

## Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church



# INSIGHT

March 2026

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

### 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 Travagianti, YOUTH DIRECTOR**

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

### 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

*"See, I am doing a new thing!" (Isaiah 43:19)*

As I sit in my office this day, composing my March Insight article, though it is still mid-February, the sun is out and we are experiencing above freezing temperatures for the first time in weeks. There is still a lot of snow on the ground, and huge piles of it in the parking lot. When you are actually reading these words, who knows what the weather will be. March in Ohio is full of all kinds of warm and cold days, sunshine, gloom, snow and gray. I know one thing; I will be looking forward to a real spring and soon!

In the meantime, we continue our journey through this church season of Lent, another time in the church year, where we encounter the different aspects of Jesus' life, that eventually take us to the triumphant day of entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, only to see that spirit and mood, sink to a dark Good Friday.

We also continue in our theme this year of "Tell me something Good – Grounding ourselves in the good news this Lent." It is to serve as a reminder, especially as things are full of struggle and division in our world, in our country, in our daily news, as well as being compounded by what may be unfolding in our own lives, that the thread of God's grace and love carry us through. These are unique times, but challenge has never been new to humanity or new to God. If God can take a cross of Good Friday and transform it into a symbol of new life, we know we are in good hands. As I said last month, I repeat again here: "I invite you to think of Lent not as a spiritual performance, but as a gentle turning. Turning away from what numbs us. Turning toward what gives life. Turning toward God, who is already turned toward us." God is always doing something new!

***See you in worship,***

***Pastor Randy***

**PGSO**

## LENT CONTINUES..



Our midweek Lenten services continue on Wednesdays beginning at 7:00PM, with prayers around the cross. Prior to each service there is a time for fellowship with soup and salad in the Fellowship Hall. We would love folks to come out and also sign up at the message center if you can bring a soup! Thanks!

WEDNESDAYS – Prayers around the Cross  
March 4, 11, 18, and 25 Services at 7:00PM  
Soup Suppers beginning at 6:00PM

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd @ 7PM  
Good Friday, April 3rd @ 7PM

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD – April 5th  
SUNRISE: 6:30AM in the outdoor chapel weather permitting  
EASTER SERVICES: 8:00AM & 10:30AM

## PARTNERSHIP

This community group shares and discusses a word each month and the many and various ways in which we interact with it. **This month it is: COURAGE.**

## 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 Demetrios Restaurant (Broadview Heights) on Thursday, March 19th @ 9:30AM.

## INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH?

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

## 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](mailto:jenna.waltz@gmail.com).

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor Randy's Message
- Tell Me Something Good
- Theo-Thursday
- Synod Delegates Needed
- Synod Assembly Delegates
- Communion Instruction
- Adult Sunday School
- Church Repairs
- Hobby Days
- CRLC Games & Fellowship Night
- LMM Immersion

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED!

A banner with a red, blue, green, and yellow background. On the left, a white globe icon with a red 'A' is on a red background. The text 'Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly' is in white on a blue background. Below it, 'June 5-6, 2026' and 'John S. Knight Center. Akron, Ohio' are in white on a green background. On the right, a white globe icon with a yellow 'A' is on a yellow background.

Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly  
June 5-6, 2026  
John S. Knight Center. Akron, Ohio

The 2026 Synod Assembly will take place on June 5th and 6th and will feature the bishop's election. If you are interested in being a 'voting member' talk to Pastor Randy.

## FORMAL COMMUNION INSTRUCTION:



The formal instruction for communion for our 5th graders will take place sometime in March, dates will be set soon. 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.

## WERE YOU THERE

The treasured traditions of Easter—baskets, bonnets, lilies, sunrise services, passion plays and more—infuse our celebration of the season with meaning and glowing memories. And in ways you may not realize, they point to the resurrection of Christ and our hope of life beyond the grave. In his book *Stories Behind the Traditions and Songs of Easter*, Ace Collins reveals the events and backgrounds that shaped the best-loved customs and songs of Easter.

Easter is about freedom. Every Christian knows that what Christ offered us through his death and resurrection was freedom from the grave. Yet there is also another more immediate freedom, a freedom felt when all sins are forgiven. This is a freedom that allows us to take wing and soar with a new purpose in our lives. Suddenly there are no boundaries or restraints, and our talents can finally be fully realized. But does this freedom brought by salvation apply to someone who is in chains and has no hope of being freed? Can Easter really mean anything for a slave?

The answer is obvious and can be found in the spiritual music of American slaves. To these oppressed people, faith offered something much deeper and more meaningful than just forgiveness of sins; it provided freedom from bondage. While thankfully slavery is now a dark relic of American history, the slaves' spirituals are joyfully alive to this day.

The great musical traditions of the native tribes along Africa's west coast were among the few things that slave traders couldn't steal from their captives. The captured Africans took the beat, the harmonies and the unique lead vocals to America, where they passed their songs from generation to generation as a way of connecting with a place that had allowed their bodies and spirits to run free.

The music of Africa and the message of salvation first came together in the areas around Savannah, Georgia. There, on huge rice and cotton plantations, the wails of men and women harmonizing in the fields brought an ironically peaceful atmosphere to an institution awash with sin. While the coral-like music might have signaled a sense of peace and contentment, the subjects the slave writers chose as the themes of their songs painted the true story of oppression.

The spiritual feel of *gulla* (African folk music) had been in place for hundreds of years. Yet as the masters' traditions and beliefs became a part of the slaves' lives, the message of the songs changed. Through hearing Bible stories, slaves began to understand there were two kinds of bondage; one was physical and the other spiritual. Because there was so little they could do about unchaining their bodies, these men and women vigorously sought freedom for their souls.

The Bible is filled with stories of God relating to slaves. Christ himself taught that all of us are slaves to something. Thus, embracing Christ and his message was usually easier for the slave than it was for the master. Ironically, in these times in the Old South, the pupils often became the teachers. Many times it was the field workers or house servants—men and women who had no earthly possessions, no legal rights and no social standing—who provided the model for Christian charity. They freely shared what little they had, took care of the sick, and even prayed for their owners. For many the blight of slavery was first brought into sharp focus through the pure and undefiled faith shown in the spiritual lives of American slaves.

One of the ways these oppressed people spread the hope of a better life and the joy of salvation was by taking their traditional music and adapting set Christian themes to it. Using the stories of Adam, Noah, Jonah, Elijah and scores of other biblical figures, African Americans created songs explaining these ancient experiences in ways everyone could understand. As you listen to "Joshua Fit the Battle" or "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot", you not only hear the story but see and feel it too. It is as if you have been transported by the music to the day and place of the actual events. Although musically untrained, these composers and their choirs gave birth to the greatest American music of that time.

## WERE YOU THERE—CONTINUED

Many of the spirituals that have survived to this day embrace the joy of being saved. The harmonies, the rhythms and the phrasing naturally create excitement. These songs rapidly move the heart, mind, and body. Hands can't keep from clapping, feet can't keep from dancing and voices can't keep from singing and shouting. But not all spirituals were upbeat and exuberant. Some reflected not only the trials of a Christian life but also the pain of slavery. It was one of these seemingly downbeat songs that first found favor with the established church audience and dramatically changed the way millions looked at Christ's crucifixion.

"Were You There" moves the soul by asking haunting and personal questions of those who stood by and allowed God's Son to be executed. This song puts each Christians on the witness stand and asks questions most do not want to answer. Through the lyrics of "Were You There", the unknown writer paints a picture with very simple and direct imagery. In each succeeding verse, the sights, sounds and reality of the crucifixion are chillingly portrayed. As much as any other song about the cross and the day Christ died, "Were You There" creates a picture that lingers long after the final note and words have drifted away. This spiritual haunts many who sing it.

There is a personal element in this song rarely found in other Easter anthems. There is a theme of regret and guilt that echoes in the line "sometimes it causes me to tremble". This type of fear—the fear brought on by having caused a man's death—was familiar to the American slave. They had seen horrible punishment firsthand. They had known brutality. Like Christ, many of them had been brutally whipped. So the slave—unlike most Christians of that time—could relate to the events leading to Christ's death. The writer of this song could easily feel the humiliation, the suffering and the pain Jesus felt the day he was judged and executed.

By the late 1800s, "Were You There" made its way out of the slave fields and small black churches and into mainstream worship services of white congregations. The arrangement, the pacing, and the tune were changed very little. The feel of the *gulla* music remained intact. When a white congregation sang "Were You There" for the first time, an important message was subtly passed along to all Christians: while the color of skin may vary from person to person, the color of a soul is the same. Thus, contrary to the thinking of some whites of that era, even uneducated slaves were worthy of salvation and, no less, of respect. Therefore, their experience should be a testimony for everyone, no matter what his or her background, social standing, race or age might be. Easter was not just for one group of people; it was for everyone.

Decades before the nation began to integrate churches and schools, spirituals like "Were You There" opened the country's doors to the black religious experience. These songs inspired writers of all colors to create new music that was personal, emotional and dramatic. In fact, spirituals were the foundation of one of America's greatest exports to the world: gospel music.

It is a shame that a face and a name cannot be put to such an important, groundbreaking song. Yet maybe the fact that spirituals were the joint cries and shouts of Christians looking for the freedom that only God could bring gives the message of this song much more impact. None of us were there in body when Christ died, but all of us need to be there in spirit. To understand the gift of salvation, each sinner must realize that he or she is a slave to the world; only then does seeing Christ on the cross make the impact all the more real. Each Easter the slave song "Were You There" puts us all on the same level, reveals the guilt we all must share and points to the way to spiritual freedom. And thoughts of all of those things should make us tremble.



# ERIE WATERS CONCERT



**MARCH 22 - 4:00PM**

Free concert, open to the public.

Concerts @ CRLC is supported by free will offerings and sponsorships.



In 2009 a GCFS board member flute choir was formed, in response to receiving an invitation to play at the Chicago Flute Club Festival. The repertoire chosen for the concert had a water theme and the program consisted of works written by Cleveland area composers. A name was needed for the flute choir representing Cleveland and with the proximity to Lake Erie, the name "Erie Waters" was born. Erie Waters' first invitation to play on a concert series came from the Brecksville United Methodist Church in 2014 after hearing the flute choir play G. F. Handel's *The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*. The arrangement has become mainstay in the Erie Waters repertoire for many subsequent concerts.

# READINGS FOR MARCH

## MARCH 1—Second Sunday in Lent

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

## MARCH 8—Third Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

## MARCH 15—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

## MARCH 22—Fifth Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

## MARCH 29—Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14—27:66

March includes **National Sleep Awareness Week** - when clocks move ahead one hour.

**Sleep apnea** is a sleep disorder that involves **repeated lapses in breathing during sleep (breathing stops & restarts many times)**. 80% are unaware they have the condition.

**2 types: obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) caused by the relaxation of throat muscles that obstruct the airway, while CSA (central sleep apnea is caused by medical issues in the brain's respiratory control centers.** In OSA the airway either closes off completely (apnea) or becomes so narrowed that the oxygen level drops (hypopnea). *5 or more episodes a night = obstructive sleep apnea.* Typically, normal breathing then starts again, sometimes with a loud snort or choking sound. When your breathing pauses or becomes shallow, you'll often move out of deep sleep and into light sleep. As a result of poor sleep quality you are tired during the day. **Quality sleep** means *continuous & uninterrupted*. Sleep can be disrupted due to pain or discomfort, the need to go to the bathroom, medical problems, medications, & sleep disorders as well as poor or irregular sleep schedules.

Consider taking the STOP-Bang questionnaire: <https://www.sleepfoundation.org/sleep-apnea/stop-bang-score>

*Diagnosis requires a sleep study (polysomnography), measures brain waves, breathing, oxygen, and other vital signs while you sleep. Apple watches can be set to track for sleep apnea or breathing disturbances.*

Sleep apnea requires long-term management. Treatment with continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) therapy uses pressurized air to keep the airway open. Lifestyle changes, mouthpieces, surgery, and/or breathing devices can successfully treat sleep apnea in many people. Losing excess weight, avoiding alcohol & sedatives before bed, treating nasal congestion, and maintaining good sleep hygiene may all help reduce the frequency of apneas and hypopneas.

Untreated sleep apnea can: Increase the risk of high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke, obesity, and diabetes; Increase the risk of, or worsen, heart failure; Make arrhythmias, or irregular heartbeats, more likely; plus Increase the chance of having work-related or driving accidents

<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/sleep-apnea>    <https://www.sleepfoundation.org/sleep-apnea>

### TIPS FOR GOOD SLEEP

- Avoid caffeine (coffee, tea, soft drinks, chocolate) and nicotine (cigarettes, tobacco products) close to bedtime. Avoid alcohol as it can lead to disrupted sleep.
- Exercise regularly but complete your workout at least 3 hours before bedtime.



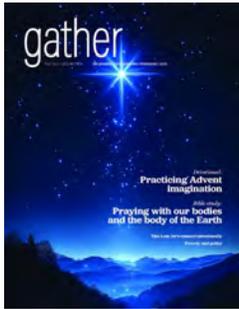
Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord thy child to keep,  
Watch over me all through the night, Until I see the morning light.

Remember sleep is important! Use your bedtime prayers to bring you God's comfort and peace, not a litany of the world's and your problems. If you are having sleep problems, talk to your physician.

You deserve to rest well and be energized to "Go Forth and Serve the Lord"!!!

*Jill Koubal*  
Parish Nurse, RN, BSN

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY



Meeting on March 11th at 10:00am.

More info to be determined about topics and resources and will be shared soon.



## CRLC FAITHFUL READERS

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

The book for March is "The Stolen Queen" by Fiona Davis.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SERIES



*"The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer"*

Our own Joel Bussard will be leading this series throughout the month of March on this important figure in the Lutheran Church. Come hear about his theology, teaching, life, and his resistance against Germany during World War II.

## VALENTINE WREATHS

In the February Insight, there was an article describing the Sunday School children using their creativity and talents to produce “Scriptures of Love” Valentine wreaths. One of the many recipients, Marlen McKenzie, enjoyed hers along with a Lenten Devotional delivered by Jill Koubal and Laurie Siebert.



## CHILI COOK OFF SUCCESS!

On February 22nd, The CRLC Youth group sponsored the Chili Cook off. Many culinary skills resulted in fourteen 'creative named' chilis. Thank you to all who participated and although all the chilis were delicious, there were some that won the coveted wooden spoon award. Congratulations to the winners and everyone who came out to cook.

A huge thank you to all of those who donated toward the fourteen raffle baskets. The baskets and donations raised over \$1,700, with the proceeds going towards the Youth Mission Trip to Indianapolis.



### Winners include

- 1st Place People's Choice: Chaleo Pohle
- 2nd Place People's Choice: Cristina Wells
- Pastor's Choice: Dan Marek
- Youth's Choice: Dana Vrcan
- Kid's Choice: Joan Castelucci

CHILI COOK OFF SUCCESS! - CONTINUED



CHILI COOK OFF SUCCESS! - CONTINUED



CHILI COOK OFF SUCCESS! - CONTINUED





*"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	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.*

**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.

### **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.*

## 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  
non-condensed soup in cans with pull-tab tops  
fruit in cans with pull-tab tops  
veggies in cans with pull-tab tops  
complete meal can goods with pull-tab tops  
tuna fish  
Peanut butter  
Personal hygiene items for men & women  
Toilet paper  
Hand held can openers

## OASIS COLLECTION

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

Food/Snacks—must be nut-free:

- individual bags of chips, pretzels, cookies, or goldfish crackers
- fruit snacks
- applesauce cups or squeeze packs
- Nutrigrain bars
- plastic spoons

Art Supplies:

- Sharpened pencils
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils
- Coloring books/sheets
- Loose notebook paper
- Plain and construction paper
- Stickers

Hygiene & Personal Items

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| • deodorant   | • body wash           |
| • hair scrunchies                                       | • gentle face wash    |
| • socks (youth sizes)                                   | • hand sanitizer      |
| • lip balm (unscented)                                  | • tissues             |
| • toothbrushes & toothpaste                             | • cocoa butter lotion |
| • individual packets of A&D ointment or petroleum jelly |                       |
| • girls underwear (4T, 5T, Youth S (5-6) and M (7-8))   |                       |

CRLC will continue to help OASIS financially as they continue to support and partner with multiple inner-city Lutheran church's efforts to help disadvantaged youth.

## CHURCH REPAIRS

The men of CRLC arrived on Monday, February 16th to complete some much-needed repairs. Their skills and workmanship have improved the look and function of several areas such as stained ceiling tiles, sanding, staining and sealing the main doors to the sanctuary, and more.

Thank you to all the men for their time and efforts in keeping our church beautiful!



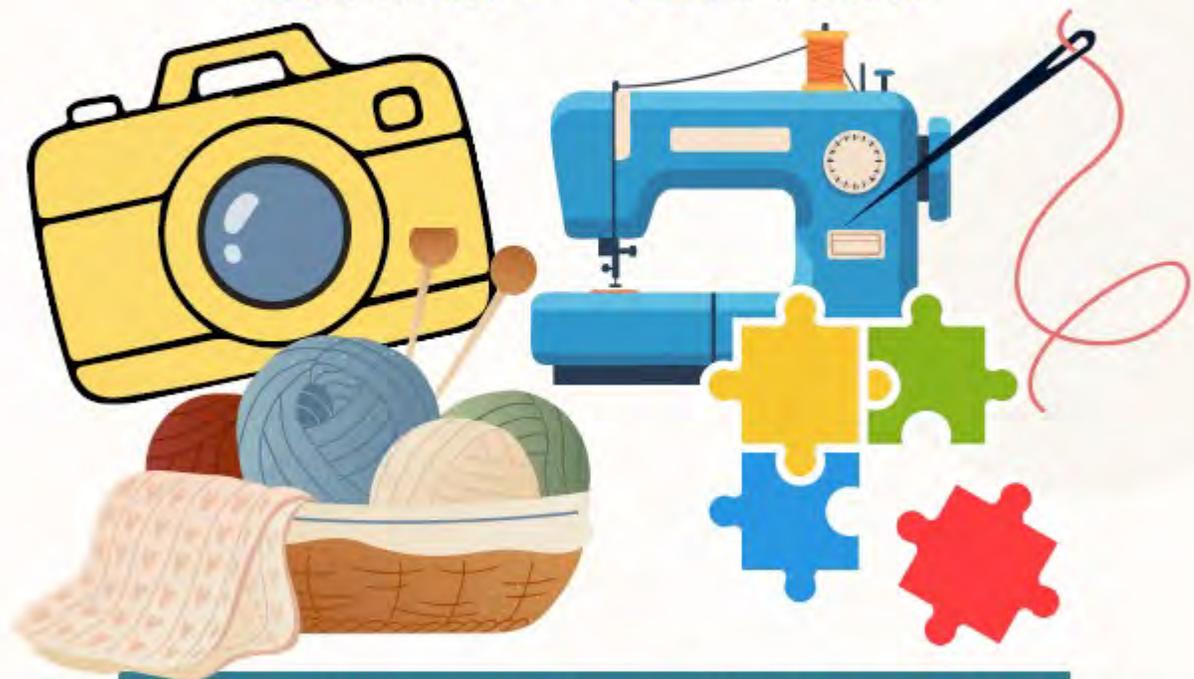


*Sign-up form is on the message board in the Narthex.*



# HOBBY DAYS

**MARCH 13 - 14,  
MARCH 27 - 28  
10:00AM - 12:00AM**



**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.**

**WEEKEND INCLUDES:**

- **HALF OF A ROUND TABLE**
- **COFFEE, ICE TEA, WATER**

# CRLC GAMES & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT



**SATURDAY  
MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**6:00PM**

**The Farney's Home  
10811 Partridge Trail, Brecksville**

Farney's will provide the main course. Please bring an appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert.

Let the Farney's know if you will be attending at:

Email: [farneyds@gmail.com](mailto:farneyds@gmail.com), or

Phone: 440-724-3530

PLEASE CONTACT BLAINE AND JUDY COLEMAN IF YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO HOST FOR NEXT YEAR.

*Save the Dates!*

## **LMM 2026 PUBLIC IMMERSION EVENTS**

APRIL 15  
JUNE 17  
OCTOBER 14

The popularity of the Immersion events has continued to grow every year. Various CRLC members have joined in this event in recent years, finding the tours to be informative and inspiring.

Everyone comes away with a much broader knowledge of the overall scope of LMM programming and ministries.

Each event is personally led by LMM President and CEO, Maria Foschia.

The events are held in the morning, beginning with a continental breakfast made by the LMM Culinary Training students. Your tour takes you to each of the organization's locations, meeting staff and learning more on each program and its impact.

Space is limited on these tours, they fill up quickly.

Keep your eye on LMM's social media platforms for sign up, and watch for more information on how to sign up in upcoming Insights.

## March 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.

*Thankyou for your service*

<b>March 1</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
Assisting Minister	Lauren Jirousek	Mark Lickert
Communion Assistants	x	Wendy McGill, Karl Koubal
Blessors	Cheryl Stiefvater, Jeanne Travaglianti	Debbie Dey, Jill Koubal
Ushers	Lou Carouse, Mark Evans	Dennis Nagy, Dan Bartik
Altar Care	Cheryl Stiefvater	Shirley Fisher
Counters: Cathy & Jeff Smith, Jeff Luksa		Coffee Hour Host: Eric & Candace Witzke
<b>March 8</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
Assisting Minister	Lou Carouse	Julie Hammond
Communion Assistants	x	Mardell & Frank Boulton
Blessors	Pam & Bob Bertsch	Elizabeth Marek, Linda Echenbrecht
Ushers	Don Laubacher, Ken Blank	Jeff Dentzer, Dana Vrcan
Altar Care	Pam & Bob Bertsch	Dana Vrcan
Counters: Jeff Dentzer, Todd Romance		Coffee Hour Host: Jessica & Louie Travaglianti
<b>March 15</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
Assisting Minister	Don Laubacher	Adrienne Davic
Communion Assistants	x	Shirley Fisher, Dianne Young
Blessors	Linda Radefeld, Lisa Antonucci	Sandy Weiss, Nancyanne Sinclair
Ushers	Mike Berzins, Al Radefeld	Wendy & Chris Dralle
Altar Care	Cheryl Stiefvater	Shirley Fisher
Counters: Mike Bodanza, Elaine Foss, Lisa Witzke		Coffee Hour Host: Open
<b>March 22</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
Assisting Minister	Mike Berzins	Joan Castelucci
Communion Assistants	x	Jan Hansler, Lisa Witzke
Blessors	Joan Huber, Gail Berzins	Ina Stanek, Jan Romance
Ushers	Lisa Antonucci, Adrienne Davic	Scott Witzke, Blaine Coleman
Altar Care	Pam & Bob Bertsch	Jan Hansler
Counters: Joy Petrovic, Dan Bartik, Dennis Farney		Coffee Hour Host:

## March 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*

<u>March 29 Palm Sunday</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Assisting Minister	Diane Wilson	Cristina Wells
Communion Assistants	x	Judy & Blaine Coleman
Ushers	Lou Carouse, Mike Berzins	Scott Witzke, Dennis Nagy, Amy Marek, Frank Boulton
Alter Care	Pam & Bob Bertsch	Dana Vrcan
Counters: Peter Smith, Diane & Steve Wilson		Coffee Hour Host: Joani & Joe Huber

# Happy Birthday!

1 Jessica Troike  
3 Todd Romance  
3 Vivian Crowder  
4 Julian Hammond  
5 Henry Signore  
6 Taylor Dentzer  
6 Oliver Dobbins  
7 Jennifer Eisenmann  
8 Bennett Sierleja  
9 Joe Loverti  
10 Jennifer Evans  
11 Cathy Smith  
12 Pam Waltz  
12 Sarah Hardison  
12 Quinn Springer  
12 Alanna Olman  
3/13 Clyde Jones\*\*  
14 Peggy Bosze  
14 Kathy Coughlin  
14 Isobel Witzke  
15 Sylvia Gregory  
15 Missy Koch  
18 Blaine Coleman\*\*  
18 Robert Dobrinich  
18 Kevin Haely  
18 Aiden Booher  
19 Linda Radefeld  
19 Casey McGhee  
20 Megan Weber  
21 Carole Wooten  
21 Debbie Smith  
22 Terry Obrock  
22 Gail Berzins  
23 Nicholas Smith  
24 Sandy Dobos  
24 Karla Perry  
24 Ann McGhee

25 Mike Opperman  
25 Natalie Vrcan  
25 Olivia Vrcan  
25 Tim Shaver  
27 Bob Rohde\*\*  
28 Susan Lickert  
28 Alexander Emrick  
28 Steven Koch  
31 Theresa Ruess  
31 Brent Pagel

\*\*= Milestone Birthday



# Happy Anniversary!

13 Kathy and Patrick Coughlin  
16 Peggy and Bob Springer  
22 Marty & Joy Petrovic  
28 Gale and Donald Barich  
29 Tim & Shirley Shaver



Did you know that we have the ability to receive online giving through our website?  
([www.crlcbrecksville.org](http://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 some of our youth attended a Youth Quake weekend in Pittsburgh in January but had to travel home early due to the winter storm? We are thankful for their safe travel.
- ◆ Did you know that we would like to refurbish some of our Chrismons on our Christmas tree? Look for information later this year.
- ◆ Did you know that we are taking a look at updating and refreshing our church constitution? If you are interested in being a part of this, talk to Steve Wilson or Pastor Randy.
- ◆ Did you know that this Lenten season we have offered devotional books as well as daily devotional cards?
- ◆ Did you know that we are working on the creation of a Ministry Coordinator position in our congregation?
- ◆ Did you know that in order to publicize something in the newsletter we need it by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior?

... and Now You Know!

## CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH PRAYS FOR. . .

### Our Vision and Ministry Boards

Aimee Lane, Karen Knicely, Barbara Sicz, Todd Romance,  
Hoinski Family, Mook Family, Tom Hoinski, Mary Lott, Alberta Manzi,  
Jessica Travaglianti, Linnet Fritz, Carole Wooten, Lauren Jirousek,  
Gretchen Grossenbaugh, Ken Kasper, Adalyn, Donna Franz, Mason  
Georgianna Bojtos, Bev, Julie Dillehay, Melanie, Michael Weiss,  
Janelle and babies, Al & Cindy,  
All those impacted by war and natural disasters.

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



# MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer 9:15am Sunday School-A Ages 10:00am Worship 1:00pm-3:30pm Rehearsal in Sanctuary	<b>2</b> 7:00pm Yoga	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Lent/Easter Choir Rehearsals	<b>6</b> World Day of Prayer	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer 9:15am Sunday School-A Ages 10:00am Worship 1:00pm-3:30pm Rehearsal in Sanctuary	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Yoga	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00am Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	<b>12</b> 7:00pm Lent/Easter Choir Rehearsals	<b>13</b> 10:00am - 12:00am Hobby Days	<b>14</b> 10:00am -12:00am Hobby Days 6:00pm CRLC Games & Fellowship Night
<b>15</b> <i>Monthly Volume Deadline</i> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School-The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer 9:15am Sunday School-A Ages 10:00am Worship 1:00pm-3:30pm Rehearsal in Sanctuary	<b>16</b> 7:00pm Yoga	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day	<b>18</b> 10:00am Faithful Readers Book Discussion 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	<b>19</b> 9:30am Theo- Thursday of Demetrius 7:00pm Lent/Easter Choir Rehearsals	<b>20</b> First Day of Spring Rehearsal in Sanctuary	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer 9:15am Sunday School-A Ages 10:00am Worship 4:00pm The Big Water Flute Ensemble Concert	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Yoga	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	<b>26</b> 7:00pm Lent/Easter Choir Rehearsals	<b>27</b> 10:00am - 12:00am Hobby Days	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Palm Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- The life and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer 9:15am Sunday School-A Ages 10:00am Worship	<b>30</b> 7:00pm Yoga	<b>31</b>	<b>CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 9201 Brecksville Road Brecksville, Ohio 44141 440.526.2303 <a href="http://www.office@crlcbrecksville.org">www.office@crlcbrecksville.org</a> Monthly insight submissions: <a href="mailto:insight@crlcbrecksville.org">insight@crlcbrecksville.org</a>			

*The monthly newsletter of:*

**CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**9201 BRECKSVILLE ROAD BRECKSVILLE OH 44141**

(440) 526.2303 [www.crlcbrecksville.org](http://www.crlcbrecksville.org)

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*Praising God. Serving Others.*

The Reverend Randy O'Donnell, Pastor



**2026**