



Reflections



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
And Preschool**

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

Email: redemer@ourredeemer.org
www.ourredeemer.org

Weekly Newsletter - January 9/10, 2016

~ *The Baptism of Our Lord* ~

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Mornings

9:30 am

Fellowship Hall

COUNCILS AND CREEDS

January 10-February 21

If someone were to ask a Christian today, “how do you know what it is that you believe about Jesus,” one would likely point to the Bible or the historic creeds as fundamental references. But there was a time, in the early church, when Christians did not have the benefit of the creeds, and the document we know as the New Testament did not exist! This time period was one of great theological strength where the foundational beliefs of the church were debated and classified.

Week 1 - Apostles’ Creed

Week 2 - First Council of Nicaea (325)

Week 3 - First Council of Constantinople (381)

Week 4 - Council of Ephesus (431)

Council of Chalcedon (451)

Week 5 - Second Council of Constantinople (553)

Third Council of Constantinople (680)

Week 6 - Second Council of Nicaea (787)

Athanasian Creed

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

College and post-college young adults make up this group. The Young Adults meet for Bible study and monthly social activities.

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, January 10

4:00-6:00 pm

19 South Scott Boulevard
Vicar & Melissa Adelsen hosting

BAPTISM THIS WEEK



Zettie Belle James
10:30 am, January 10



Parents

Kevin Wayne James
Joan Elizabeth Robinson James



**ONE LORD
ONE FAITH
ONE BAPTISM**

Sponsors
Clarence Robinson
Andrea James

**Classes
for
All Ages**

**Sunday
School**



**Swaziland Mission trip
(tentative dates May 28th to June 10th)**

Informational meeting: January 18th, 7:00 pm

**Location: Anita Nicholson's home
(19 Galway Circle, Iowa City)**

Members going on this mission trip will work with parish nurses and rural home-based care teams that visit rural homesteads. We will also volunteer on inpatient units at a local hospital. We will care for clients with acute and chronic health problems. Swaziland has the highest rate of AIDS in the world so much of the care centers on HIV/AIDS care, treatment and education on prevention strategies. We will focus on providing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual care to clients. The Swaziland health care providers will appreciate our spiritual support.



Walkathon for Mites

January 25-29

9:00-10:00 at

Coral Ridge Mall



Winter blues? Take a break and walk with friends, pray, and pledge your mites every weekday morning January 25-29. A list of missionaries to pray for as you walk (or for any wishing to pray for them) will be available on the LWML table on January 14. If the time doesn't work for you, walk on your own or with friends at another time. Gather as a group on Saturday, January 30 at 8:30 am for a walk in the church hallways, an informal breakfast in the fellowship hall at 9:00 am and stay for a Bible study at 9:30 am.

Sign up sheet and a complete description are available in the church office or talk with Cheryl Davisson at 319-648-4660 or email vcbe@windstream.net.

BOOKKEEPER NEEDED

Quick Books is coming to Our Redeemer in January. Larry would like to retire (again). The position is for 20 hours a week. Please contact Pastor at 338-5626 or bhartwig@ourredeemer.com to apply for this bookkeeper position.

**NOW IS THE TIME FOR
STEPHEN MINISTRY**



It is nearly time to start Stephen Ministry classes. Turn in your applications now! You can still pick up an application form in the church office. A new training class for Stephen Ministry has been rescheduled for February 2, meeting Tuesday nights from 6:45-9:15pm. For more information contact Pastor Hartwig at 338-5626 or bhartwig@ourredeemer.org today.

Many congregation members long to find ways to be more involved in the life of the congregation; they simply aren't sure where to begin.

Stephen Ministers:

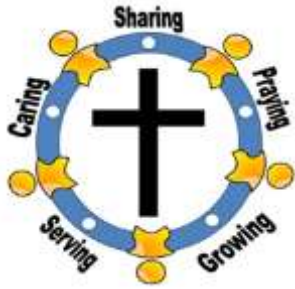
- ⇒ Listen
- ⇒ Explore Feelings
- ⇒ Pray
- ⇒ Share Christ's Love
- ⇒ Maintain confidentiality
- ⇒ Attend to the caregiving process and leave the results to God

Stephen Ministers care for people who are:

- ⇒ Grieving
- ⇒ In a crisis
- ⇒ In need of long-term care
- ⇒ Dying
- ⇒ Hospitalized
- ⇒ Divorcing
- ⇒ Experiencing losses as they age
- ⇒ Going through a crisis of childbirth
- ⇒ The family and friends of people in crisis

Lutheran Digest & Portals of Prayer
available at the Welcome Center

2016 Envelopes in the narthex coffee area



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 ...

HEAVEN AND HELL

New Adult Midweek Class starts January 13th! Join us in Room 208 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm as we begin a new Lifelight study, "Heaven and Hell". Contact Denise Holida at smallgroups@ourredeemer.org with any questions.

This study is part of the LifeLight Bible study series of in-depth studies of Bible books. The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ. The Bible study will focus on Heaven and Hell and what happens when Christians and non-Christians die.



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 12 families and you purchased 61 gifts for 23 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

2016 FLOWER CALENDAR



Sign up to provide flowers for your special Sunday today. The calendar is located on the wall next to the desk in the library.

Kids Club

** Registrations are in the church office.*

Our Kids Club is a church-sponsored weekly program for young people. **LITTLE LAMBS** is for children 3 years through Kindergarten. **CROSTOWN** is for children in 1st and 2nd grade. **FAITH EXPLORERS** is for children in grades 3 through 5. Classes start at 6:45 pm with openings. The children learn Bible stories and Bible verses, sing songs, play games, and participate in craft and mission projects. Children earn awards for completing memory work. For more information about our Kids Club, please contact Denise Schwarting at 325-6153 or Becky West at 430-3809.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

ACTION TEAMS

There has been interest and a little confusion over what projects have been funded by Action Teams. We know of around \$3000 in funded projects from last year—there may have been more.

To avoid duplications and have a record of the assistance given by Thrivent over the course of the year, please let the church office (redeemer@ourredeemer.org) know if you have an approved project going so that we will have a record. Thanks!

THANK YOU.

Our family has received so many special cards, family photos, treats and baked goods for Christmas. Thank you to everyone who remembered me and my family this

Christmas. We have much to celebrate because we have been given the best gift – Jesus, our Savior.

Merry Christmas!

~Pastor Hartwig



Sunday, February 7, 2016

11:45am—1:30pm

Sunday School & Kids Club volunteers Education Enrichment

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch that will be provided for you. You will have time to talk with your directors and be taught by Pastor.

RSVP to Kaja Mueller dce@ourredeemer.org or 338-5626 x14

- I. Opening & Prayer
 - II. Lunch & Ice Breaker
 - III. Pastor
 - IV. Divide into Directors and their groups
 - * Kids Club (Youth Room)
 - * Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) teachers
- Closing & Prayer—in your rotation sections



Thank you from the Board of Education for making this commitment to our children.

"Our Mission is to nurture and support families; equipping them for a lifetime of learning, praying and celebrating God's love in every aspect of life." Children's Ministry

Raising Money for Our Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool by **web searching** through GoodSearch. Just join GoodSearch.com to raise funds for Our Redeemer Lutheran Church! GoodSearch donates money to your favorite cause when you search the Internet, shop online or dine out at local restaurants! Use GoodSearch.com to search the Internet and they donate a penny per search to your cause. Use GoodShop.com when you shop online and they donate a percentage of every purchase and offer over 100,000 coupons to help you save money too! Sign up for their GoodDining program and they'll donate a percentage of your restaurant bill when you eat at any one of thousands of participating restaurants. It's really easy; it's free and turns simple everyday actions into a way to make the world a better place. Please sign up today to help support Our Redeemer Lutheran Church or choose your own. Go to







Building Healthy Families: LFS has a new look and a new website! Learn more about what we do and help that is available, read blog posts from LFS counselors and staff leaders, find out about outreach events in your area, learn about ways you can partner with us to make a difference here in Iowa...all through the new website! Check it out at www.LFSiowa.org today!

Lutheran Family Service

(319) 393-1000



LLL Meeting
 Tuesday, January 26
 7:30 pm
 Fellowship Hall



COMFORT-TIERS

Watch for the February *Beacon* to learn the record-breaking number of quilts finished this year and where they went.

Now, let us not rest, because Lillian has boxes and boxes of tops and middles that need sheets or fabric by the yard for the backs! At this rate, perhaps we can exceed this past year's total once more! Please search your linen closets and ask your neighbors, friends and relatives for any they don't need and might wish to part with, as there are still shivering folks of all sizes out there!



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Donations of items to fill the Care Packages are requested from the congregation.

Please drop off in the box in the Narthex.

Youth will be packing these Friday, January 22. Items should be at church by Wednesday, January 20.

Suggestions include:

- Puzzle Books (word search, Sudoku, crossword puzzle)
- Coloring Books
- Crayons, Colored Pencils, Markers
- Notebooks
- Pens
- Pencils
- Highlighters
- Scissors
- Staplers
- Pencil Sharpeners

- Toiletries
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- ChapStick
- Band-Aids/First Aid Kit
- Water Flavor Packets
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Snacks
- Pop-Tarts
- Trailmix
- Mints
- Gum
- Fun socks/cozy socks

- Fun socks/cozy socks
- Foam Football/Basketball
- Frisbees
- Stress Balls
- Playing cards
- Uno/Skipbo/card games
- Flameless candles
- Picture frames
- Cards
- Stationary
- Stamps
- Envelopes
- Words of Encouragement
- Etc....



Our Redeemer Preschool Weekly Newsletter

January 4th - 8th, 2016

God is in Control



Director/Teacher: Kaja Mueller

Assistant: Kate Ramsey

Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949

www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org

preschool@ourredeemer.org

Kk Bible Story: Jesus As A Young Boy, Matthew 2:12-15; Luke 2:41-52

JESUS TIME: In our Bible story this week, we learned that Jesus was a boy just like you and me. He is both human and God. Jesus had human parents, grew physically, and experienced emotions just like we do. The preschoolers were assured that God is in control so there is no need to fear or be scared. Jesus trusted His Heavenly Father to take care of him and we too can trust God to take care of us. Pastor Hartwig introduced us to the word EPIPHANY, which is another celebration of Jesus' birth, Christmas.

ARTS & CRAFTS:

- Watercolor snowflakes
- King crowns
- Color matching
- Independent artwork

SONGS/CHANTS:

- "Animal Action"
- "WHITE"
- "Jesus Loves, Jesus Loves"
- "Jesus Loves Me"
- "Wiseman Traveled"
- "Snowman"

READING CENTER:

- The Snow Day* - Ezra Jack Keats
- The Little Snowflake* - Steve Metzger
- The Littlest Christmas Tree* - Janie Jasin
- Snow Dance* - Lizlie Evans
- Snow Day* - Betsy Maestro
- Sledding* - Elizabeth Winthrop
- The Wild Toboggan Ride* - Susan Reid
- Snow Day* - Lynne Plourde
- The Gingerbread man* - Jim Aytesworth
- Geraldine's Bog Snow* - holly Keller
- Footprints in the Snow* - Cynthia Benjamin
- Snow is Falling* - Franklyn Branley
- The Biggest Snowman Ever* - Steven Kroll
- Sadie and the Snowman* - Allan Morgan
- A Silly Snowy Day* - Michael Coleman
- Flip and Flop* - Dawn Apperley
- All you Need for a Snowman* - Alice Schertle
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?* - Yolen & Teague

SCIENCE CENTER: Mystery Bottles

SENSORY TABLE: Gold Tees & Plastic Styrofoam



NO SCHOOL ON JANUARY 18TH - MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. DAY

Kk (To Rockabye Baby)

Kitten and Kettle, kite and Kazoo; Key, kitchen, kingdom, and kangaroo; king, kid, and ketchup, koala bear ... How many K words did you just hear?

Kk



With COLDER weather here, please have your child bring a coat, warm gloves, boots, hat, and snowpants. If you do not have these available, please contact Mrs. Kaja or Mrs. Kate.

Thank you to all who celebrated with warm wishes and cards on the birth of my son Titus. He is growing everyday and I love having him in the house. His two siblings cannot get enough of him and show him great love. It is fun to be back and to be sharing Jesus' love with your children.

* Mrs. Kaja Mueller



Youth Happenings

Confirmation

Classes on Wednesday, January 13th

6th Grade Lecture

Exile

The Northern tribe of Israel was exiled in 721 BC by the Assyrians. The Southern tribe of Judah was exiled by the Babylonians in 587 BC. The Lord sent prophets to His people and other nations before, during and after the exile. Daniel is one of the most recognizable prophets who lived in Babylon during the exile.

MEMORY DUE: Psalm 118:1

7th Grade Small Group

The Lord's Prayer

"Hallowed be Thy Name." What does this mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray that in this petition that it may be kept holy among us. Again, what is a Petition? A request made of God.

HOMEWORK DUE: none

MEMORY DUE: none

8th Grade Small Group

The 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed
The 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed is about the 3rd person of the Holy Trinity: God the Holy Spirit. "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

HOMEWORK DUE: none

MEMORY DUE: none

MEASUREMENTS FOR ROBES: Weds, Jan. 20th
(next week during class)

High School Youth

"Pack for College"

Friday, January 22nd

6-8 pm

Dinner & packing College Care packages

Sign up in the church office.



Confirmation Kings Party
THIS WEEKEND— Sun, Jan. 10th
11:30 am—1:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

We'll eat lunch (provided), have our gift exchange, enjoy a piece of King's Cake and learn the tradition behind the cake and the surprise inside.

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...*)



Jesus is born!
Let us rejoice!



Youth Winter Retreat

Confirmation IDE Winter Retreat & Sno-Olympics

For all 6th, 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students

6:45 pm on Friday, January 29th until Saturday, January 30th at 4:15 pm

We'll carpool together to Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in Solon.

Parents if you'd like to be a chaperone or driver, please contact Kara.

Registration forms are due **Weds, Jan. 20th**. Additional registration forms can be found in the church office.

Cost is \$45 per student. Please make checks payable to "Our Redeemer Lutheran Church" with "Confirmation Retreat" on the memo line.

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)	Peter Adelsen, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Larry Freeman, 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 redemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)

2016 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

Each family of the Our Redeemer flock is assigned alphabetically by last name to an elder to insure each family is prayed for and feels they "have an elder". It is the sincere feeling of the Board of Elders that we are to love and be of service equally to the entire body of believers. We encourage any one of you to contact any one of us so we can share your spiritual journey, ideas or concerns.

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.