs.
- ◆ Thanks to those who suggested and supported new collaborations, such as everyone who contributed to the Connecting Circles art piece. Thanks to Deb Blank and Jill Koubal for connecting us with LMM so we can donate the collaborative piece to their shelter. Thanks to Cristina Wells for a fun VBS-Art Connections collaborative art project that will now hang in the Sunday School hallway.
- ◆ Thanks to all the handy and strong helpers. Karl Koubal’s iconic Art Connections sign piqued interest in the show and electronics! Don Laubacher, Dennis Nagy, Mike Berzins, Dan Bartik, and Mark Evans showed up to put away tables, move display panels, assemble grids, and then were willing to come back to do it again in reverse.
- ◆ Last but not least, a special thanks goes to the dedicated Art Connections committee- Ann Farine, Carole Wooten, Cheryl Laubacher, Gail Berzins, Jenna Waltz, and Linda Eckenbrecht. They were truly “God’s Gift” to me, shown in their commitment to meeting regularly, taking on a multitude of tasks, sharing their creative ideas and providing quick solutions to overcome our obstacles.
- ◆ Thanks be to God for reminding us that his gifts to each of us are amplified when combined!

“There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” 1 Corinthians 12:6



ART CONNECTIONS SUCCESS—Continued



More pictures of the exhibits can be found on the website under the member area.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation and the high school Sunday school class resumes this fall on September 8th. The first session will occur in cooperation with the adult high school class and our guest lecturer.

Then beginning Sunday, September 15th the class will meet with Paul Travaglianti in the high school room.

On October 13th Pastor Randy will meet with just the youth who are getting confirmed in his office. The confirmation class will begin meeting separately, with Pastor Randy, teaching later this fall. The high school class will continue meeting with Paul in their normal youth room.

If you are a parent of a confirmation age student and have not heard yet about this upcoming year, please contact Pastor Randy. Those who are completing their confirmation will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 27th.



RALLY DAY/GOODIES WITH GRANDS

Sunday school begins On September 8th. This restart is usually referred to as Rally Day, as we rally back to our worship disciplines for both Sunday school and choir.

Our Pre-k through 6th grade classes will Rally together along with their grandparents as that is also Grandparents Day. We appreciate our grandparents who in some cases have been responsible for our children's attendance.

So...We would like our grandparents to join us at 9:15 for our opening, some joint activities and refreshments.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH TIME

Our staffed Children's Church time will resume on September 8th as well. An adult will meet the children after the children's sermon and return them as Communion begins.

Anyone interested in volunteering for an occasional Sunday please call Kathy Hoinski @ 440-364-4161 or the church office.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS – September 8th! A NEW ADULT SERIES with Special Guest Dr. John Byron

Beginning on Sunday, September 8th at 9:15 our adult Sunday class will resume for the fall. We will begin our year with a new series and a guest lecturer! Dr. Byron will be here for a few Sundays in September and October.



John Byron is Professor of New Testament at Ashland Theological Seminary. He completed undergraduate studies at Elim Bible Institute in Lima NY, a Master of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies at Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA, post-graduate work at Jerusalem University College in Jerusalem, Israel and a Ph.D. in Theology at the University of Durham in England. He is the author of six books and more than 30 published articles and essays. He served as a translator for the Common English Bible, is a columnist for Biblical Archaeology Review and excavated at Tel-Gezer in Israel.

He has been married to Lori Byron since 1990. They enjoy spending their free time cycling, cooking and traveling together. In addition, they both attend worship at Pastor Karen's congregation: Peace Lutheran in Ashland, Ohio.

September 8th - *From the Scroll to the Book*

The Bible is one of the most widely read books in the world. In North America, most homes have at least one copy of the Bible, but many probably have several. Yet, it can be easy to take the Bible for granted. We don't often appreciate the long and sometimes difficult process that brought us the Bible we read today. In this lecture Dr. Byron, will explain how Bible we hold in our hands evolved from scrolls and papyri written in numerous languages to the English Bible we use today. At the conclusion of the lecture, the audience will be invited to view a selection of ancient Bibles and manuscripts including a fragment of the Dead Sea Scrolls and pages from the Wycliffe, Tyndale and Luther Bibles.

September 15th - *Corruption, Conspiracy and Confusion: Can we trust the New Testament?*

Over the years various arguments have been mounted against the trustworthiness of the New Testament. Scholars have noted the fragmentary nature of the earliest copies of the New Testament and concluded the evidence is too corrupt to be trusted. Conspiracy theorists, influenced by popular books and movies, claim the Emperor Constantine and church councils decided what books should be in the Bible while suppressing others. And some, observing the multiplicity of available translations, have suggested there is too much confusion and disagreement over what the Bible "really says." In this lecture Dr. Byron will demonstrate why the New Testament is reliable. He will explain how scholars reconstruct the New Testament from thousands of pieces of evidence, how the New Testament books came to be canonized and why modern translations reflect longstanding Christian heritage, rather than a source of confusion. He will conclude with some thoughts on the nature of the Bible, inspiration and the role scripture play in informing our faith.

September 22nd , September 29th, October 13th, October 20th— Topics to be announced!

FROM THE NORTHEAST OHIO SYNOD

2024-2025 COURSE OFFERINGS

While classes may be taken in any order, we highly recommend taking all Foundations Classes before registering for Practical Classes. The Foundations Course of study will help you prepare for the Practical classes. Without previous engagement in foundations classes, practical classes will be challenging.

The courses are offered collaboratively through Zoom. Each class runs for 5 weeks and costs \$65/course + credit card fees.

*Class dates are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.

Stay Tuned for 2024-2025 Class Registration

FOUNDATIONS CLASSES

Worship Matters

September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24

Why do we worship Sunday after Sunday? Is worship intended for an 'in group' to comfort and console? Is worship intended to equip for mission and service? Is worship for God or for us? As we explore these questions, we will discover tensions in worship: a God focus or a communal focus, a head focus or a heart focus, a structured worship or a free worship, a universal church focus or a focus on the local assembly and its needs.

Christianity in a Lutheran Key

November 7, 14, 21, December 5, 12

While all Christians share a common set of theological beliefs, Lutherans look at things through a filter of grace. In this course we will discover more about our Lutheran roots. We will also look forward to challenges that face us in the future.

Intro to the Old Testament

December 19, January 2, 9, 16, 23

The aims of this course are: to give the students an overview of the structure and theology of the Hebrew Scriptures and present the varieties of forms used to communicate the truth of God's Word contained in them. Special attention will be given to covenant theology and to relating Old Testament theology and history to our understanding of the New Testament.

Intro to the New Testament

February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6

The goals of this course are to understand the gospel message as revealed in the New Testament (NT), to explore the life and faith of the Christian church in the first century, to understand how the Bible came down to us in its present form, and to understand and use a variety of tools for interpreting the Bible. Throughout the course students will reflect on how the New Testament Gospel has shaped our Christian lives.

Lutheran Creeds & Confessions

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 24

This course provides an analysis of the historical context and theological content of the Book of Concord (the Lutheran Confessions) with an eye to establishing the importance of its witness for Christian mission and ministry.

Living as a Christian in the World

May 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5

Students will discuss and explore their role as a member of a Christian community and the community at large. This course allows students to explore their place in a community that is not necessarily predominately Christian. Begin discernment on future service and ministries in their congregations and communities.



FROM THE NORTHEAST OHIO SYNOD—Continued

PRACTICAL CLASSES (Please take Foundation classes before enrolling in Practical Classes)

Pastoral Care

September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24

Caregiving is the responsibility of the entire faith community. With differing gifts individuals care in a variety of ways. This course is intended to assist the faith community in its caregiving ministries and give practical guidance on how to care.

Church History

November 7, 14, 21, December 5, 12

Every 500 years society and its institutions go through major changes. The church, too, has been emerging in the same pattern. This course will explore those patterns, people, and factors that have led and are now leading to a continuing evolution of the Christian movement.

Elective TBD

December 19, January 2, 9, 16, 23

In this elective course (TBD), you stretch yourself through practical study that will prepare you for a Life of Service.

Cultural Diversity

February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6

Participants will discover their own biases and those of the institutions of which they are a part, why those biases exist, and how to confront and overcome them.

Elective - TBD

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 24

In this elective course (TBD), you stretch yourself through practical study that will prepare you for a Life of Service.

Christian Ethics

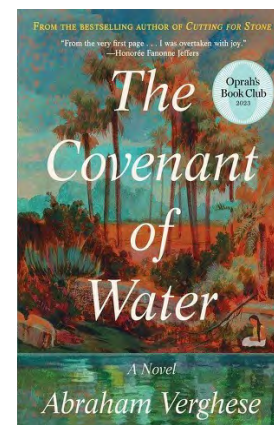
May 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5

Participants will reflect on the implications of the Ten Commandments for contemporary life. They will be introduced to concepts and systems by which the Christian tradition has taught personal and public morality, for example, the “Deadly Sins” and “Cardinal Virtues,” the “Just War” Theory vs. Christian Pacifism, human nature and human sinfulness, and Luther’s “Two Kingdoms” theology. The course provides opportunity for disciplined reflection on ethical issues such as sexual ethics, sanctity of life, political witness, and economic justice.

CRLC FAITHFUL READERS

Meeting on September 18th at 10:00am in Chapelview Room.

The book for September is “The Covenant of Water” by Abraham Verghese



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY RESUMES THIS MONTH

Learn some new insights on Grace & Ephesians!

This fall at CRLC the Women's Bible study will not be with a book, but rather to utilize the Bible study that is in the ELCA women's magazine - ***Gather***. It will include the printed study from their magazine plus a video option that can be used personally or in our groups.

Upcoming Bible studies

Gather offers three multi-session Bible studies per year in winter, summer and fall and two one-month devotional studies in May and December.

We will begin using the Fall 2024 "Receiving grace: A study of Ephesians" by the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp at our October dates.

Session one: Is grace real?

We often focus on how we fall short and deserve God's judgment. What if, instead, we remember God's continual gift of grace? God invites us to lead lives of love and wholeness. What is grace, exactly? Grace does not take away the sin and suffering of this life. Yet grace offers us a way to live from love despite hardship.

Session two: Grace-filled living—ancient and new

What did the writer of Ephesians imagine grace would look like in Christian life and relationships? How can we live from grace in our own time, reading this letter through our cultural lenses and experiences?

Session three: Living as children of the Light

What concrete advice can Ephesians give us on how to live a fuller, happier life? What poetic inspiration can it offer us for living as Christians?

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study/>

The magazine cost is \$9.95 1-year subscription for new subscribers.

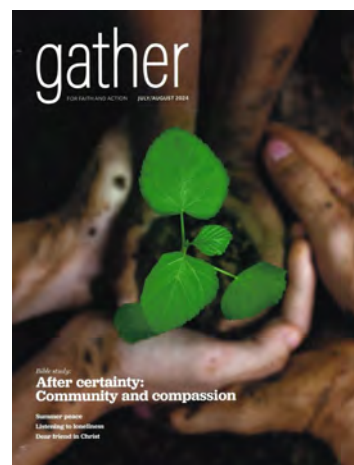
We will continue to meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday morning at 10am
and 1st Thursday evening at 7pm.

Please contact Jill Koubal 216/534-0164 or the church office.

Upcoming dates:

September 4th, 10:00am

September 5th, 7:00pm



SERVING COMMITTEE

Linda Radefeld & Jan Romance would like to invite anyone interested to join us on a Serving committee to help us brainstorm ideas & events for our members to participate in during the 2024-25 ministry year. For instance, we would like input as to hands-on projects such as continuing Rise Against Hunger, making LWR hygiene kits, making meals for Haven House or LMM 2100 Lakeside. Please contact one of us over the next month if you are interested and have any new ideas, then we will organize a get together. Thanks for your energy.



HAVEN HOUSE MEAL

Haven House, a non-profit outreach center serving pregnant, new mothers & their children in Cleveland, reached out to us about serving a meal occasionally to about 35 people. Haven House is the same agency that we collected diapers & formula for the June baby shower that the local Kiwanis club organized. As we are writing this article, about 8 of our members are planning to prepare and deliver a simple & healthy lunch at the end of August. Should we continue, we welcome your participation. We'll keep you informed about this partnership.



CALLING ALL CRLC MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

Please consider lending your hands for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Team Up to Clean Up, an annual event that brings together shelter residents, volunteers, LMM staff, and partners from around the community for a day of service projects, art, games, live music, and food. It is a great way to accomplish a lot in a short time span, feel good about giving back, while enjoying a really fun time!

Members of CRLC have participated in recent years and found it to be a worthwhile experience. It is a great way to actually see the men's shelter, while learning more about their programming and services.

**Saturday, September 14, registration 8:30-9:00,
projects 9:00-11:45, cookout 12:00-1:30.**

Team Up to Clean Up 2024

Saturday, September 14, 2024 | 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Registration from 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM
2100 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114









Join us for a day of community building, gardening, art, a neighborhood cleanup, a cook out, and more!

RSVP to: Lydia Bailey, Coordinator of Volunteers
Lbailey@lutheranmetro.org or 216-649-7723



"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving" - Mother Teresa

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
macaroni & cheese	spaghetti sauce
Tissues	paper towels
hygiene products	diapers
	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.**

Lutheran Disaster Response actively works in **areas affected by tornados, hurricanes, flooding, wild-fires 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.

REDEEMER CRISIS CENTER

EMPHASIS ON ITEMS NEEDED

Peanut Butter, Boxed Cereal and Toilet Paper,

lamps & lightbulbs
 matching bed linens (bagged & size indicated)
 16 qt. pots for rice
 only chicken noodle soup in cans
 tuna fish
 Peanut butter
 Personal hygiene items for men& women
 Toilet paper
 Hand held can openers

OASIS COLLECTION

Food items are needed for the OASIS ministry in Akron.

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**

Aluminum pull-tabs needed 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.

A local recycler turns the pull-tabs into **money for their Family Fund.**

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

Often our Fellowship activities involve sharing a meal or food. The following excerpt, "Nourished at the Table" was posted in the on-line meditation Daily Grace on August 4th. It seemed appropriate to share with you as the holiday gathering season approaches.

"When I think of tables, I think of the places where friends, families, strangers, acquaintances and even enemies sit down to share a meal and then leave transformed by the stories they shared and heard. They are the places that gather us in so that we might be fed and filled for the day's work that awaits us or where we might be painfully reminded that there is nothing for us to do. Tables that have plenty and tables that are sparse remind us that so many people have nothing on their tables.

At God's table, God puts out only the best, most wholesome meal. God's table is where we arrive hungry and thirsty, and we leave fed and filled with the reminder that God's grace and love are always with us. At God's table, beloveds who have been at odds with one another will be fed and nourished with God's grace.

When we eat at God's table, we leave transformed. The bread and the wine may not be enough to fill us up, but nevertheless we are filled.

This message is excerpted from "Fed at worship" by Jenna Pulkowski Huntsberger in the December 2016 Café online magazine. Today is the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost.

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in a BoldCafe dinner meeting (<https://www.boldcafe.org/dinner>). The topic of discussion pertained to civility in our interactions with others. Treating one another with civility can do wonders to transform relationships. The guest speaker was Jennifer Hockenberry and she shared these tips:

5 Tools for compassionate dialogue

1. Don't say "just calm down" to yourself or to your partner in conversation. Our biology takes over and we cannot will ourselves to be calm. But we can use some tools and techniques below to calm our neurological systems.
2. Before the meeting or the conversation, try standing on one leg for 30 seconds and then the other for 30 seconds and then on both feet for 30 seconds while taking deep breath. This activity grounds us in the center.
3. Use "I" statements, speak about your own experiences, speak about your own values.
4. Neurologists tell us that it takes 20 minutes for the amygdala to calm down once excited. If you are speaking in a group about a difficult matter, try to build in 20 minutes of listening or quiet between each person speaking the first time and the second time.
5. When you feel attacked--ground yourself in your experience and values and trust the other person to tell their experience. Listen openly. Ask yourself why you feel defensive, are you in real danger or can you trust the person? Trust that Christ will be with you even as you learn and grow.

I dug a little deeper and turned up additional resources to share with you.

<https://civilitycenter.org/resources/toolkit/>

<https://www.odu.edu/equity/civility-month/toolkit>

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

THANK YOU KATHLEEN

Thank you to Kathleen Zaker for hosting the first Ladies Lunch Bunch on 8/14. Check out the next page for the September date and time. Hope you can join in the fun!



LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE LUNCH!



Wednesday **September 11th** at 11:30am

Simon's Deli – Brecksville

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex

Contact Kathleen Zaker with questions (440) 230-0911

Future dates include:

- October 9th
- November 13th
- December 11th

(Tune by Cyndi Lauper, Lyrics by Weird Al Yankovich)

*...Some girls like to buy new shoes
And others like drivin' trucks and wearin' tattoos
There's only one thing that they all like a bunch
Oh, girls, they wanna have lunch
Oh, girls just wanna have lunch*

*...That's all they really want, some lunch
Don't ask 'em to dinner or breakfast or brunch
'Cause girls, they wanna have lunch
Oh, girls just wanna have lunch*

September 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

September 1	8:00 am	9:30 am
Assisting Minister	Nancyanne Sinclair	Mark Lickert
Communion Assistants	x	Lee Knicely, Dennis Nagy
Ushers	George Stelmaschuk, Don Laubacher	Scott Witzke, Frank Bolton
Altar Care	Gail Stelmaschuk	Gail Stelmaschuk
Counters: Jeff & Cathy Smith, Jeff Luksa		
September 8	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Linda Radefeld	Jill Koubal
Communion Assistants	x	Chris Schuhle, Jan Romance
Ushers	Lou Carouse, Lisa Antonucci	Jeff Dentzer, Amy Marek
Altar Care	Cheryl Stiefvater	Linda Eckenbrecht
Counters: Jeff Dentzer, Mike Bodanza, Todd Romance		
September 15	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Lou Carouse	Karla Perry
Communion Assistants	x	Debbie Dey
Ushers	Mark Evans, Al Radefeld	Wendy & Chris Dralle
Altar Care	Pam & Bob Bertsch	Dana Vrcan
Counters: Andrew Perry, Lisa Witzke		
September 22	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Connie Minerovic	Cristina Wells
Communion Assistants	x	Frank & Mardell Boulton
Ushers	Don Laubacher, Mike Berzins	Dennis Nagy, Bill Waltz
Altar Care	Dorthea Kramer	Jan Hansler
Counters: Joy Petrovic, Dan Bartik, Dennis Farney		
September 29	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Adrienne Davic	
Communion Assistants	x	Jennifer Eisenmann, Lisa Witzke
Ushers	George Stelmaschuk, Todd Kiick	Dan Bartik, Dana Vrcan
Altar Care	Gail Stelmaschuk	Shirley Fisher
Counters: Pete Smith, Diane & Steve Wilson		

Happy Birthday!

1 Amanda Dobbins
 1 Jim Helle
 2 Wendy Dralle
 3 Rami Shayeb
 5 Sung Gullifer**
 5 Jimmy Henyey
 5 Julianne Jirousek
 5 Dan Marek
 5 Tom Hoinski**
 5 Ben Lane
 6 Kathy Hoinski
 7 Karen Haely
 7 Al Radefeld
 8 Mike Berzins
 8 Dana Troike
 9 Lee Knicely
 9 Fred Krause
 9 Ingrid Smith
 10 Joel Bussard
 12 Stevie Kusanke
 12 Maureen Michal
 16 Patrick Coughlin
 16 Gail Stelmaschuk
 17 Candice Booher
 17 Pat Cordiak
 17 Bev Sabella
 18 Pam Bertsch
 18 Stephi Schuhle
 18 Jessi Bailey
 21 Chris Arnold
 21 Daniel Dralle
 21 Shawn Pagel
 23 Don Grossenbaugh
 23 Laura Medvec
 24 Todd Stoneman

26 Cathy Stoneman
 29 Carol Lebanik
 30 Vivien Luksa
 30 Marilee Meinzer**
 30 Alyssa Miterko

**= Milestone
 birthday



Happy Anniversary!

2 Sarah & Kyle Hardison
 7 Chaleo and James Pohle
 7 Fay & Blair Morgan
 7 Karen and Ryan Haely
 7 Joan and Jim Castelucci
 15 Marlene and Ken Kasper
 17 Jane and Gil Perram
 17 Lisa & Mark Antonucci
 17 Joel Bussard & Nick Travaglianti
 18 Jeanne and Paul Travaglianti
 21 Erica and Matthew Perlman
 22 Lisa and Scott Witzke
 23 Linda and Frank Shima
 25 Cathy and Todd Stoneman
 25 Rachael and Carl Glissman
 30 Cristina and Steve Wells



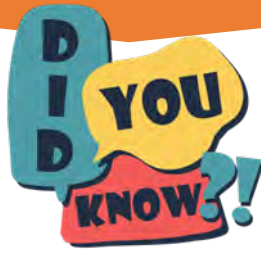
WATERING OUR GERANIUMS

Help keep the beautiful geraniums in bloom all summer long with regular watering. Sign up to water a day or two during the hot weeks with no rain. Our Courtyard plants also need watering. Choose a week and sign up on the message center or call the church office to volunteer.



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 recurring 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 work is already underway for our 2025 ministry?
- ◆ Did you know that we are taking a break from Rise Against Hunger food packing this year? We plan to bring it back in the future.
- ◆ Did you know that we will have a guest lecturer for our adult Sunday School class when it resumes on September 8th? Details in this newsletter.
- ◆ Did you know we will soon be welcoming the newest members to CRLC? Contact Pastor Randy if you might be interested in joining?
- ◆ Did you know many hours of work and preparations went on behind the scenes to make Art Connections a success? Thanks to Jen Evans and crew!
- ◆ Did you know that our youth had a great time in New Orleans at the ELCA Youth Gathering? We will have an opportunity to hear about their trip in October.
- ◆ 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

Our Vision and Ministry Boards
Kathleen Zaker, Ryan Haely, Annie Root,
Schuhle family, Kathie Brusk, Barb Wojtala,
Lew Jenkins, Beth Marcinko,
Bob Stasek, Ken Kasper, Marlene Kasper,
Adalyn, Bob Zellmer, Nancy, Don,
Mildred Tackett, Thea,
Paul & Betty Swartz, Brandy & Jeff,
All those impacted by war and natural disasters.

Prayer concerns will be removed after 8 weeks, unless otherwise requested.



>>> September 2024

Practising God,
Serving Others

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00am Worship 9:30am Worship	2 Labor Day	3	4 10:00am Ladies Bible Study	5 7:00pm Ladies Bible Study	6	7
8 Rally Day-Sunday School Begins WORSHIP TIMES CHANGE 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School-All Ages 10:30am Worship	9 7:00pm Yoga	10	11 11:30am Ladies Lunch Bunch at Simon's 7:00pm Adult Choir	12	13	14 8:30am -1:30pm LMM Clean Up Day
15 Monthly Insight Deadline 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School-All Ages 10:30am Worship	16 7:00pm Yoga	17	18 10:00am Faithful Readers 7:00pm Adult Choir	19 9:30am Theo-Thursday	20	21
22 First Day of Autumn 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School-All Ages 10:30am Worship 11:30am Ministry Board Meeting	23 7:00pm Yoga	24	25 7:00pm Adult Choir	26	27	28
29 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School-All Ages 10:30am Worship	30 7:00pm Yoga	<p>CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 9201 Brecksville Road Brecksville, Ohio 44141 440.526.2303 www.office@crlicbrecksville.org Monthly insight submissions: insight@crlicbrecksville.org</p>				

The monthly newsletter of:

CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
9201 BRECKSVILLE ROAD BRECKSVILLE OH 44141
(440) 526.2303 www.crlcbrecksville.org

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Praising God. Serving Others.

The Reverend Randy O'Donnell, Pastor



2024