



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 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—4th Grade
5th-8th Grade Sunday School
- 9:30 am Sunday School Preschool A-4th Grade
- 10:00 am Music 5th-8th 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 19th and 20th 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 with any questions.

Registrations forms in the church office; please sign up by January 15th!



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.

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



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 or 515-251-4900) for more information.

Lutheran Family Service
Learn more at LFSiowa.org

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

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

- **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

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 Gabel 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 (6th—8th Grades)

Wednesday, January 10

CONFIRMATION CLASSES RESUME

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

6:45 pm Confirmation Classes

6th Grade—Small Group

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

7th Grade—Small Group

The Lord's Prayer
2nd & 3rd Petitions

8th Grade—Lecture

The Apostle's Creed—the 3rd 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 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation students

PARENTS: We need several parents to chaperone this overnight event. If you're available, email Kara at 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

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 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, Preschool Director preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Luke Scheele, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Sara Cross, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)
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)	Marnie Schrader, Children's Ministry childrensministry@ourredeemer.org	319-530-1563 (cell)
Kevin Sellers Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 631-8924 (cell)	Laurel Sellers, Office Coordinator redemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Sheena White, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	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 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. For more information on Lutheran Hour Ministries go to 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.