

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

May 2026

CRLC STAFF

The Reverend Randy O'Donnell, PASTOR

James Alfieri, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jill Koubal, PARISH NURSE, RN, BSN

Laurie Siebert, SECRETARY

Marci Kehoe, SECRETARY

TONYA PAGEL, MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Paul Travagianti, YOUTH DIRECTOR

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

Beginning May 24th: 8:00 & 9:30AM

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! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” – Isaiah 43:19

In this month of May, we are still celebrating the events of the women discovering the tomb empty, as we rejoice in the church season of Easter. This month also means that we often find ourselves surrounded by the beauty of new life—flowers blooming, trees budding, and longer days filled with sunshine. This time of the year reminds us of God’s continual renewal in our lives. Just as creation is refreshed, we too are invited to grow deeper in faith, hope, and love. Not only is May and nature equipped to demonstrate this renewal there are other societal events that point to this as well. Cinco de Mayo has increased in popularity in the United States as it not only celebrates Mexican heritage but also tells of the unlikeliness of victory in challenging circumstances. This month we also celebrate Mother’s Day, a time when the restaurants are not only packed, but a way, for those who were fortunate enough to have a good mother, to remember those women who have such a positive and nurturing impact on our lives. This month will also see many graduations – often a major turning point and a highly sought after life event. This happens of course, in high schools and colleges across our country, but now it often includes preschools!! I know this because I will be attending my daughter Tess’s “graduation” from preschool this month. If you would have told me a few decades ago that in May of 2026 I would be attending my daughter’s preschool graduation, I would have thought you to be a fool! We just never know what God and life has for us around the corner. Where are you seeing transitions and celebrations in your life? How do you see God and the Holy Spirit working through them?

See you in worship,

Pastor Randy

PGSO

HOLY WEEK



A thank you to all who helped in all the various background ways this Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter morning. This includes the musicians (thanks James), choir, cantors, altar guild, youth leader, cross movers, decorators, office staff, and more!!

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE

As we do each Summer, beginning Memorial Day weekend through Labor weekend our Sunday morning schedule changes. Sunday School breaks for the summer and our two Sunday morning worship service times become 8:00 and 9:30. The first Sunday of this summer schedule will be Sunday, May 24th.

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: LEADERSHIP .**

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, May 28th @ 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.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor Randy's Message
- Member Spotlight
- New Member Spotlight
- Concert May 24th
- Fall concerts
- Adult Sunday School Series
- Jesus Healing
- Vacation Bible School
- Run for LMM
- CRLC Games & Fellowship Night

MARCH 29TH PALM SUNDAY



SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED!

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.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Christ the Redeemer,

Thank you for all your well wishes and caring.

It is much appreciated.

Prayers to all.

Sincerely, Theresa Ruess



WE HAVE A MINISTRY COORDINATOR!

This article was also in the April Insight, but I wanted to again emphasize this new position. This new position will be seeking to strengthen our existing ministries and volunteer base. This position is not removing any duties from any existing position of the staff or of the pastor. In other words, the ministry coordinator is not doing ministry instead of someone else who is currently assigned to do it, but rather the goal is to help weave better communication and enable things from not falling through the cracks as we seek to enhance existing ministries as well as expanding our base. We are excited to have Tonya aboard. This position will be evolving as we grow into it. We will be learning things along the way. This is a 4-to-5-hour average week position. **Again - welcome Tonya!**



A few things that the Ministry Coordinator is NOT:

- +The ministry coordinator is not the custodian. They are not meant to pick up the pieces and messes of other things.
- +Ministry coordinator is not the complaint department. As always if you have a concern with something or a person, please go to the source of that issue.
- +The ministry coordinator is not in charge of ministries. The position is to help assist and guide ministries not by default lead them.
- +The Ministry coordinator is not meant to be the “catch all”, in other words, if we don’t know whose responsibility it is, we seek not to toss onto the ministry coordinator.
- +The ministry coordinator is not “a-go-for” meaning they are not meant to be the assistant to a different leaders who are in charge of different areas of ministry. They are rather to assist the ministry happening, not run it or fill in the gaps of something somebody particularly needs.
- +Finally, the ministry coordinator is not a fully defined position yet. We know it is a work in progress. We will be experimenting and trying things along the way to see what best enhances our ministry together.

Here is her email address: Ministry.coord@crlcbrecksville.org



MORE ABOUT TONYA

Tonya is recently retired after 37 years of teaching in the Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools. She and Brent have been married for 32 years and they have two children, Shawn (25) and Elise (14). Her hobbies include reading, cooking, skiing, and doing anything with her family. Tonya has been a member of CRLC for 36 years. Her favorite thing about CRLC is the true church family that exists here. She hopes to be able to help new members acclimate into this family and to help all members share their talents with the various ministries.

George Hammond is our second oldest member at CRLC! George will be celebrating his 97th birthday on May 30. His face is familiar as a regular attendee at the late service with his singing wife Julie. Although his family was living in Woodstock, Vermont in 1929, he surprised his mom during her visit with family in Quebec with his early birth! He enjoyed many sports in his school years including being part of his uncle's start-up football team at the high school in Woodstock. He moved to Cleveland Heights, Ohio during his junior year. After graduation he began to take night school classes at Fenn College, which became Cleveland State University. George ultimately became a CPA.

He joined the Air Force during the Korean War and was trained in telephone repair but also provided help with accounting and finance when stationed in California. He spent about a year in Seoul, Korea and ended his 3 years, 9 months and 1 day of military service at Fort Bragg. While at Fort Bragg, he met his first wife; they had 2 children. After completing his time in the military he returned with his family to Ohio, later getting divorced.

Eventually, his mother and cousin introduced him to a delightful beautician at her family's beauty shop in South Euclid. In February 1983 he and Julie were married at Bethlehem Lutheran church (now called Peace Lutheran) in Cleveland Heights. They each had 2 children. Together they have 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

George became an active member at Peace Lutheran, serving on church council and using his CPA knowledge as the church treasurer for many years.

Their life together has included attending the theater, hosting social events with friends and traveling. Favorite retirement trips together have been to Maine which included enjoying a Maine Windjammer sailing trip. As a memory of their trip and George's New England roots, a moose statue welcomes you to their home.

They moved to the Brecksville area and became members at CRLC in 2021.

If you'd like to send George a birthday card, his address is: 3335 Stanfield Drive, Parma, OH 44134.

Member SPOTLIGHT



**GEORGE
HAMMOND**

Welcome to Marlene and Terry! They recently became members of CRLC in November. Terry is a retired college president. He has served Tri-C and Kent State as well as colleges in Arizona and Kansas. He has been retired from higher education administration for 12 years; however, he went on to teach in the doctoral program at Kansas State. He has taught his last class and is ready to fully embrace retirement.

Marlene was an executive assistant before retiring. She retired as a senior level executive assistant while living in Arizona.

After retirement the couple moved to Florida and then back to Kansas, but neither location felt like the right fit. They decided to move back to Northeast Ohio to be with family and they couldn't be happier! Marlene and Terry both grew up in the Cleveland area and met while working at Tri-C. They felt at home when they visited CRLC due to a long time connection with members Bob and Marilee Meinzer.

Marlene and Terry enjoy many activities together. They like traveling to visit friends all around the country and especially traveling on river cruises in Europe. Ask them about their upcoming trip to Paris and Prague! During the week you can find them at the Broadview Heights Rec Center, walking in the park, golfing or reading. A little known fact about Terry is that he worked part time as a baker while going to high school and college. He loves to cook as well.

We are blessed to have Marlene and Terry join the CRLC family and look forward to worship and fellowship with them.

New member SPOTLIGHT



MARLENE AND TERRY
CALAWAY

GOD OF WONDERS

I'd like to share an article written by Melissa Hambrick, published on Crosswalk.com, August 20, 2003.

One of the most popular and most recorded worship songs in recent history, 'God of Wonders', a 'humble offering' has touched millions with its message of the holiness and mercy of God.

The first time that songwriter Steve Hindalong heard the chord progression brought to him by friend and co-writer Marc Byrd, he felt where 'God of Wonders' was leading. Hindalong had been assigned to produce a project that was to express the feeling of community in the church, but at this point it was still untitled, and the notes of the first song weren't yet recorded.

The project became Essential Records' *City On A Hill*. Those few guitar chords became not only the first single from that project and a number one, Dove Award-nominated Song of the Year, but a song that would become a church standard for worship.

'God Of Wonders' has since been recorded nearly 100 times according to Hindalong's estimate. Artists as renown as Rebecca St. James and Steve Green have lent their voices to the song. Both Caedmon's Call and Third Day, whose group members are featured on the original *City On A Hill* track, have also recorded their own versions.

The song was simultaneously number one on three of Christian radio's charts—adult contemporary (AC), inspirational, and Christian hit radio (CHR)—ordinarily three vastly different musical formats. When Steve Hindalong originally imagined how big this song needed to be, he had no idea what was in store, and just how expansive the moving music and powerful lyrics could be.

A founding member of popular '80s Christian alternative/modern rock band The Choir, Hindalong knew he was taking a different turn with 'God of Wonders', although he notes that fans of the band wouldn't be that surprised at its content.

"People that followed The Choir know that we had some pretty intensely spiritual themes. Typically, the type of music that I come from is more alternative and tends to be aimed at more of the young adult audience. It's very introspective, whereas worship music tends to be broad and focused more on God and who He is," says Hindalong.

"When Marc played the chord progression and melody, it felt really big. I kind of got a chill—I got goose bumps on my arms. I just thought, 'This song needs to be big, with really vast language.' So 'God of wonders beyond our galaxy' was as big as I could think."

Having attended an Episcopal church for the last few years, Hindalong has been introduced to a new inspiration for his songwriting. "The liturgy, the old words, is kind of new to me. I flipped through *The Book of Common Prayer*, and I remembered 'Lord of all creation, water, earth and sky.' That became the first line of the song."

GOD OF WONDERS—CONTINUED

*Lord of all creation
Of water, earth and sky
The heavens are your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth*

But it isn't the vastness of the song that seems to really impact people, relates Hindalong. "People have sent me emails about the song and referred to the second verse. I think the real power of the song is there, when all of a sudden, it gets intimate. It says, 'When I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night.' This God that is the God of not only our earth, but of all the worlds, that is so big-but when I'm afraid, when I'm alone, when I sin, when I'm in trouble, He comes close enough that I can call His name. It's the truth that's powerful, not the song. It is that particular truth that is so moving."

The mixture of voices on the original recording is another aspect that Hindalong sees as powerful. "When people sing a song and interpret it a certain way, a song comes alive. The contrast of Mac Powell and Cliff Young trading off, and with Danielle Young, really communicated that corporate community thing that was really the goal of *City On A Hill*. They were the perfect blend of voices."

The groundwork for 'God of Wonders' was laid nearly 10 years ago, when Steve Hindalong produced the first two albums for Common Children, Marc Byrd's band. Ten years his senior, Steve, became a mentor to Marc, and is amazed by how far the two have come. Writing a song like 'God of Wonders' was new ground and opened a whole floodgate of creativity for him.

"I think of 'God of Wonders' as an offering," says Hindalong. "It's an offering to people. The words are to God, the prayer is to God, but as far as the song, that's for people, to the body of believers. It's an offering—a humble offering."

In worship on May, 3, 2026, you will hear a piano arrangement of 'God of Wonders' by Bill Wolaver.

Information from: www.crosswalk.com/church/worship/song-story-god-of-wonders

CONCERTS @ CRLC PRESENT

CLEVELAND BRASS WORKS

A UNIQUE BRASS QUINTET



Sunday, May 24th
4:00pm

A CLASSICAL BRASS QUINTET WITH A NOT-SO-CLASSICAL TWIST. TAKE A BUNCH OF TRAINED BRASS PLAYERS AND TOSS SOME JAZZ, ROCK, FUNK, LATIN, AND SWING TUNES IN FRONT OF THEM. SHAKE IT UP WITH DRUM SET AND PERCUSSION AND YOU GET A ROLLICKING GOOD TIME WITH FUN MUSIC! CLEVELAND BRASS WORKS WILL DEFINITELY MIX UP YOUR MUSICAL TASTE BUDS AND PROVIDE A PLEASING EARFUL FOR EVERY GENERATION! CLEVELAND BRASS WORKS HAS PERFORMED AT THE BOP STOP, NIGHT TOWN, MALTZ PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY AND WITH BOTH THE CLEVELAND PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AND PARMA SYMPHONY, AS WELL AS BEING ASKED TO PLAY SEVERAL FESTIVALS THROUGHOUT NORTHEAST OHIO.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
9201 BRECKSVILLE RD.
BRECKSVILLE, OH



UPCOMING CONCERTS@CRIC 2026 SEASON



Cleveland Brass Works May 24 - 4:00pm

A classical brass quintet with a not-so-classical twist. Take a bunch of trained brass players and toss some jazz, rock, funk, Latin, and swing tunes in front of them. Shake it up with drum set and percussion and you get a rollicking good time with fun music! Cleveland Brass Works will definitely mix up your musical taste buds and provide a pleasing earful for every generation! Cleveland Brass Works has performed at the Bop Stop, Night Town, Maltz Performing Arts Center, Bluffton University and with both the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra and Parma Symphony, as well as being asked to play several festivals throughout northeast Ohio.

David Uschold, Organist September 20 - 4:00pm

A native of Hudson, Ohio, David Uschold holds the position of Director of Music and Organist at St. Sebastian Parish, Akron, Ohio. In 2001, Mr. Uschold took first place in the American Guild of Organist's Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists in Cleveland and was the first ever recipient of the Adele Heinrich award for organ performance in 2005. He holds both a Bachelor and Master of Music degree in organ from the Cleveland Institute of Music. His teachers include H. Dean Wagner and Todd Wilson. Mr. Uschold has an active career as an organist, choral conductor and vocalist.

Bassoon A Roo October 18 - 4:00pm

The graduate and undergraduate student bassoon ensemble at the University of Akron under the direction of Cynthia Ciofari.

Maria Thompson Corley, Pianist November 8 - 4:00pm

Jamaican-born Canadian pianist Maria Thompson Corley gave her first public performance at the age of eight. Since then, she has appeared on radio, television, and concert stages in Canada, the United States, Central America, the Caribbean, Bermuda and Europe, both as a solo and collaborative artist, including performances in Budapest at the Liszt Academy, and in Carnegie Recital Hall, Aaron Davis Hall and Alice Tully Hall, all in New York City. She has collaborated with such artists as Metropolitan Opera soprano Priscilla Baskerville, renowned clarinetist James Campbell and Doris Hall-Gulati, Grammy-nominated baritone Randall Scarlata, and members of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Her performances as soloist with orchestra include engagements with the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Gunther Schuller, the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Stephen Gunzenhauser, and the Allegro Chamber Orchestra, with Brian Norcross. She has also performed with the Philadelphia-based Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra, directed by Jeri-Lynne Johnson.

All Concerts are held in the Sanctuary.

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church
9201 Brecksville Road
Brecksville, OH 44141
440-526-2303



APRIL 12TH CONCERT

The Gospel Disciples in Song concert on April 12th was attended by 75 attendees, making yet another successful concert under the influence of our Music Director, James.



READINGS FOR MAY

MAY 3—Fifth Sunday of Easter

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

MAY 10—Sixth Sunday of Easter

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

MAY 17—Seventh Sunday of Easter

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

MAY 24—Day of Pentecost

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

MAY 31—The Holy Trinity

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

Genesis 1:1—2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

May focus: **Neuropathy** Awareness ~ *Numbness - Weakness - Pain* ~ these are words used to describe the impact of neuropathy, usually of the hands & feet. Neuropathy=nerve pain for many. Every nerve in the peripheral system has a specific job. Symptoms depend on the type of nerves affected. A disease of the peripheral nerves-the motor, sensory and autonomic nerves connect the spinal cord to muscles, skin, and internal organs. It is **damage to a body's electrical wiring system**: this "wire damage" can cause numbness, weakness and pain. It can come & go, often slowly progressing over many years; it can be severe & debilitating. Like many conditions, early diagnosis is helpful.

Symptoms: early warning signs often appear in hands & feet. *Motor* - weakness, heaviness of legs, muscle cramping/twitching. *Sensory* - pain from normally non-painful stimulus, abnormal sensations (tingling), burning, feeling shooting electrical shocks.



Causes:

- injury from sudden trauma or repetitive stress (i.e. carpal tunnel)
- Diabetes** (50-70% of diabetics develop diabetic neuropathy)
- 100+known other causes including *autoimmune disorders*, tumors, chemo or medication effect, toxins or infectious diseases (for example Shingles pain - that persists is called post-herpetic neuralgia)
- "idiopathic" meaning cause unknown

Since neuropathy is often a difficult disease to diagnose, it is wise to become an informed patient or advocate for a family member, gathering up as much knowledge as possible. Neurological evaluation often includes an EMG test to evaluate how the nerves transmit electrical stimuli. Health providers who deal with aspects of neuropathy include neurologists, pain specialists, physical & occupational therapists and podiatrists.

<https://www.foundationforpn.org/what-is-peripheral-neuropathy/>

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/14737-peripheral-neuropathy>

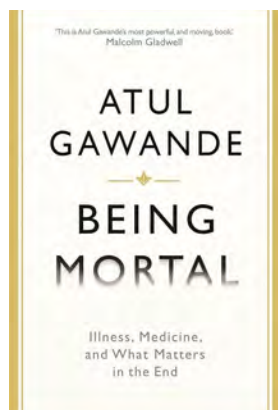
"For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you." Isaiah 41:13 (NIV)



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Meeting on May 6th at 10:00am.

Women of the ELCA “Gather” magazine with our Spring Bible study. Spring 2026: God's Name, God's Promise - session 3 - God who leads us: Resurrection and life.



CRLC FAITHFUL READERS

Meeting on May 20th at 10:00am in the Chapelview Room.

The book for May is “Being Mortal” by Atul Gawande.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SERIES

As we complete the final Adult Sunday School sessions before we break for the summer, we will have a potpourri of topics.

Pastor Randy will be leading these sessions.

Sunday, May 3rd – “The uncool church”

Sunday, May 10th – “Who changed your life direction?”

Sunday, April 17th – “A look ahead”

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PIERSTORF COLLEGE FUND

Did you know Ohio Lutheran students have access to **interest-free college loans?**

The Pierstorf College Fund provides **up to \$4,000 per year** for Lutheran students enrolled full-time at accredited four-year colleges or universities. Since 1994, this unique ministry has awarded over \$14 million to support students pursuing higher education.

Applications for 2026–2027 open March 1 and close June 30.

Learn more or apply at www.Pierstorf.org.

JESUS HEALING

In Sunday School, our preschoolers learned about Jesus healing the blind man. In John 9, Jesus heals a man born blind by spitting on the ground to create mud, applying it to the man's eyes, and instructing him to wash in the Pool of Siloam. The man obeys and receives his sight.

The children were able to experience firsthand, the emotional depth of how meaningful it was for the blind man to gain sight.



EASTER DECORATIONS

Sunday school students created another great Easter decoration which was delivered to some of our home members.



Connie and David Minerovic



Gretchen and Don Grossenbach



Doris Caldart

GALAXY

Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 26 - 28

9:00AM - 12:00PM

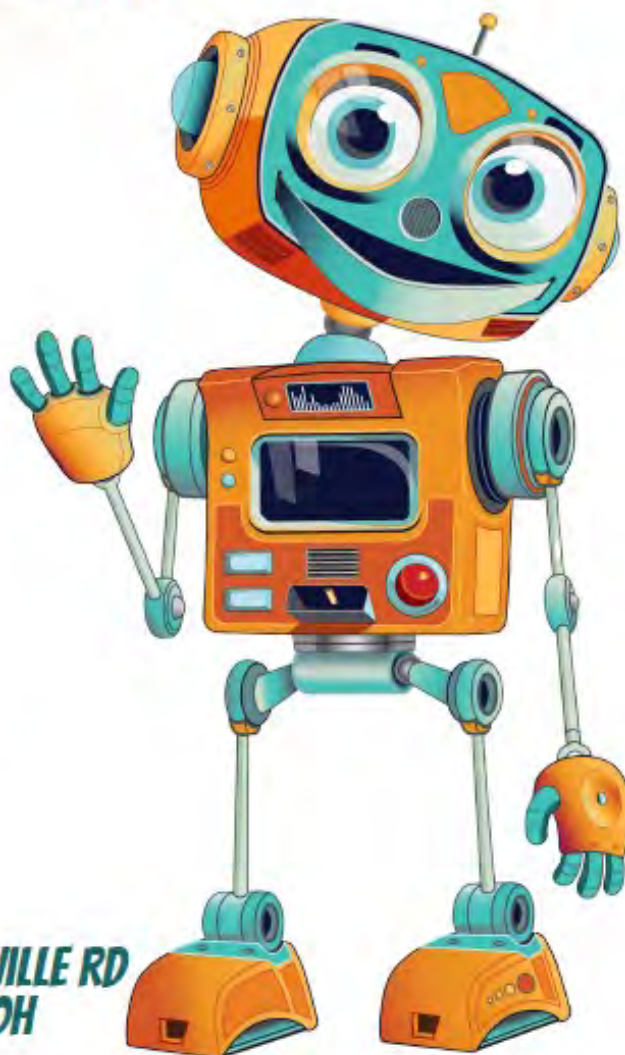
**CLICK THE QR CODE TO
REGISTER**



DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS JUNE 8TH

**CHRIST THE
REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**9201 BRECKSVILLE RD
BRECKSVILLE, OH**





"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.

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.



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is proudly presented to:

Christ The Redeemer, Brecksville

For contributing 10% or more of your regular offerings
to our Northeastern Ohio Synod!

In gratitude for the ways you share in God's work through Mission Support.
Thank you for your partnership in the gospel and for your faithful witness in the world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura L. H. Barbins".

Rev. Dr. Laura L. H. Barbins
Bishop



Northeastern Ohio Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Stuffies

for Brecksville/Cleveland Metro Emergency Rooms

On Sunday, May 10th and May 17, we will be collecting new or nearly new and clean “stuffies” (approximately 5-10 inches) for Brecksville/Cleveland Metro Emergency Rooms.

When a child comes into an emergency room, whether it’s a few stitches, tummy ache or a broken bone, it is a traumatic experience.

When a child gets to choose a new stuffed animal from the basket, it can be so soothing. A new friend to help them through the experience.

May 10th & May 17th

So who doesn't love a cute, cushy, fuzzy stuffed animal . . .check your closets, drawers or stop at the store and pick out an adorable stuffed animal to share.





RUN FOR LMM CLEVELAND MARATHON MAY 16 - 17

LMM has been chosen to be an OFFICIAL CHARITY partner with the upcoming CLE Marathon! This partnership gives runners the opportunity to raise funds for LMM while running in any of the Marathon events. IF you are interested in supporting LMM in the Marathon, please contact Brian Sturgeon 216-696-0370 bsturgeon@lutheranmetro.org

Brian will help you register, and share the discount code available to LMM runners. To make sure you are connected with Team LMM, you will check the box identifying you as an LMM team runner. Please contact him at your earliest convenience for all the details. In addition to the full marathon, other races include the half marathon, 10k and 5k. Participation in any event will generate proceeds for LMM. Encourage friends to join you. In order to connect your registration with LMM, please contact Brian ASAP!

Funds earned through the marathon will help support LMM's youth resiliency services.

In 2025, the LMM youth resiliency program served over 250 youth! These programs have proven to be successful in a number of ways, including increased high school graduation rates, and preparation for youth to live more independent adult lives. A new youth fitness room opened recently. The youth are enthusiastically utilizing it while keeping fit and healthy.

For general information about the upcoming CLE Marathon, go direct to their website clevelandmarathon.com

VOLUNTEERS are also needed to support the LMM runners. Please consider joining the volunteer team. Brian can answer any questions about volunteering, including how to earn volunteer service hours.

Opportunities include :

Health and Fitness Expo Crew

Water Station Heroes

Start and Finish Line Marshals

Bib and T-Shirt Distribution

Course Marshals

Watch party participants to cheer on Team LMM runners

Again, please contact Brian at your earliest opportunity to learn more on participating in the race, or volunteering for this worthwhile charitable event.



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





Josee McGee & Jackson Boling

Friday, May 29, 2026 6:30 pm

John Streeeter Garden Amphitheater, 2122 Williams Road, Wooster, OH 44691

Ohio Regional Music Arts and Cultural Outreach (ORMACO) and the Friends of the Secret Arboretum kick off their summer Music at the Arboretum concert series on Friday, May 29, 2026, with Josee McGee & Jackson Boling.

Josee & Jackson began playing together in 2020. They have a keen ability to harmonize and represent classic (and should-be-classic) tunes from a variety of eras and genres using thoughtful guitar and vocal arrangements.

The program is free. In the event of rain, the concert will be held inside the Welcome Center. For more information call 419-853-6016.

About the Musicians

Josee McGee is a self-taught guitarist, performer and songwriter. She was raised in a musical family with influences from 50s and 60's standards, 00s pop/ R&B, and various group choirs.

Jackson Boling has been playing guitar since shortly after he was born. He enjoys listening to and performing an eclectic mix of songs, including standards from the Great American Songbook, '60s soul, and classic rock.

We are planning to attend this event. We will take a picnic dinner and then watch the show. We might walk around the Arboretum after the show. Would you like to join Mike & Gail Berzins?

Questions???

Please contact Gail at (440) 503-6652
or gberzins@att.net

Gail has reserved 8 tickets and is happy to order more, if needed.

APRIL GAMES & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Fun night at CRLC cards...thanks Knicely's!



CRLC GAMES & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT



**SATURDAY
MAY 16TH**

6:00PM
The Witzke's Home
8093 North Hills, Broadview Heights

Scott and Lisa Witzke will provide the main course. Please bring an appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert.

Let the Witzke's know if you will be attending at: Email: lisa.j.witzke@gmail.com, or 440-785-9748.

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

May 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!

May 3	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Steve Wilson	Jill Koubal
Communion Assistants	x	Jan Hansler, Laurie Siebert
Ushers	Mike Berzins, George Stelmaschuck	Dan Bartik, Amy Marek
Altar Care	Gail Stelmaschuck	Pam & Bob Bertsch
Counters: Jeff & Cathy Smith, Jeff Luksa		Coffee Hour Host: Jenni Halter
May 10	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Lou Carouse	Mark Lickert
Communion Assistants	x	Pam Waltz, Elizabeth Marek
Ushers	Mark Evans, Todd Kiick	Jeff Dentzer, Bill Waltz
Altar Care	Dorthea Kramer	Dana Vrcan
Counters: Jeff Dentzer, Todd Romance		Coffee Hour Host: Open
May 17	8:00 am	10:30 am
Assisting Minister	Linda Radefeld	Blaine Coleman
Communion Assistants	x	Jen Eisenmann, Joan Castelucci
Ushers	Al Radefeld, Lisa Antonucci	Dennis Nagy
Altar Care	Gail Stelmaschuk	Linda Eckenbrecht
Counters: Mike Bodanza, Elaine Foss, Lisa Witzke		Coffee Hour Host: Open
May 24	8:00 am	9:30 am
Assisting Minister	Lauren Jirousek	Dianne Young
Communion Assistants	x	Adrienne Davic, Karl Koubal
Ushers	Ken Blank, Don Laubacher	Blaine Coleman, Dennis Nagy
Altar Care	Cheryl Stiefvater	Shirley Fisher
Counters: Joy Petrovic, Dan Bartik, Dennis Farney		
May 31	8:00 am	9:30 am
Assisting Minister	Nancyanne Sinclair	Kathy Hoinski
Communion Assistants	x	Frank & Mardell Boulton
Ushers	Don Laubacher, Lou Carouse	Dan Bartik, Dana Vrcan
Altar Care	Dorthea Kramer	Jan Hansler
Counters: Steve & Diane Wilson, Pete Smith		

Happy Birthday!

1 Matthew Booher
2 Jacob Papesh
2 Diane Wilson
2 Asher Pagan
3 Ben Wells
4 Jim Henyey**
5 Jack Bailey
6 Bob Bertsch
7 Bob Stack
9 Francesca Studnicka
10 Mandy Weber
11 Denise Bandsuh
12 Joan Castelucci
12 Arlene Krause
12 Don Laubacher**
12 Grady Scheutzow
13 Mark Antonucci
13 Stephanie Daniels
13 Bryn Laubacher
13 Amy Marek
13 Colin Toghill
14 Nathan Garito
15 Jeff Luksa
15 Benjamin Haely
17 Cristina Wells
18 Noah Benza
20 Lew Jenkins
20 Ella Troike
20 Megan Witzke
21 Benjamin Emrick
21 Jill Koubal**
21 Meredith Shayeb
23 Maddox Shaver
24 Alberta Manzi**
25 Shirley Fisher
26 Michelle Guzi

26 Mary Lott
26 Connor Smith
27 Barry Farine
27 Ellie Gibson
27 Elise Pagel
28 Xavier Pohle
28 Grace Springer
29 Gabrielle D'Anza
30 Pamela Czarnota
30 George Hammond

**= Milestone Birthday



Happy Anniversary!

7 Bryn Laubacher and Brian Koehler
10 Dave & Connie Minerovic
13 Jenni and Ray Halter
17 Lauren and TJ Lynch
18 Mardell and Frank Boulton
22 Susan and Mark Lickert
24 Jennifer and Robert Eisenmann
25 Cheryl and Don Laubacher
25 Melissa and Matt Garito
25 Jocelyn and Peter Smith
26 Amy and Robert Benza
29 Ann and Barry Farine
31 Marcy and Jim Henyey



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 the dates of VBS this year are the weekend of June 26th? Registration is already open!
- ◆ Did you know that our youth will be going on a mission trip to Indianapolis this summer?
- ◆ Did you know that we hosted the Northeast and Northwest pastor and dean's conferences in April?
- ◆ Did you know that Al Radefeld works quietly behind the scenes working for the best insurance and rate for our church? Thanks Al!
- ◆ Did you know that we are taking a look at updating and refreshing our church constitution?
- ◆ Did you know we are welcoming new members?
- ◆ 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

Jenkins/Spires families, Marlene McKenzie, Dave Minerovic, Olivia Beery, Karen Knicely, Barbara Sicz, Hoinski Family, Tom Hoinski, Mary Lott, Alberta Manzi, Jessica Travaglianti, Linnet Fritz, Carole Wooten, Lauren Jirousek, Gretchen Grossenbaugh, Ken Kasper, Donna Franz, Mason Georgianna Bojtos, Julie Dillehay, Todd, Melanie, Michael Weiss, Al & Cindy, Gary Meyer, Ellyn Drummond, Smith family, Ann, Joe, Garrett, Jean, Pauline Dey, Jordan, Susan, Patrice Rick H, Darcy, Karen, Renata, Ron
All military servicemen and women deployed overseas.
All those impacted by war and natural disasters.



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

MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 9201 Brecksville Road Brecksville, Ohio 44141 440.526.2303 www.office@crlcbrecksville.org Monthly Insight submissions: insight@crlcbrecksville.org</p>						
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- "The Unusual Church" -led by Pastor Randy 9:15am Sunday School-A1 -Agas 10:30am Worship	4 7:00pm Yoga	5	6 10:00am Ladies Bible Study	7 National Day of Prayer	8 15 Monthly Insight Deadline	9 16 Run for LMM/Cleveland Marathon 6:00pm CRLC Games & Fellowship Night
10 Mother's Day 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School- "Who changed your life direction?" -led by Pastor Randy 9:15am Sunday School-A1 Agas 10:30am Worship	11 7:00pm Yoga	12	13	14	21	22
17 Run for LMM/Cleveland Marathon 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Sunday School-A look ahead -led by Pastor Randy 9:15am Sunday School-A1 Agas- Last Day 10:30am Worship	18 7:00pm Yoga	19	20 10:00am Faithful Readers Book Discussion	21	22	23
24 Partisat WORSHIP TIMES CHANGE to 8am & 9:30am 8:00am Morning 9:30am Worship 4:00pm Cleveland Brass Works	25 Memorial Day 7:00pm Yoga	26	27	28 9:30am Theo- Thursday at Demetrios	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:30am Worship	1	2	3	4	5	6

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



2026