



Reflections



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
And Preschool**

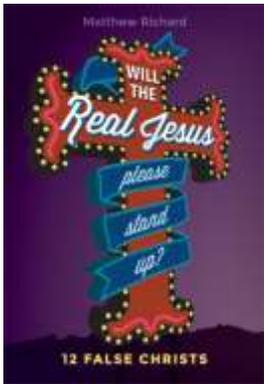
First Avenue and Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
Phone: 319-338-5626

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

Weekly Newsletter - January 13/14, 2018

~ *Second Sunday after the Epiphany* ~

WILL THE REAL JESUS PLEASE STAND UP?



Through March 25
Sunday Mornings
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.



The **DEADLINE** for letting Pastor know that you are interested in going on the Disney trip during the week of July 15-21 is **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17**. You can join the group for all or part of the trip.

Office closed Monday,
January 15



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 14—*Peter and John Heal the Lame Man* Acts 3

We are all lame beggars before God. Through the Means of Grace—God's Word and Sacraments—God gives us faith to believe in Jesus as our Savior and grants us forgiveness, the cure for all sin.



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



The LWML will hold their 23rd Tasting Bee on Saturday, April 7, 2018. This year's theme for the Tasting Bee is: "Music and Memories". We all have our own favorite music or songs from church, our school days (Grade/Jr. High/High School/College), our team's fight song, music to relax us, etc.--for so many of us, music is the soundtrack to our lives, and so many memories come flooding back every time we hear that special music.

Please consider attending the Tasting Bee for "just a taste" of what all the good cooks in our church bring. Also--please consider decorating a table, bringing a dish and recipe to share, or helping in the kitchen. There will be tables set up in the Narthex beginning February 4th to sign up if you would like to decorate a table, bring a dish/recipe to share, or help in the kitchen. Thanks to everyone who has contributed and attended in the past. It is a fun day with so many amazing tables and the BEST food ever!!



Thank you to everyone for their cards and well wishes on our 50th Anniversary last weekend. We are truly blessed to be a part of the Our Redeemer family.

~Cynthia & David Freundt

BASICS OF THE FAITH

February 2-3, 2018
Friday 7 – 9 pm
Saturday 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.



CHALLENGE

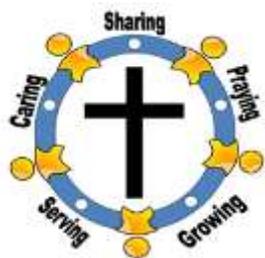
February 11, 2018
Following Late Service

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.

Sign up in the office!



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 ...



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!



DISCIPLESHIP SERIES: FREE IN CHRIST, FREE TO SERVE

January 17, 24, 31, February 7

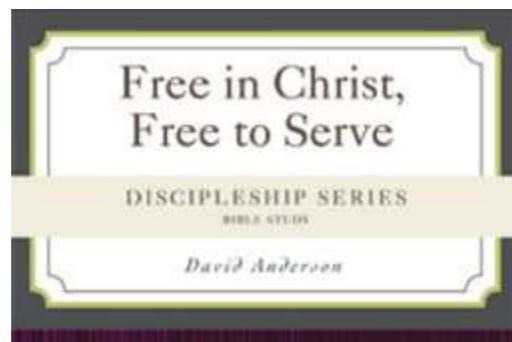
Wednesday nights

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31–32

This course is one of several adult Bible studies in the *Discipleship Series*. The purpose of this series is to help Christians dig into Scripture to explore some of the primary teachings of Christ Jesus. That's how disciples are made--by the power of His Word.

What does it mean to be free in Christ and free to serve? In this study you will learn about the bondage of sin and its power. You will also study how Christ has set us free from the consequences of sin.





Room 208

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.



FROM THE COMFORT-TIERS:

FYI: The Comfort-tiers made and distributed 1020 quilts and 140 baby quilts this year thanks to all who donated money during our coffee hours and also with donated linens of all sorts and sizes! We thank you muchly! We could not have done half this amount without you and Thrivent Action Teams.

Also, because someone asked and I was curious, too, I found I hadn't kept track in the late 70's when we started, but we met only once a month during the winter and aimed for 100/year. Sometimes we didn't make that goal. Lillian joined us in late 2001 and, long story short, we have made at least 9984 quilts, 1411 baby quilts and 40 lap robes. I pray that they went to needed places in the world... Thy Will Continue To Be Done!

Carol Schuldt <><><> Come and tie with us! We have many ready for fingers to knot!

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



JOIN OUR REDEEMER KIDS-MAKE A NOISY OFFERING!

Noisy offerings will be collected during the Saturday, January 20 and Sunday, January 21 services. The children of the congregation are asked to bring their offerings that they have collected in the banks that they were given during the *Immeasurably More* campaign. "Big kids" are encouraged to throw their loose change in the buckets as well during this second offering to help the *Immeasurably More* receipts grow. As the banks are emptied and coins put in the bucket, it makes a clanging noise and that is why it is called the "Noisy Offering." Yes, we are making a joyful noise unto the Lord! (Psalm 66:1)



A group of Our Redeemer friends have reserved group tickets for "Murdered By The Mob" Dinner Theatre at the Old Creamery Theatre for Saturday, February 24th. The event will be held in the newly opened Price Creek Event Center in Amana. A fantastic Italian feast will be served with a heaping side of mob bosses, murder, and merriment. Group tickets are just \$46.00/person. Seating begins at 6:00 pm, show starts at 6:30 pm. Dinner choices will be meat lasagna, vegetarian lasagna, or a gluten free option. Contact Denise Holida before February 1st if you would like to join us for a fun evening at 319-930-0165 or email smallgroups@ourredeemer.org.

Our Redeemer Preschool Weekly Newsletter

January 8-12, 2018

Happy New Year

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



No School Monday, January 15th
due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Pajama day was great! We all had fun talking about what we were wearing and being warm and comfy.

We talked about nocturnal animals and what they do at night.

CIRCLE TIME

Letter Ss

Number six 6

READING CENTER

Sleep and night time

Bookmobile pics

CRAFT TIME

Trace and paint stars

Pajama designs

TEACHER TIME

Letter S write and sound

JESUS TIME

The Wiseman followed a star and gave three gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We have the Bible and give to others as Christ freely gave us forgiveness.

Ss



S



Line and a loop,
Six rolls a hoop!

Monthly Snack Prayer

Thank, Thank, Thank You God
(Sung to Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Thank, Thank, Thank You God,
Thank You now we pray,
You have given all we need,
To live through everyday.



Shop Online: scholastic.com/readingclub

Class Code:

MQWNQ

SCHOLASTIC DUE
January 18 & 19

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*



VISION
20/20
Eye on the Future

RENOVATIONS CONTINUE

What's happening?

ASBESTOS REMOVAL MOVING ALONG

Asbestos removal will move to the other part of the narthex. **Please heed the warning signs and do not disturb the contained areas.** The second section of the narthex is expected to begin removal this week, closing the main entrance. 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.

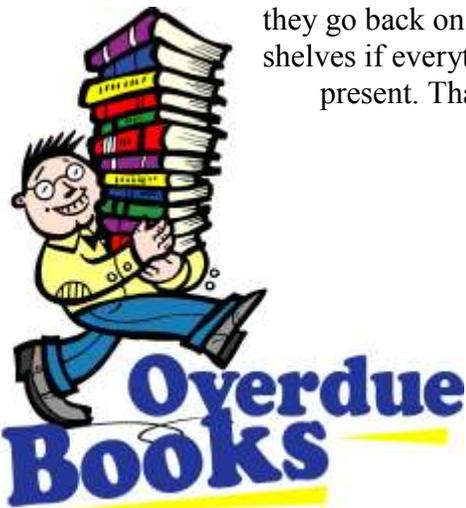


STORAGE SAFETY

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.



Just a reminder that there is a box under the sign up table in the office to return those overdue materials for the library. Things can be put in better order when they go back on the shelves if everything is present. Thanks!



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 17th at 6:45 pm

6th Grade—Lecture

Unit 2: God's Grace to His People Israel

Poetic Books

MEMORY WORK: Psalm 118:1

7th Grade—Lecture

The Lord's Prayer

4th & 5th Petitions

8th Grade—Small Group

The Apostle's Creed

EXAM: Wednesday, January 17

CONFIRMATION PAPER ROUGH DRAFT DUE:

Weds, February 7

High School

UKANDU

Summer Servant Event Initial Meeting

*For all 8th—12th grade
Youth & their parents*

Sunday, January 14

Following late service
Starting around 12 pm

Room 208/210



Youth Family Ski Day

For those who signed up for the Ski trip...



Meet at church
at **8:00 am**
on **Monday, January 15**
to carpool
to Chestnut Mountain



Confirmation Winter Retreat

Friday, January 26—Saturday, January 27
Comfort Suites, Coralville

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

FORMS & PAYMENT DUE:
Sunday, January 21

High School Midweek
Wednesdays
at 6:45 pm
January 17, 31 &
February 7
Youth Room



College Care Packages will be packed January 24

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 (Chair)	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	Arlan Thompson	319-338-2938
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.