



Reflections



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
And Preschool**

First Avenue and Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org
www.ourredeemer.org

Weekly Newsletter - January 7/8, 2017

~ *First Sunday after the Epiphany* ~

THROUGH THE DIVINE SERVICE:
F.I.T. 4 WORSHIP

Sunday Morning
January 8-
February 19
9:30 am
Fellowship Hall

The Athanasian Creed teaches us that true Christian worship can be recognized in two ways. First, we worship the triune God, that is, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The second way we recognize Christian worship is that it is centered on Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. Our worship is “divine” because it is Christ-centered.

The structure of the Divine Service is the story of God’s work of salvation – the essence of the Bible itself. In the Divine Service, God invites us to take part in that story, to be immersed in it and find our place at the table. As we take part regularly, this story becomes our story.

January 8, 2017

Invocation & Baptism

January 15, 2017

Confession & Absolution

January 22, 2017

Kyrie & Hymn of Praise

January 29, 2017

The Creeds

February 5, 2017

Holy Communion Part One:
Preface to Lord’s Prayer

February 12, 2017

Holy Communion Part Two:
Pax Domini to Nunc Dimittis

February 19, 2017

Benedicamus and Benediction

February 25/26, 2017

Guest Preacher/Bible Study



Todd & Ashley Cooney

Harold & Shirley Losby

Kylie Miller

Cory Servantez & Stephanie Thompson

Isabella Marie Brogley

Shayla Servantez

Giovanni Servantez (baptism next week)

Midweek Classes Resume January 11!

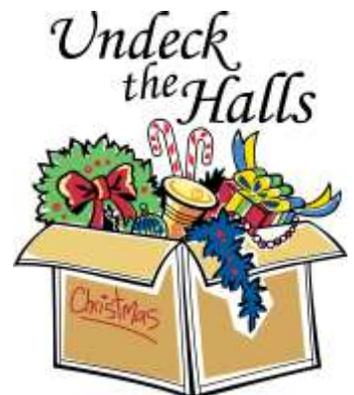
Midweek Meal at 6:00pm

(Everyone welcome! Freewill offering)

Midweek Classes & Choir 6:45pm

Adult Class 7:00pm

**Sunday after
the 10:30 am
service!**





2016 was a year blessed with many new and active quilters. Thanks for all the quilting volunteers and those who have donated.

If you would like to help in 2017, join the quilters on Thursday mornings from 9 until about noon, sew some 60"x80" tops (these should not be "pretty" or they end up on the black market rather than going where intended), or contribute fabric. Old sheets or curtains, fabric of any kind can be used. Right now heavier fabric to make book bags for Lutheran World Relief book bags is needed.

Quilting contributions for 2016 are impressive:

Quilts:

- 68 Cancer Patients
- 603 Lutheran World Relief
- 209 Homeless
- 22 Red Cross
- 209 Domestic Violence (+31 Beth Benson group)
- 143 Orphan Grain Train
- 78 Ronald McDonald House
- 5 Church Members
- 5 Accident Victims
- 13 Personal

Lap Robes:

- 7 Ronald McDonald House
- 10 Homeless
- 5 Elder House

Blankets:

- 3 Homeless
- 4 Orphan Grain Train

Baby Blankets

- 4 Preschool
- 115 Ronald McDonald House
- 53 University of Iowa Hospital
- 11 Personal
- 4 Accident Victim

127 Heart Pillows

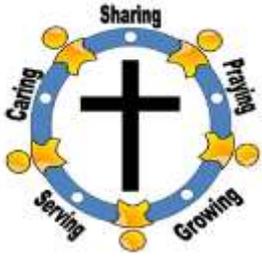
The LWML Baby Shower is coming soon! On Saturday, January 28th at 10:00 am, all ladies of all ages are invited to play games, enjoy food and fellowship, and bring gifts for babies around the world!

Every gift you bring will be packed into a Lutheran World Relief Baby Kit and given to a mom and baby in need. Our baby gift "registry" is based on the items each kit includes:

- lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies)
- long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (no feet)
- receiving blankets (cotton, flannel, or lightweight crocheted or knitted, up to 52")
- cloth diapers (flat-fold preferred)
- jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts with hoods (or include a baby cap)
- baby socks
- dark-colored hand towels
- bars of gentle soap
- large diaper pins

Baby clothes should be sizes 6 to 24 months and can be gently used if in excellent condition. See <https://lwr.org/wp-content/uploads/Baby-Kit-Assembly-Instructions.pdf> for more details.

Invite a special lady and join us on the 28th to help mommies and babies everywhere!



Small Group Ministry Mission Statement:
To grow in grace using our spiritual gifts, through good stewardship for the benefit of the group so that the body of Christ may be built up.

**Upcoming Events for
 Small Group Ministry ...**



Upcoming Marriage Retreat Weekend at Our Redeemer:
 All couples are invited to join us on Friday evening at 7 pm, January 20th, to watch the movie "War Room" together and then on Saturday, January 21 for Bible studies based on the movie. More details to follow. Contact Denise Holida at smallgroups@ourredeemer.org with any questions.



BASICS OF THE FAITH

Appropriately titled, this course begins a six unit examination of the basics of the Christian Faith. Taken from the Bible and as understood by the Lutheran Church, we will explore the role of the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The revelation of God through the Bible and the role of the catechism will be discussed first. The Biblical message of Law and Gospel will be detailed.

Finally, we will end with discussing the victorious and sanctified life of the Christian.

This class is recommended for people joining Our Redeemer or members who would like a refresher on the Lutheran faith.

Contact Pastor Hartwig (bhartwig@ourredeemer.org) or the church office (redemer@ourredeemer.org or 319-338-5626) if you plan to join this class.

Winter
February 3-4, 2017
Weekend Immersion
Fri. 7 – 9 pm; Sat. 8:30 – 2:30 pm



Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits and Fabric Kits are assembled in the spring-----so if things are on sale for Christmas or people get new things for their babies/toddlers and want to give away what is too small or not used, we'll definitely take them!! The lists of what we need are on the LWML table across from the kitchen along with the blue bins to receive donated items. Especially needed are tee shirts & footless sleepers sizes 0-24months.

God is able to do
 Immeasurably
 MORE
 than we can imagine ...

...according to the power that works within us.
 Ephesians 3:20

**126 Pledges for
 \$624,797.64**

**Cash in hand
 \$93,599.41**

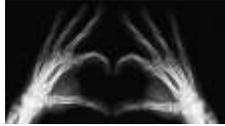


LLL Meeting
 January 24
 7:30pm
 Fellowship Hall

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller Assistant, Kate Ramsey
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! We are happy to announce that we are welcoming two more girls to our M/W/F class. Our classes stand at 16 preschoolers for M/W/F and 16 preschoolers for our T/Th which is full! Praise be to God that He has provided Mrs. Kaja and Mrs. Kate spirits to serve and wonderful kids to receive His blessings each and every day.

Registrations for the 2016-2017 school year will be available sometime in February.

Thank you to all who helped with **our preschool Christmas Wish List!** Donations have paid for additions to our classroom: a scale, playdough, super magnifying glasses, fossils, napkins, and our large Crayola paints!

Also, we thank those who are purchasing **Scholastic Books** through our preschool. We were able to add a special countdown clock, and many books. These were only possible because of the points earned when people place orders. Thank you.



CHALLENGE

February 5, 2017
Following Late Service

**THIS EVENT IS EXCELLENT
FOR OUTREACH!**

Contact the church office at
338-5626 for more information.

**SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH
OFFICE!**

What is the Trivia Challenge? Trivia challenges are informal, fun competitions where teams battle to see who has the greatest knowledge of trivia.

General knowledge and trivial interest questions are asked by a trivia host and the winner is the team which, at the end of the event, has correctly answered the most number of questions.

How does the Trivia Challenge work?

The events themselves are quite simple. You gather a group of eight participants to form a team.

The challenge is run in rounds. During each round the host asks a series of ten questions per round. The teams discuss the answers at their table and the teams record their answers on their score sheet.

At the conclusion of each round the sheets are collected and checked for accuracy. Meanwhile, the answers are revealed to the participants.

At the conclusion of the seven rounds, total scores are added up and a traveling trophy is awarded to the winning team.

What do we eat?

We will begin this event with a potluck of appetizers and hors d'oeuvres that can be snacked upon throughout the challenge.

Invite your friends and family, form a team, and host a party where the place and the entertainment are provided.



January 26
7:00—9:00 pm
Board Room

Holy Scripture, God's Word

THEOLOGY 101

The word theology is derived from two Greek words: *Theos* (God) and *Logos* (work, speech, or reason). Therefore, theology in its simplest terms is rational discussion about God. It has been described as “the science of God and his relationship to man and the world” and “the attempt to reduce religious truth to an organized system.”

This year's study will focus upon the Christian faith using the book titled The Christian Faith by Robert Kolb. In this book, the author presents the basic teachings of the Christian faith from the Lutheran framework. This framework presents all the articles of faith in accordance with the Scriptures and also correctly distinguishes between Law and Gospel.

January - March Portals of Prayer, IDE Today, and Lutheran Journal are available on the Welcome Center

January - **March Today's Light is available** on the wire rack outside the office

Offering envelopes available in coffee area.

Why should I consider wearing my name tag?

Because wearing your name tag helps –

- ♦ others to call you by name
- ♦ you to be known by others
- ♦ the vicar to match a name with a face
- ♦ encourage new members to wear their name tags
- ♦ those who have a hard time remembering names
- ♦ start conversations
- ♦ everyone to get to know each other better
- ♦ to identify those who are members and those who are visiting
- ♦ those who think they know your name, but because you're wearing your name tag, they can be sure of it.



ANGEL TREE THANK YOU

Dear Members of Our Redeemer,

On behalf of the Human Care Committee, thank you for once again participating in the Angel Tree project this year. We served 16 families and you purchased 98 gifts for 38 children and their families. The gifts have all been delivered by the committee members to very grateful families. Thank you for participating in this very important program, bringing the message of Christmas to them. God bless you all !!!



The Human Care Committee

2017 Flower Calendar is available in the library. Choose your date early!

False Parenting Guilt

January 4, 2017 in [Lutheran Witness](#), [Web-exclusive Stories!](#) 0

by Jason Braaten

Parents carry a lot of guilt. Some of it is real, and some of it false. One source of false guilt for moms and dads comes from the fad that you should never discipline your child from a place of anger. The point of this piece of advice is that if you discipline your children while you are angry, you are simply punishing them, teaching them that anger is an appropriate way to express oneself when someone sins against them.



The problem is this: The vocation of parent necessitates anger at the misbehavior of children, because God calls and places parents to be agents of His wrath against the misdeeds of their children so that they will repent.

A point of clarification: I *am not* saying that if you are already angry you have a right to take that anger out on your children. God does not call a father to come home from a bad day at work and make his children and wife walk on pins and needles simply because he is crabby. That would be provoking his children to anger and teaching them to do the same. It also doesn't mean he can lose his senses and scream and yell at his children.

I *am* saying, however, that when children misbehave and disobey their mother and father, parents are supposed to be angry with their children. And they are to communicate this anger in such a way that a child sees that they have not only made their parents angry by their words and actions, by what they have done or left undone, but they have also angered God, who set parents over children. (Don't forget: If you break the Fourth Commandment, you have at the same time broken the First!) That is what it means that parents should raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. By their anger, parents show that breaking the Fourth Commandment incurs the anger of God Himself, since they are representatives of God to their children on earth.

So, parents, preach the Law to your children to bring them to repentance, remembering that the Law is never about volume or duration. That doesn't mean you can't raise your voice at your children; it simply means that just because you have doesn't mean you have communicated that anger. Sometimes you will raise your voice. Sometimes you will simply speak sternly. You, as the parent, know what situation calls for what kind of response.

And in the meantime, stop feeling guilty when you are angry with the disobedience of your children and discipline them from that anger. This is false guilt. God has placed you as parents to communicate His anger over your children's disobedience, even as He desires to see them repent over breaking His commands and turn, instead, to fear and love and trust in Him above all else.

The Rev. Jason Braaten is pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tuscola, Ill.



Did you know?
Banging your head against
a wall burns 150 calories

an hour. However, it's not an effective way to relieve stress or improve relationships! Children are indeed a blessing from the Lord, but parenting kids today can be a real challenge. LFS counselors are available to help you assess what's not working and help you find new ways that can work.

Lutheran Family Service
(319) 393-1000



Still available! Rag rugs by shut-in Gil Glandorf. He has donated these to LWML to help with mission giving funds. There are three left after Cookie Walk, selling for \$20 each. Stop in the office if you are interested.

Youth Happenings

Join us before class on Weds, January 11th for
dinner (all are welcome) starting at 6:00 pm
(Midweek Meal Crew: 7th Grade Confirmation Families)
REMINDER: Class starts at 6:45 pm

Confirmation Classes

6:45 pm on Wednesday, January 11th

6th Grade — Small Group

Unit 2: God's Grace to His People Israel

Poetic Books

We will look at the book of Psalms.

"My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth." Psalm 121:2

7th Grade — Lecture

The Lord's Prayer: 2nd & 3rd Petitions

3rd Petition: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven."

What is God's will? "For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in
Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up
on the last day." John 6:40

8th Grade — Lecture

The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed is about the 2nd
person of the Holy Trinity: God the Son, Jesus who is
both God and man.

CONFIRMATION VERSE DUE: Weds, January 11th

Confirmation Kings' Party



Sunday, January 8th, 2017

starting at 12:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

WHO: All Confirmation students

WHAT TO BRING: A \$5.00 wrapped gift for the gift
exchange (suitable for boy or girl; ex: gift card, candy,
chocolate, DVD, book, deck of cards, earbuds...)

LUNCH: Lunch is provided. Meatball subs, sides and
drinks.

Join us for games, food and fun!

High School

College Care Packages

Wednesday, January 25th

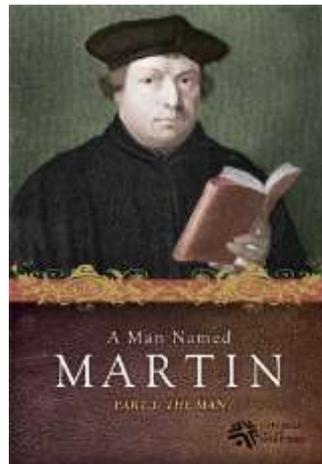
6:45 pm

We'll be praying for our current
Our Redeemer college students
and packing College Care
packages for them.



More information to follow.

High School Youth Midweek



will begin Part 1 of the
DVD series: "A Man
Named Martin"

January 11th, 2017

Hear the details of
Luther's life—

his childhood, his
university pursuits, his
decision to become a
monk, his protestation of

Catholic practices, his many writings, his life in
hiding, and his roles as husband and father.

HAPPY
New Year

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us...
PSALM 90:17e

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

Office: 338-5626 Fax: 338-9171 Website: <http://www.ourredeemer.org> Preschool: 338-3949
 Prayer Chain: 351-5297 or prayerchain@ourredeemer.org Special Announcements Line: 338-3505

<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>
Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Director of Christian Ed. dce@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 541-4827 (cell)
Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director Kate Ramsey, Assistant preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)	Andrew Wolfgram, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Sarah Gabel, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Denise Holida Director of Small Group Ministry smallgroups@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)	Louise Klopp, Director of Choirs choirdirector@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Marilyn Paetz, Organist organist@ourredeemer.org	351-4262 (home)	Kate Ramsey, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	
Kevin Sellers Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 631-8924 (cell)	Laurel Sellers, Office Coordinator redeemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)

2017 Board of Elders

Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Vaughn Davisson	319-648-4660
Jim Eick	338-1293
Myrl Holida	351-4301
Skip Kempnich	351-5297
Val Penney	354-1453
Denny Schrader	530-1562
Arlan Thompson	338-2938
Marty Wenck	330-2761

2017 Board of Directors

President	Steven Scott	563-889-0990
Vice President	Alan Meyer	319-461-1748
Secretary	Jennifer Kooker	319-339-0175
Treasurer	Larry Freeman	319-400-8356
Board of Elders	<i>Myrl Holida</i>	<i>319-351-4301</i>
Properties	Rob Bowman	319-325-8989
At Large	Dave Johnson	319-333-9606
	Barb Schanbacher	319-351-3998
	Kevin Roiseland	319-230-5247

DEADLINES

Reflections (printed weekly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) each Wednesday by 5:00 pm

Beacon Newsletter & Church Activities Calendar (printed monthly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) by noon on the 20th of each month.

TELEVISION ~ RADIO

Our Redeemer Worship Service on Public Access TV Channel 18 every Wednesday at 4:00 pm.

The Lutheran Hour Television Ministries talk show "On Main Street" is shown on **Public Access Television Channel 18** on Thursdays at 1:30 pm and Sundays at 10:00 pm.

Lutheran Hour Ministries on Radio—WMT 600 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 6:30 am, and KXEL 1540 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND SCREENING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has been in ministry with children and youth for almost 55 years. Our insurance carrier, Church Mutual, strongly encourages us to promote the safest and most secure environment possible by screening all employees and volunteers, both new and existing, especially those who interact with children. Performing background checks will provide safeguards and peace of mind to our staff, volunteers, parents, youth and children. Additional details will be forthcoming as we put this screening process in motion.