



The Parish Beacon

Volume 39– No. 5

May 2018

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ –

There is a parable told in India about the selfish man who inherited a rice field. The first year the man irrigated the field and it was fruitful. The water, in fact, flowed into his neighbor's field and this too produced a bountiful harvest.

But the next year the selfish man decided: Why should I let this water flow through my field into his? Water is precious and I must keep it. So he built a dam. This prevented the water from flowing into his neighbor's field, but it proved disastrous to his own crop as well. Irrigation water nourished the field only if it flowed. When it did not move because of the dam, the water became stagnant and the field a swamp.

We own no rice fields. Still the parable is clear. Think of what we have inherited from God. Think of all He has given us. If we are selfish and keep it all for ourselves, our lives become stagnant, a dismal swamp of mere existence. ***But if we give back to God by giving to others, both the giver and the receiver share in the fruits of God's love.*** I saw two clear examples of this principle in the last week.

First is the Vicarage program. Peter Adelsen served as Vicar here and now he serves as Pastor in Minnesota. Andrew Wolfgram served as Vicar here and now he will be installed as Pastor in South Dakota. Soon (okay, not until July 29th), Vicar Sheele will return to the seminary and Vicar Otterman will arrive. You, the members of Our Redeemer, have been able to give to others – our Vicars – and now they are sharing the fruit of God's love with others across this country. What a joy it is to be part of the Vicarage program!

Second is this facility we call Our Redeemer. During the construction we have learned the joy of sharing – sharing one room, one Fellowship Hall for worship, for fellowship, for classes, for coffee hour, for quilting, for everything. Like the water that flowed and was shared with the neighbor, by sharing one room we are not becoming stagnant. Creative and thought-out solutions are achieved.

Soon we will have our facility back. May 12th and 13th are set aside for celebrating and commissioning the sanctuary, chapel, and gathering place. We know the facility will not be 100% complete on this weekend. Nevertheless, we will celebrate and commission. On the 12th there will be a 12 hour prayer vigil in the chapel. We would like every member to commit to 30 minutes of prayer in the chapel that day. Details and a sign-up sheet are coming. During worship on the 12th and 13th we will consecrate the new places to God's ministry. These places are not ours, but God's. Therefore, it is important that we remember: ***If we give back to God by giving to others, both the giver and the receiver share in the fruits of God's love.***

May God continue to richly bless you!
Pastor Hartwig

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

MAY ACTIVITIES

- 1 Christ Cares Committee 7:00pm
- 2 Bible Study 11:00am
Lunch Bunch 12:00pm
Preschool Board 1:30pm
Praise Band Rehearsal 6:45pm
- 3 Comfort-Tiers 9:00am
Board of Elders 7:00pm
- 5-7 Stephen Ministry Retreat
- 6 Sunday School 9:15am/ Adult Bible Class 9:30am
- 7 Youth Committee 6:00pm
Stephen Ministry Training 6:45pm
Children's Ministry 7:00pm
Mission Committee 7:00pm
- 8 Preschool Open House 6:30pm
- 9 Properties Committee 6:00pm
UKANDU Leader Meeting 6:00pm
- 10 Board of Directors 7:00pm
- 12 Prayer Vigil 5:30am-5:30pm
Men's Bible Study 8:00am
- 13 Sunday School 9:15am/ Adult Bible Class 9:30am
- 14 Outreach Committee 6:30pm
- 15 Stephen Ministry Peers-Marcia/Skip 6:30pm
Assimilation Committee 7:00pm
Disney Meeting 7:00pm
- 16 Bible Study 11:00am
Lunch Bunch 12:00pm
Praise Band Rehearsal 6:45pm
- 17 Parade of Homes Volunteers 5:30pm
- 19 Graduation Breakfast Prep TBA
- 20 Graduation Breakfast 9:15am
Emma's Grad Party—Congregation Invited 3-7pm
- 21 LWML Ladies Night Out 6:00pm
Elders—Staff Evaluations 6:30pm
- 22 LLL Meeting 7:30pm
- 23 UKANDU Meeting 6:00pm

- 24-25 Preschool Year End Celebration
- 26 Men's Bible Study 8:00am
- 27 VBS Sunday School 9:30am
Adult Bible Study 9:30am
- 28 MEMORIAL DAY, Office Closed
- 30 Bible Study 11:00am
Lunch Bunch 12:00pm
- 31 Christ Cares Committee 7:00pm



- 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
- April 29 - ***Sin Enters the World*** Genesis 3
Through Adam, sin spreads to all people. Through Christ, God offers forgiveness to all people.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30pm Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am
Communion on May 5, 6, 19, 20

Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am
*Need more tiers anytime between 9:00 am to noon
No expertise or materials required -Coffee provided*

Choir rehearsal Wednesdays
6:45pm

Praise Team Practice schedule varies—
Contact Myrl Holida myrl-holida@uiowa.edu or
Louise Klopp choirdirector@ourredeemer.org

Watch *Reflections* for information on:



GRAD BREAKFAST
Sunday, May 20



LLL Meeting
May 22
7:30 pm
Fellowship Hall



Open House
Congregation is Invited
3:00-7:00pm
Fellowship Hall

Ladies Night Out
The Vine, Coralville
Monday, May 15
6:00pm



VBS Sunday School
May 27
9:30 am
Fellowship Hall



Chapel
May 12
5:30am-5:30 pm



Basics of the Faith
June 1, 7-9pm
June 2,
8:30am-2:30pm



Stephen Ministry
Retreat
May 5-7



June 3
8:00am Worship
9:30-11:30am Servant Events
12:00pm Lunch



Sanctuary/Gathering
Place Dedication
All Services May 12/13

Dedication of the Sanctuary and Gathering Place



The Unveiling

May 12 & 13

Blessing of the Sanctuary & Narthex

Coffee in the Gathering Place

(More details to come)



Snacks and Coffee in the “Gathering Place”

(new narthex/library)

Soon we’ll be able to share time together in the Gathering Place (new narthex/library area) where we’ll be able to foster fellowship and community and nurture a welcoming atmosphere for each other and our visitors. After 8:00 service, we will continue to gather for snacks and beverages before Sunday School and Bible Class begin. Our surroundings will be new and the choices for snacks and beverages will change slightly. We are asking those who serve after 8:00 service to limit snacks to fruits, cookies **OR** donut holes, and crackers & cheese. With this same selection each Sunday, those who volunteer to provide snacks and beverages will know exactly what to prepare. We all need to be respectful of the amount of snacks we take to ensure there is enough food for everyone.



Each Sunday, our coffee time will provide members of the congregation with a service opportunity. Volunteers who sign up in advance as individuals, couples, or groups will be asked to provide the selected snacks and beverages, as well as serve beverages at the counter in the Gathering Place (new narthex/library). With everyone’s help, we can count on having snacks and beverages each week and enjoy our time socializing. Those providing snacks and beverages may be reimbursed by using the donated monies and/or designate to what group or cause the money should be given.

Please get together with other members and consider signing up for a Sunday starting in May by contacting Sharon Hintze (351-5873 or d.hintze@mchsi.com). She can give you more details.

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

We are moving to South Dakota! I have been called to serve as pastor of St. John’s Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church in Groton and Andover, SD. We are excited to make this transition in the next few months. The church has a parsonage, so it will be easy to move in once the current pastor retires and we don’t need to find a house. Classes have helped pass the time getting to Call Day and now we are looking forward to Graduation May 18. It was a joy to see Pastor, Kara, Kevin and Laurel after the service and get connected again. Congratulations on your Vicar-elect Josh Otterman and we pray for a smooth transition between Vicar Scheele moving back to St. Louis and Otterman’s moving up to Iowa City this coming summer. Pastor has graciously invited me to preach, and it is my joy to share God’s Word with you Memorial Day weekend. Cassie and I look forward to seeing you all again. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers as we finish up the year and make the transition to South Dakota to see what God has in store for us there. Blessings!



In Christ,
Andrew Wolfgram (Our Redeemer vicar 2016-2017)

April 20-22

24 Students
13 Adults

Photos by
Art Schwarting &
Vicar Scheele

Spring Confirmation Trip to St. Paul - They are off!



Dining at
IKEA



Leisure
Time



Story Time



History Museum



Mall of America



Sunday Worship



Tour - Concordia,
St. Paul

St. Paul Cathedral



Our Redeemer Preschool

For children ages 3-5 years

Open House

May 8, 2018

6:30pm-7:30pm



- ♥ Meet the staff
- ♥ Explore our classroom
- ♥ Create a craft
- ♥ Talk to current preschool parents
- ♥ Ask questions
- ♥ Enroll your child for the fall



Ask about our 5 days, 3 days, 2 days, and extended care options.

2301 East Court Street, Iowa City, IA 52245
preschool@ourredeemer.org
www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org

(319) 338-3949



Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade

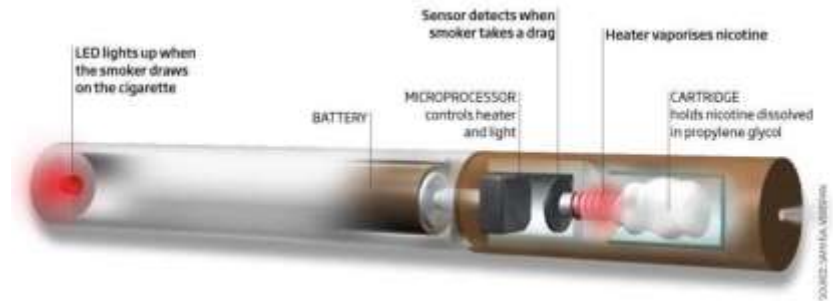
Children's Coordinator Marnie Schrader mvschrader@icloud.com (319) 530-1563

Children's Choir



Sunday School Sunday





Erica Davisson, Committee Chair

E-Cigarette Ads and Youth

About 2.4 million middle and high school students were current (past 30-day) users of electronic cigarettes, or e-cigarettes, in 2014. Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which causes addiction, may harm brain development, and could lead to continued tobacco product use among youth. Tobacco product advertising can entice youth to use tobacco, and spending to advertise e-cigarettes has increased rapidly since 2011. About 69% of middle and high school students were exposed to e-cigarette advertisements in retail stores, on the Internet, in magazines/newspapers, or on TV/movies. Exposure to e-cigarette advertisements may be contributing to increases in e-cigarette use among youth. Efforts by states, communities, and others could reduce this exposure.

Problem: Youth are vulnerable to e-cigarette ads.

18 million youth were exposed to e-cigarette ads in 2014.

- More than 10 million high school students and nearly 8 million middle school students were exposed to e-cigarette ads in 2014.
- More than half of high school students (about 8 million) saw e-cigarette ads in retail stores, and more than 6 million saw them on the Internet.
- More than half of middle school students (6 million) saw e-cigarettes ads in retail stores, and more than 4 million saw them on the Internet.
- About 15% of all students reported seeing e-cigarette ads from all four sources, including retail stores, the Internet, magazines/newspapers, and TV/movies.

Exposure to e-cigarette ads may contribute to youth e-cigarette use:

- E-cigarette companies have rapidly increased advertising spending, from \$6.4 million in 2011 to \$115 million in 2014.
- Many of the themes used in advertising for cigarettes are also now used to advertise e-cigarettes – including independence and rebellion.
- During the time e-cigarette ads have increased, there are also increases in e-cigarette use among US youth. From 2011-2014, e-cigarette use in the past 30 days increased from less than 1% to almost 4% among middle school students and from less than 2% to 13% among high school students.

Parents and caregivers can:

- Set a positive example by being tobacco-free. For free help, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit www.smokefree.gov
- Talk to youth about why they shouldn't use any tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.
- Know what media their children are viewing, and decide what programs and websites are appropriate for their age. Watch programs together and discuss content.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). *E-cigarette ads and youth*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/ecigarette-ads/index.html>

Lasting Bee 2018

Music and Memories

April 7, 2018

Tasting Bee Committee:

Jennifer Kooker
 Donna Saehler
 Sandy Wagner
 Lynne Westphal



Youth help deliver door prizes

Door Prize Chairs

Marilyn Kempnich & Melissa Mullane



Thrivent Action Team purchased supplies for Iowa City Hospice



Anita Nicholson with special guests from Swaziland



Kitchen Coordinator:
 Jennifer Kooker



Jewelry & card sales help support Swaziland parish nurses

Mission Recipients:
 Greg Barto, Seminarian
 Lutheran World Relief
 Swaziland Parish Nurses

Funds Raised: \$1,779.00

Pictures by Dianna Reuter



Breads/Desserts Chairs:
 Cynthia Freundt
 Sharon Hintze



GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW VICAR

Hello Our Redeemer!

My name is Joshua Otterman, and as of yesterday, I have been assigned to your congregation as your new vicar later this summer. My wife, Anna, and I want to introduce ourselves and our family to you. I am 30 years old. I grew up in Albert Lea, MN with my father, mother, and sister. After high school I attended Waldorf College (now Waldorf University) in Forest City, Iowa, where I met Anna. We married the summer after we graduated in 2011, almost seven years ago, and after a brief stint in Fairbanks, Alaska, we moved back to Albert Lea where I worked at Mrs. Gerry's Kitchen as a potato cook and Anna worked as a teacher at the local preschool. We lived in Albert Lea for four years before coming to seminary. We have two sons, Ender, who just turned five and Iden who will be nine months in May.

I enrolled at Concordia Seminary after having many conversations about faith with my co-workers, and I discovered that I felt most fulfilled when reading theology and having honest conversations with others about Jesus. Some of my favorite classes include Biblical Hermeneutics, Church & World, and Teaching the Faith. I am naturally an introvert, so these last three years have stretched me, and I am sure this year will too. I am excited to come and serve in Iowa City, and I am looking forward to learning many things from all of you. It will also be nice being a bit closer to Minnesota, and with grandparents in both Mason City and Clear Lake, I have always felt like Iowa was a home away from home.



Anna has been a stay at home mom since Ender was born. She wrote free lance for Lutheran Hour Ministries and started editing for them before Iden was born and has since enrolled to get her masters in English Literature. We homeschool, and Anna is very excited for all the programs and activities Iowa City has to offer. Anna is also a floral designer and loves to find work during busy times of the year at various flower shops. She even did a Hawkeye themed wedding years ago.

Ender is imaginative and loves to read. He loves being a big brother and is very

helpful in taking care of Iden. They are a comedy duo; big brother is the best at getting all the belly laughs from Iden, who is usually a laid back and happy baby. Ender is very excited to live closer to grandpas and grandmas and can't believe we "get our very own parking lot to play in." We are all very excited to have Our Redeemer as a new church family. I pray that you give me grace as I grow into the role as vicar, and I thank you now for your willingness to help shape me into the pastor I will become by the grace of God.

Blessings,

Josh, Anna, Ender, and Iden Otterman

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

**129 Pledges for
\$626,897.52**

**Cash in hand
\$446,148.85**

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



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

God Who Gives Us Wisdom

Ron (a man unknown to us) went through a crisis about a year ago. He had lost his focus as a Christian business man. He said he probably made every mistake a man could make. He tried to solve his problems with drinking. At first it was socially. Then it became an every day deal. It numbed him to the point that he could deal with the fear of failure, which then led to problems with his marriage and his family. He realized he was on the brink of disaster.

When he finally went to talk with his pastor, his pastor suggested a Stephen Minister. Ron admitted he didn't really know anything about Stephen Ministry. However, he agreed to have one.

Ron said that God worked through his Stephen Minister to help him refocus his life and that was the reason his marriage still exists, his company still exists, and that he is still here!

His Stephen Minister really helped set his feet back on the right path. As Ron met with his Stephen Minister faithfully each week, he was able to identify his problems, see what he was doing wrong, and then give his problems to God. It was God, who gave him everything he needed to succeed.

His caregiver really helped him re-focus his prayers. This in turn helped him change the way he was doing business totally from start to finish. Now, when he prays, he doesn't feel his prayers are bouncing off the ceiling. Now he feels that God is actually in charge and he has learned to give God the credit and glory. He had to make a lot of intentional decisions.

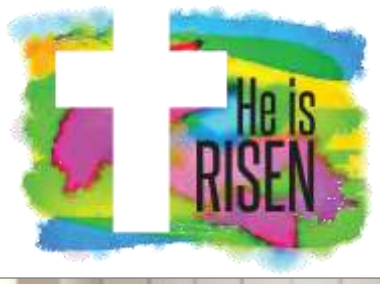
Ron never had any concerns about confidentiality. At the very beginning of his relationship with his caregiver, he was told that all of their conversations would be totally confidential and that anything he wanted to share would be kept between them. He never once had any doubts about it.

Having a caregiver was very meaningful for Ron. They met once a week for about a year and Ron actually looked forward to their time together. Because that time was so beneficial to him, he wanted to meet with his caregiver; he didn't want to miss a meeting. Ron knew his caregiver was there for him. He knew his caregiver was praying for him. Ron found himself praying for his caregiver too. It was a practical way to get reconnected with God and get focused again.

Ron's caregiver didn't tell him to make changes in his life. He didn't ask him to do anything. He was just there helping him find his focus again. And if he was going to succeed and make it through his issues, he had to have God back in his life. Ron made some intentional decisions that put him back in the right relationship with his Lord, which made all the difference in his world.

Ron would recommend anyone who is having issue in life, having difficulty coping with the pressures of life, at any level-financial, marital, whatever, not to wait. Seek help. Requesting or accepting a Stephen Ministry is a practical way to get God back into your life.

"If any of you is lacking wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you." James 1:5 NRSV)



Thank you to everyone who donated items for Easter Breakfast!



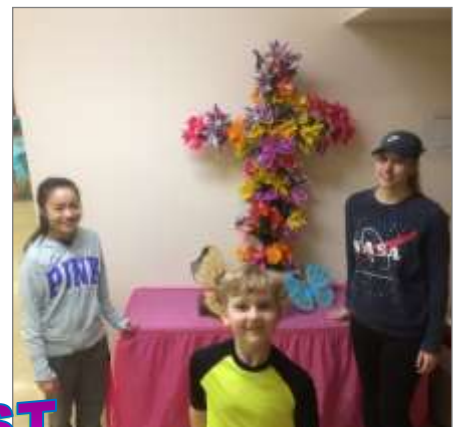
Youth and families prepare Saturday, then serve Easter breakfast



50 pounds of fresh fruit



Served 258 people



EASTER BREAKFAST

Hosted by
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH



50 dozen eggs



40 pounds sausage



36 pounds hashbrowns





March 28—A time of quiet and prayer. People come at their leisure between 11:00 am and 8:00 pm and visit as many or as few of the prayer centers as they choose.

Pictures by Diana Reuter



192 People attended





MAKE
music
 TO GOD

Easter Musicians

- Bell Choir
- Choir
- Trumpets
- Organ
- Piano
- Violin
- Praise Team



Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Released</u>	
Eric Rossow	4-2-2018



Building Healthy Families:

The truth hurts, or so they say, but lies hurt so much worse. Whether you are a teenager relating to your parent or a husband or wife relating to your

spouse, pledge to always be truthful even (and maybe most especially) when it would seem easier not to. Don't try to cover things up. Trust is eroded, which puts the relationship at great risk. *"We trap ourselves by telling lies, but we stay out of trouble by living right."* (Proverbs 12:13)

Lutheran Family Service
 LFSiowa.org



The 4th of July will be here before we know it. Julie Nieland is still willing to plan the float itself, but in order to have a float in the Coralville Parade, we will need someone to coordinate volunteers to build the float, walk in the parade, and dismantle the float. If you are interested and want more details, please talk to Marlene Thompson or Marilyn Kempnich from the Outreach Committee. This is a fun event for all those who participate.

Board of Directors Meeting - April 12

TREASURER'S REPORT-Larry Freeman

- March ended with total income of \$57,816 with expenses of \$51,498, net income of \$6318.
- YTD income \$159,762, expenses \$171,298 with deficit of -\$11,536.
- Immeasurably More giving
 - ◊ February \$8,419
 - ◊ Total campaign \$425,435
 - ◊ Construction loan started in April

ELDER'S REPORT-Arlan Thompson

- Still working on facility use policy
- Reinstating Elder assignments for Assimilation Committee to use with new members only. Our Redeemer members can continue to contact any Elder they wish.

AT-LARGE REPORTS

Jeff Kucera

- April 29th, a check will be presented to Crisis Center for Pancake Day benefit. Total amount approximately \$14,000.

Kevin Roiseland

- Attended Youth Committee meeting.

CHURCH PROPERTIES-Dave Johnson

- Working on description for a properties coordinator position (Money previously budgeted)
- Inside workday will be scheduled prior to May 12-13 dedication for new Narthex and Gathering Place). Outside workday in June to be scheduled.
- Rob West joined Properties Committee.
- Vision 2020 Update: Water lines have been run Narthex/Gathering Place to be completed May 5th (with exception of bookcases and furniture). May 12th will be a 12-hour prayer vigil in the new Chapel. Sign-ups upcoming in half hour increments.
- Reredos wall in sanctuary done by April 26-27.
- Next projects for Vision 2020 will be replacing air handlers for better heating and air conditioning. Fellowship Hall renovations begin in 2019.

STAFF REPORTS

Pastor Hartwig

- Confirmation: 8 confirmands. Excellent Spiritual Growth Event. Confirmands were well prepared.

- Spring confirmation trip has 37 signed up (24 kids/13 adults)
- Was in Florida last weekend to participate in nephew's confirmation.
- Church has reports of panhandlers (possibly same person). They are asking for gas money to get to Chicago to see father in hospital. Please be aware when money is given to panhandlers, the calls for help to church go up the next week. Whenever possible, direct person to Pastor for help.

Vicar Scheele

- Has started planning for Christ Cares – will be similar as past years.
- April 15 will be preaching at Trinity Lutheran in Coal Valley, IL (congregation has supported Vicar throughout seminary).
- Teardrop banners for Easter and Our Redeemer
- Confirmation is wrapping up April 18.

Kaja Mueller

- Open House May 8
- Registration for next year 8 MWF, 8TTh
- Silent Basket Auction April 14-29

Kara Hartwig

- Spiritual Growth Event went well.
- Easter Breakfast: 258 people served between 9:00-9:35 am. All food donated. All donations went directly to youth.
- NYG preview meeting last month. Explained prize accounts and ways to earn money for it. One way is Homebuilders Association Parade of Homes. Sign up to host house (2 weekends plus 2 days during week) – can earn \$200 for account.
- Graduation breakfast upcoming.

Marnie Schrader

- Sunday School Sunday and Teacher Appreciation April 15
- End of year Midweek celebration will be a Shine Your Light (Glo Sticks) instead of a carnival

Board of Directors Meeting - April 12 (continued)

- Summer Sunday School in planning stages- youth and adults will study select Genesis stories

AD-HOC COMMITTEES-Pastor Hartwig

- Dave Johnson working on Safety and Security Guidelines
- Sunday morning Snack and Coffee guidelines are being worked on for new narthex area
- Sanctity of Life articles appearing and discussing what Our Redeemer wants to do to represent the Sanctity of Life in the community



KUDOS

Our Redeemer's
Board of Directors recognizes

PAM WILSON, CHAIR
KELLY KUCERA, SHARON HINTZE, KARA HARTWIG,
LINDA DIGGELMANN AND CYNTHIA FRUENDT

for their creating the new guidelines for the use of
the new coffee area of the Gathering Place.

Thank you all!

The Human Garage

A car is not part of a garage because it is parked there. Interestingly, an unborn child has all of its own genetic code; completely separate from its mother. Every cell of its body is uniquely its own; different from its mother. There are two complete, separate bodies involved in pregnancy – the mother's and the baby's. Scientifically, while the unborn child is dependent upon its mother while in the womb, it is importantly the second body involved in the pregnancy. Like a plugged-in electric car in a garage, the unborn child is parked in the womb as a completely separate human being at the very beginning of its life at conception.

Our culture recognizes that mom and unborn child are separate human beings. In Illinois a pregnant woman who takes an illegal drug during pregnancy can be prosecuted for "delivering a controlled substance to a minor." In 2004 Congress passed the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act" which states if someone "intentionally kills or attempts to kill the unborn child ... should be punished for killing or attempting to kill a human being." Sadly, if someone attempts to kill the unborn while the mother is on her way to have an abortion that law says there should be punishment; however, when she arrives at the clinic a doctor can be paid for performing a legal procedure that will kill the same child. There is no consolation for the unborn child whether it is killed legally or illegally. Either way, the life of a unique, completely separate human being is taken from it.

A pregnant woman is as Biblically stated a woman "with child"; a unique child created and loved by God. Location, whether in a test tube or a mother's womb does not dictate the right for anyone to take away its right to life. We will continue to explore the "Right to Life" for both the unborn child and mother. The unborn child will soon enough be unplugged and exit from its "human garage", so to speak, to lead the life God has planned for it.

Please let us share these thoughts with our family and friends as we continue to create a "Culture of Life" here at Our Redeemer and within our families and community.

Life Quote: "When we see the unborn ... vulnerable, helpless, destined for destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help. And not because it is the right thing to do or the moral thing to do, but because it is the *Christ* thing to do. His hands that were pierced and His body that died and rose again were formed in a womb, giving value to all who have resided there." *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



Sanctity of
Human Life



2018-2019
SCHOOL YEAR
ENROLLMENT

To register for
the 2018-19
school year,
please fill out
our Enrollment
Form and
submit it to the
office with the
registration fee.
We are filling
up quickly!



Welcome, New Members

Welcome to the Dyson family!

Beckham, Chad, Hayden, Erin, Cade
Jace



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Family Approaches the Throne of Grace

Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to be the Way to heaven by His death and resurrection. Comfort and enliven us with Christ, the Truth, in Your Word and Sacraments, that we might rejoice in Him, our Life, both now and forevermore. Thy kingdom come, **Thy will be done.**

Heavenly Father, You provided men of good repute to serve so that the apostles might devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word. Bless congregations with godly pastors and lay leaders who are willing to shoulder burdens for the blessing of Your people and the spreading of Your Word. Bless all seminarians, especially **Andrew Wolfram** receiving a call to Saint John Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church in South Dakota and **Joshua Otterman** receiving Vicarage placement here at Our Redeemer. Thy kingdom come, **Thy will be done.**

Heavenly Father, as You remember us in our living and our dying, remember all those who cry to You in need [*we especially pray for **Jo Beer**, **Mary Coblentz**, **Mary Christensen** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **Ardith Cushing**, **Dale Eberhard** (father of Alan Cross' boss), **George Freeman** (Larry Freeman's uncle), **Jim Freeman** (Larry Freeman's brother), **Steve Godecke** (former member), **Nathan Guy** (Gary and Rita Johnson's son-in-law), **Norma Hamilton** (Cory Strumpel's mother), **Kirk Inman** (friend of Patricia Morrow), **Tom Johnson** (Chad Pence's cousin), **David Jones** (Lonne Loney's uncle), **Jeff Krause** (Lynne Westphal's brother-in-law), **Wilma Leaders** (Marilyn Kempnich's mother), **Brenda Miller** (Susan Scott's mother), **Norma Miller** (Twyla Freeman's aunt), **Marcia Osborn**, **Diane Schweer** (Kathy Schweer's daughter-in-law), **Arta Walter** (Carol Schuldt's sister-in-law), and **Lynne Zimmermann** (cousin to Pastor Zimmermann and Faith Pederson)]. Strengthen and deliver them according to Your will, and grant them confidence of Your faithfulness. Thy kingdom come, **Thy will be done.***

Heavenly Father, we rejoice that we are able to come to the feast of Christ's body and blood this day, preserve us from unbelief and impenitence, and let us know the forgiveness of all sin and experience a foretaste of the feast to come. Thy kingdom come, **Thy will be done.**

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for all those whom You have called out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. With thanks for all the saints whom You have gathered to Yourself throughout the ages, continue to enlighten us by Your grace until we join them before Your throne. Thy kingdom come, **Thy will be done.**

Living as Pilgrims

Our society tells us to live for today. The words from a poster "Forget about the PAST; Don't worry about the FUTURE; Live TODAY!" captures our society's encouragement to live for the moment with gusto because there is no tomorrow. In contrast, we, as God's people, are encouraged to live with an eternal perspective. The Apostle Paul encourages us to set our minds on this above, not on earthly things (Colossians 3:2). We are told that God *has put eternity into [our] hearts* (Ecclesiastes 3:11). Through faith, we live our lives knowing that heaven is our true home. According to the writer of Hebrews, we are aliens and strangers on this earth (11:13). In Philippians 3:20, Paul tells us that we are citizens of heaven not earth.



In order for us to be citizens of heaven, aliens, strangers and pilgrims on this earth, we can't allow the accumulation of things to distract us from our relationship with Jesus. As God's people, we can have and enjoy comfortable homes and cars, but we need to be careful that we don't become too attached to the blessings God gives us. We are to possess our possessions rather than let our possessions possess us. We must be on guard not to let anything demand so much of our time, energy, and money that the relationships we have with the Lord will suffer.

The words of Martin Luther encourage not us to become attached to the things of this world.

Therefore we must use all these things upon earth in no other way than as a guest who travels through the land and comes to a hotel where he must lodge overnight. He takes only food and lodging from the host, and he says not that the property of the host belongs to him. Just so should we also treat our temporal possessions, as if they were not ours, and enjoy only so much of them as we need to nourish the body and then help our neighbors with the balance. Thus the life of the Christian is only a lodging for the night, since we have here no continuing city, but must journey on to heaven, where the Father is.

With the same indifference to material things, Jesus sent out the 72 disciples into the harvest field (Luke 10:1-12). In their journey, they sort of resembled pilgrims. For pilgrims, material possessions are valuable only as they help their mission. A pilgrim will not want to carry a lot of things around because they would slow him down. A pilgrim chooses possessions rather carefully so as to be able to travel lightly. If he foolishly accumulates things, he will find it more difficult to reach his destination.

With God's help, we can put our trust in the Lord and not in our possessions, and we can live as pilgrims here on earth, ever looking forward to the eternity God has placed in our hearts.

BIBLEWORDGAMES

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Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Doublepuzzle 1

DAAM

7			

PLSOGE

6		15		11		4

IETR

8		2 12 10	

REAGV

1		13		3 16

GIHH

14		5 9	

1 2 3 4			

5 6 7		

8 9 10		

11 12 13 14 15 16					

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Thanks to Lynne Westphal and Sandy Wagner, Mission Committee for the Our Redeemer LWML Women's Guild, for organizing, packing, and transporting the kits and quilts from the Comfort-Tiers to the Lutheran World Relief pickup in Cedar Rapids. Following are the totals for the shipment that taken to Cedar Rapids on Saturday, April 21:

- 48 boxes containing 233 Quilts
- 13 boxes containing 38 Baby Kits
- 2 boxes containing 11 Health Kits

Thanks go out to the LWML for packing the boxes and putting all the



labels on the boxes on April 16; to Dave Freundt, Tom and Sandy Wagner, and Lynne Westphal for loading the boxes into the vehicles; and to Tom, Sandy and Lynne for taking the boxes to Trinity Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids. The youth and their parents unload the boxes from all the vehicles and put them in a semi that then takes them to St. Paul, MN. If you ever want to help load the boxes and take them up to Cedar Rapids, let us know--it's an amazing process to watch!!

ADAM, GOSPEL, TIRE, GRAVE, HIGH
GIVE GOD THE PRAISE (John 9:24) KJ

Doublepuzzle 1 solution



MISSION	APRIL
Iowa District East	\$4,166.67
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	416.66
Camp IO-DIS-E-CA	625.00
Mission Bishkek	250.00
Lutheran Family Service	625.00
Military Bible Stick	250.00
Orphan Grain Train	250.00
St. Paul's Chapel	375.00
TOTAL	\$6,958.33

Youth

6th - 12th Graders

May

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

DATE	EVENT	TIME
9	UKANDU Adult Leader Meeting <i>UKANDU Adult Leaders</i>	6:00 pm
13	UKANDU Payment #3 Due <i>\$50.00 payment</i>	
19	Set Up Grad Breakfast <i>High School Youth Families</i>	TBA
20	Graduation Breakfast <i>Entire Congregation</i>	9:15 am
23	UKANDU Meeting (GAK Night) <i>Adults, College & Youth</i>	6 pm— 8 pm



Look at the many ways you can *support and encourage* the **High School Graduates** at Our Redeemer this month.

Graduation Breakfast

9:15 am on Sunday, May 20th
Fellowship Hall

- **DONATE**—Sign up in the church office to bring an egg casserole, fresh fruit or juice.
- **ATTEND**—Sign up in the church office to attend the Graduation Breakfast. The whole congregation is encouraged to attend and celebrate with the graduates and their families.
- **SEE**—During a special short presentation at the breakfast, each graduate will receive a **Senior Blanket** that was handmade and personalized just for them through the generosity and talent of several of Our Redeemer members.

Graduation Board

Sunday, May 6th—Sunday, May 20th
Narthex

- **VIEW**—Look at the seniors who make up the Class of 2018 and what their future plans are.
- **PRAY**—Keep these graduates in your prayers.

Blessing Books

Sunday, May 6th—Sunday, May 20th
Narthex

- **SIGN**—Write a short note of Christian encouragement, share your favorite Bible verse or simply sign your name.
- **ALL**—Everyone, all ages are encouraged to write in the Blessing Books.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
GRADUATES!



Lone Tree
Sydney Alt

West High
Aaron Fobian

City High

Jillian Bolton
Jace Caven
Emma Hartwig
Riley Reynolds
Olivia Warner

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, Adult Coordinator 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 Coordinator 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	430-5603
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.



Healed

Matthew 5:4

I place a flower on the grave
in memory of dreams
of what is past, what could have been,
with no regrets.

I do not dwell on sad times,
bad times or sorry times past;
I refuse to shed a tear
in futility.

Instead, I feel comforted in having been blessed
with moments and years of joy
and I no longer sorrow
for what I may have missed.

My Savior has healed me with His words of comfort.

~ Carol Schuldt