



# Reflections



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
And Preschool**

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

Email: [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org)  
[www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org)

Weekly Newsletter - January 6/7, 2018

~ Epiphany ~

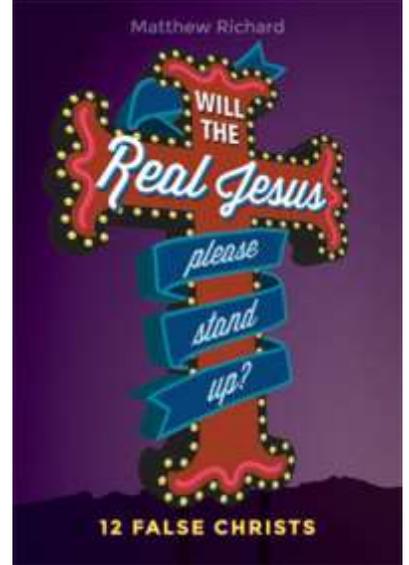
## WILL THE REAL JESUS PLEASE STAND UP?

January 7-March 25  
Sunday Mornings (12 sessions)  
9:30 am-10:15 am

When is the last time you stepped up to the counter and ordered one medium-size Jesus, extra generous, and heavy on the bling? Or maybe you like your Jesus supersized! No? Perhaps you prefer yours extra small, and hold the onion, please.

Here is the same question: When's the last time you took a hammer and a chisel to the Jesus of the Bible and formed Him into your own personal Jesus?

*Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?* not only reminds us who the real Jesus of the Bible is, but it also reveals to us twelve false christs who are embraced, loved, promoted, and revered—even by well-meaning Christians.





Treats between services are being provided by Dave and Cynthia Fruendt for our gratitude to God for placing us 50 years ago in a wonderful church family. God put us exactly where He wanted us. If you haven't heard the story . . . As we were signing our marriage certificate, Pastor handed me (Cynthia) transfer of membership papers. Pastor said it's a great congregation; you will love it. He was right.

## Sunday School SCHEDULE

- 9:15 am Music Preschool B—4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School
- 9:30 am Sunday School Preschool A-4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 10:00 am Music 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades
- 10:15 am Sunday School/Music Ends

January 7—**God Sends the Holy Spirit** Acts 2:1-21

At Pentecost, God sent the Holy Spirit to His Church. Through Word and Sacrament, God gives us His Holy Spirit to create and sustain saving faith in Jesus.



The Human Care Committee will again be sponsoring the Mitten Tree, collecting hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for

school children who are without. Please bring your contributions to the church office to place under the Mitten Tree by January 7.

Contact Twyla Freeman with any questions you might have at 530-2371 or taf13146@ourredeemer.org.



## 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.



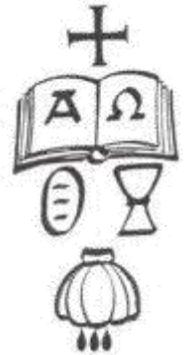
January 10  
6:00 pm

Chicken tetrazzini  
Salad  
French bread  
Dessert  
Drinks

## BASICS OF THE FAITH

**February 2-3, 2018**

**Fri. 7 – 9 pm; Sat. 8:30 – 2:30 pm**

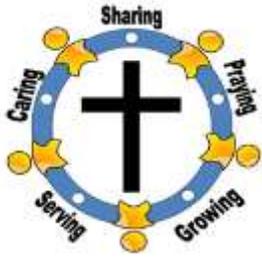


Appropriately titled, this course begins a six unit examination of the basics of the Christian faith. Taken from the Bible and as understood by the Lutheran Church, we will explore the role of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The revelation of God through the Bible and the role of the catechism 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. Let the office know if you are interested in attending, either as a review or in preparation for becoming a member at Our Redeemer.

## Stephen Ministry:

Stephen Ministry: Why are we ashamed to ask for help? As much as we like to think we're in control there are times when we can use the support of others. Our Stephen Ministers are trained to listen in confidence and offer encouragement as you work your way through whatever is bothering you. We won't judge or advise. We'll just meet privately once a week to pray, support, and walk with you as God's healing takes place. To see how we may help, please call Pastor Hartwig (319-338-5626), or one of our Stephen Leaders: Bill Benson (517-881-9848), Marcia Hulse (319-351-7059), Kathy Schweer (319-466-3084), Kevin Sellers (319-631-8924).





**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 Event for Small Group Ministry ...*



Join us at Our Redeemer on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for this year's marriage retreat!

We will be watching and discussing a DVD series "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage". In this DVD series, Mark Gungor explores the underlying dynamics of male/female relationships, combining striking clarity and practical solutions to common relationship woes. Mark's humor makes his teaching enjoyable, effective and memorable, helping husbands and wives remember these insights and immediately put them to work.

Through this DVD experience, couples will laugh, learn, and be able to make real positive changes to their marriages.

Details:

Friday evening: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm with light snacks/drinks provided

Saturday 9:00 am – 2:30 pm with continental breakfast and lunch provided

Cost: \$30.00 to cover the cost of "Becoming Compatible" book for each couple.

Contact Denise Holida at [smallgroups@ourredeemer.org](mailto:smallgroups@ourredeemer.org) with any questions.

Registrations forms in the church office; please sign up by January 15<sup>th</sup>!



Looking for something? Maybe this is your location:

- ⇒ Crisis Center box in the office
- ⇒ Portals of Prayer & literature rack in office
- ⇒ Offering envelopes in the fellowship hall
- ⇒ Coffee and treats in the fellowship hall
- ⇒ Nametags in the fellowship hall



Room 208

## 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.”

What are the differences between Lutherans and Calvinists, and do they really matter?

In *Wittenberg vs. Geneva*, Brian Thomas provides a Biblical defense of the key doctrines that have divided the Lutheran and Reformed traditions for nearly five centuries.

To get to the heart of the matter, Pastor Thomas focuses solely upon those crucial scriptural texts that have led Lutheran and Reformed scholars down different paths to disparate conclusions as he spars with popular Calvinist theologians from the past and the present.



## CHALLENGE

February 11, 2018  
Following Late Service

### What is the Trivia Challenge?

Trivia Challenges are informal, fun competitions where teams battle to see who has the greatest knowledge of trivia.

Everybody brings appetizers, answers general knowledge and trivia questions asked by the trivia host, and enjoys the fellowship of the group whether or not they are good at Trivia.



## Lutheran Family Service

**Building Healthy Families:** *After taking this class I am a more confident caregiver! Having tools to resolve problems is a definite advantage in becoming a better caregiver and a happier, wiser, and healthier me... and a healthier us!* The woman who wrote these words participated in LFS' 6-week Powerful Tools for Caregivers class, designed for anyone providing physical care or emotional support for disabled or elderly family members. LFS has trained group facilitators all over the state ready to lead this helpful group for caregivers in your area. Visit the LFS web site or contact Rev. Mick Wolfram ([mwolfram@LFSiowa.org](mailto:mwolfram@LFSiowa.org) or 515-251-4900) for more information.

Lutheran Family Service  
Learn more at [LFSiowa.org](http://LFSiowa.org)

Date	Topic (7:00 – 9:00 pm)
January 18	Baptism Saves
February 12	The Lord's Supper – Part I
March 22	The Lord's Supper – Part II
April 26	Kept in the True Faith

Our Redeemer Preschool Weekly Newsletter  
**Classes Resume January 8**

Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller      Assistants, Sheena White M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH  
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949      www.ourredeemerpreschool.org      preschool@ourredeemer.org



Preschool has enjoyed two weeks of Christmas break  
**Classes Resume January 8, 2018.**

**Shop Online: [scholastic.com/readingclub](http://scholastic.com/readingclub)**

**Class Code: MQWNQ**



Our Redeemer Preschool takes place in ordering books through Scholastic Book Club, online. Anyone can submit their order online. Kaja Mueller will place the order on a designated Friday. Every purchase you make earns FREE books and educational supplies for our preschool classroom. The arrival of the book box is always a highlight. Happy reading!

**Ordering online is fast and easy: [scholastic.com/readingclub](http://scholastic.com/readingclub)**

- **ENTER** the one-time Class Activation Code (MQWNQ)
- **SHOP** from a carefully curated selection of the best books
- **SUBMIT** your order and earn FREE Books for our classroom
- All book orders will be shipped to our classroom so we can celebrate the joy of reading together!



There is a box outside the preschool where you can drop off items. If it is a larger item, please contact Kaja Mueller, Director. Preschool will receive 50% of the profit from these donated items that are sold at Stuff. All items given to Stuff will be a donation if they cannot sell them. If desired, you can make an appointment on your own and donate up to two storage tubs full of items on your own. *Consigner No. #38168*



**SHEENA WHITE**  
M/W/F Assistant



**KAJA MUELLER**  
Director/Teacher



**SARA CROSS**  
T/Th Assistant



VISION  
20/20  
*Eye on the Future*

# RENOVATIONS CONTINUE

## What's happening?

### ASBESTOS REMOVAL MOVING ALONG

Asbestos removal has moved into the narthex area. **Please heed the warning signs and do not disturb the contained areas.** The narthex will be done in two sections so you may find the front entrance closed later in the week. Access should be made through the lower doors when that happens and use the elevator or stairs to gain the second floor. Office entry will be through back office door next to the elevator during this time.

### ATTENTION VENDORS!!!

On Saturday, March 24, 2018, Iowa District East is hosting an Early Childhood Educators Conference at Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha from 8:00am – 3:00 pm. We would like to offer our Early Childhood Directors and their staff the opportunity to do some shopping while at the conference. The minimum requirement is that the vendor is a member of an LCMS congregation. If you would like to participate or have more questions, please contact Jan Doellinger, Assistant to the President – Schools at 319-721-8014 or by email: [jdoellinger@lcmside.org](mailto:jdoellinger@lcmside.org)

### STORAGE SAFETY

When the initial Vision 20/20 projects began this summer, there was a need to find storage space for items impacted by the projects. This need led to an ongoing review of how currently designated storage areas of the church can be used more effectively and safely. One safety feature is the placement of black and yellow safety tape on areas of the floors to indicate the floor must be kept clear for accessibility as well as safety. Please, do not leave any items (even temporarily) in the areas marked with this tape. If you have storage questions, call Henry Diggelmann 319-594-6832 or Linda Diggelmann 319-594-6908.



### HAWAIIAN SHIRTS FOR DEPLOYED SOLDIERS

With Rob Ghabel presently deployed, Sarah has become interested in supporting the troops in an effort started by a military mom to send Hawaiian shirts to deployed soldiers. It has been a very successful morale builder and reminder that folks at home care. If anyone has good condition adult Hawaiian shirts to give, new or used, please drop them in the box in the office. Sarah will make sure they are forwarded to the coordinator. Money for shipping is also very useful.

# Youth Happenings

## Confirmation Classes (6<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

**Wednesday, January 10**

CONFIRMATION CLASSES RESUME

6:00 pm Midweek Meal  
*Midweek Meal Crew: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
(Holman—Schrader)*

6:45 pm Confirmation Classes

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade—Small Group**

Unit 2: God's Grace to His People Israel  
**The Poetic Books of the Old Testament**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade—Small Group**

The Lord's Prayer  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Petitions**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Lecture**

The Apostle's Creed—the 3<sup>rd</sup> Article  
**The Holy Spirit**

**CONFIRMATION VERSE DUE:** Weds, January 10

**EXAM:** Weds, January 17

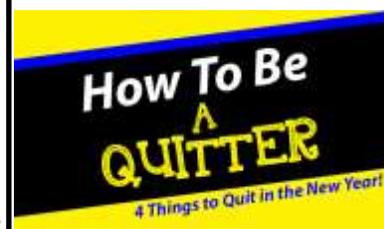
## High School

**UKANDU**

**Summer Servant Event**

**Initial Meeting**

Sunday, January 14  
Following late service  
*Starting around 12 pm*  
Room 208/210



**High School Midweek**  
*4 week session*

Starts on Wednesday,  
January 10 at 6:45 pm

Youth Room

Looking ahead...

**Confirmation Winter Retreat & Kings Party**

Friday, January 26—Saturday, January 27  
Location will be a local area hotel

For all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation students

PARENTS: We need several parents to chaperone this overnight event. If you're available, email Kara at [youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org)



## Youth Family Ski Day



*For all Confirmation and High School Youth and their families*

**Monday, January 15**

**All Day (8:00 am to 6:00 pm)**

**We will be carpooling to Chestnut Mountain.**

Sign up at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C4FA8A62AA2FA7-youth4](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C4FA8A62AA2FA7-youth4)

**Payment Due: Sunday, January 7**  
*\$48/person (lift, ski rental & group lesson)*

## 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](mailto:prayerchain@ourredeemer.org)      Special Announcements Line: 338-3505

<u>STAFF &amp; EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>STAFF &amp; EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>
Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor <a href="mailto:bhartwig@ourredeemer.org">bhartwig@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director <a href="mailto:preschool@ourredeemer.org">preschool@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Luke Scheele, Vicar <a href="mailto:vicar@ourredeemer.org">vicar@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)	Sara Cross, Preschool Assistant <a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool)
Sarah Gabel, Bookkeeper <a href="mailto:bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org">bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)	Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator <a href="mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org">youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)
Denise Holida Director of Small Group Ministry <a href="mailto:smallgroups@ourredeemer.org">smallgroups@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)	Louise Klopp, Director of Choirs <a href="mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org">choirdirector@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)
Marilyn Paetz, Organist <a href="mailto:organist@ourredeemer.org">organist@ourredeemer.org</a>	351-4262 (home)	Marnie Schrader, Children's Ministry <a href="mailto:childrensministry@ourredeemer.org">childrensministry@ourredeemer.org</a>	319-530-1563 (cell)
Kevin Sellers Director of Technology <a href="mailto:technology@ourredeemer.org">technology@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 631-8924 (cell)	Laurel Sellers, Office Coordinator <a href="mailto:redemer@ourredeemer.org">redemer@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)
Sheena White, Preschool Assistant <a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool)		

### 2018 Board of Elders

Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Vaughn Davisson	319-648-4660
Jim Eick	338-1293
Skip Kempnich	351-5297
Eric Kooker	339-0175
Val Penney	354-1453
Denny Schrader	461-7318
Arlan Thompson	338-2938
Marty Wenck	330-2761

### 2018 Board of Directors

President	Alan Meyer	319-461-1748
Vice President	Myrl Holida	319-351-4301
Secretary	Jennifer Kooker	319-339-0175
Treasurer	Larry Freeman	319-400-8356
Board of Elders		
Properties	Dave Johnson	319-333-9606
At Large	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
	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 20<sup>th</sup> 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. For more information on Lutheran Hour Ministries go to [www.LHM.org](http://www.LHM.org).

### 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.