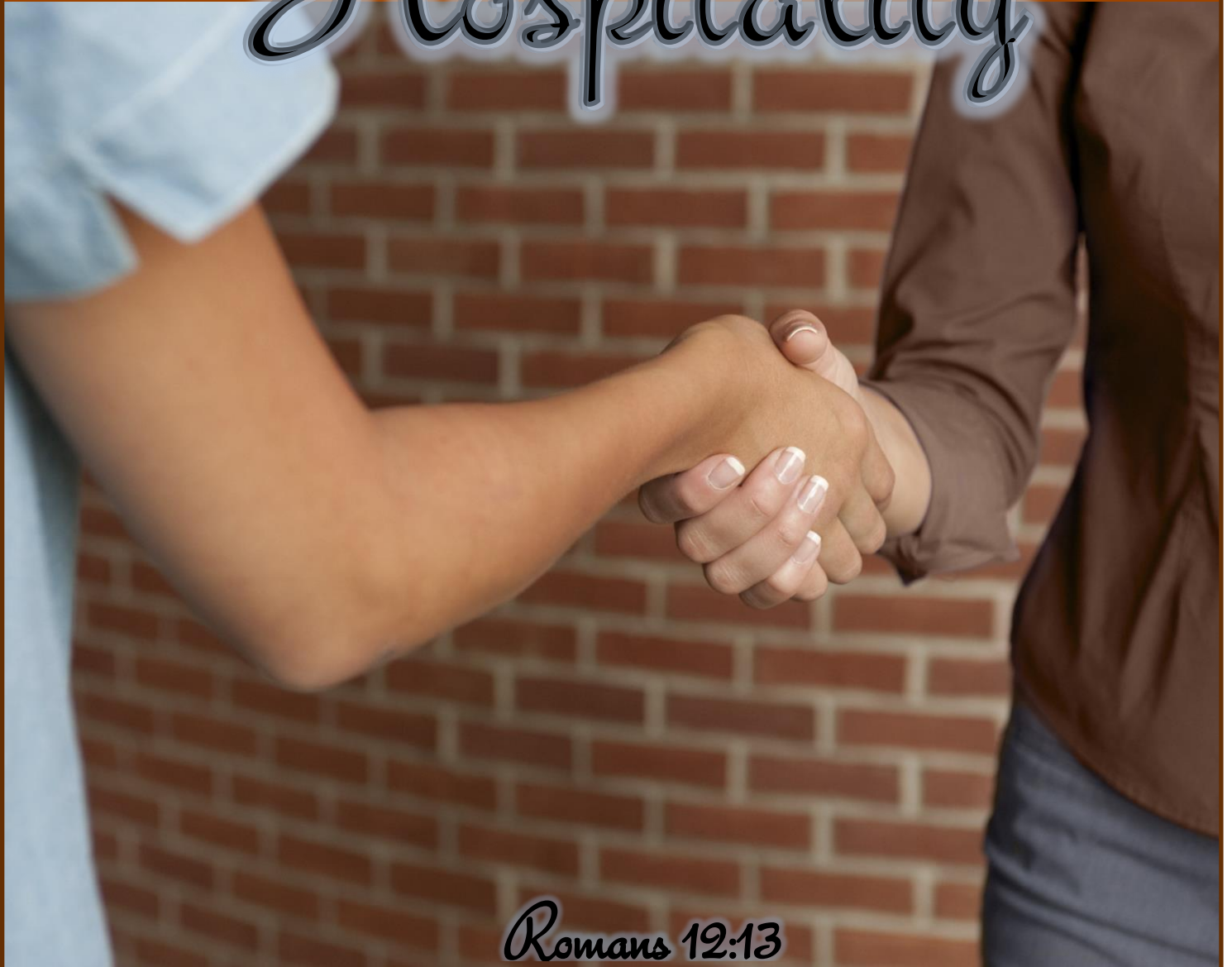


Show Hospitality



Romans 12:13

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

**EQUIPPING DISCIPLES
2019-2020**

**2301 East Court Street, Iowa City, IA 52245
319-338-5626**

redemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

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ELDERS

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Vaughn Davisson
Jim Eick
Ryan Haack
Skip Kempnich
Eric Kooker
Denny Schrader
Arlan Thompson
Marty Wenck



An elder must be dedicated to God's Word and live as an example to other members. The Board of Elders consists of men elected at the September Voters' Meeting for three-year terms. The terms are staggered; thus, new elders are added regularly. Generally, each elder serves two terms, but the second is strictly voluntary.

Elders assist with worship services in such ways as Holy Communion, Scripture reading, special prayers, and Baptism.

Each elder is assigned a zone consisting of 60-80 member families. Zones are determined alphabetically by last name.

Each elder is responsible as a prayer partner with another committee chair and concerns himself with the spiritual welfare of the person and committee involved.

Regular elder meetings are scheduled at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

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“HOSPITALITY”

Our Redeemer’s theme for this year will be Hospitality. Hospitality is both a command from God and a blessing we partake in as the church. While the world encourages people to look out for themselves, God changes us into a people of welcoming hearts. Hospitality is founded in the Word of God as we have been welcomed into the family of God through baptism into the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Hospitality cannot be disconnected from God, His Word, or His community. Hospitality is not just a career choice or degree that can be earned at a school; neither should it be something brought out only for special occasions. Rather, as God’s people, we are blessed to let hospitality shine forth in our lives: sharing the peace of Christ, joining together at the Altar to take the body and blood of Christ, and bringing people to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Only by being welcomed into a relationship with God, the maker of Heaven and Earth, are we able to welcome others. As ones who used to be strangers to God, we know the blessings of being welcomed into Jesus’ ministry. Therefore, we are commanded to be hospitable to the strangers among us.

For this year, we will study the Word of God to see people of the faith who exemplify hospitality in our sermon series.



STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministry

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is served by several Stephen Ministers.

Their vision statement is **The Our Redeemer Stephen Ministry prepares and supports laity who provide Christ-centered care to people facing a variety of crises or who are life-challenged.** A crisis, used in this context, is defined as a dangerous or worrying time; that is, a situation or period in which things are very uncertain, difficult, or painful, especially a time when action must be taken to avoid a complete disaster or breakdown. It is not a foreshadowing of doom, but a time of imbalance, where the trusting relationship between the affected person and God is strained by preoccupation with worldly concerns.

Stephen Ministry can help the person in crisis by establishing a safe haven based upon the love of Christ and the compassion of an empathetic and understanding Christian willing to help the affected work through his/her imbalance through active listening and thoughtful sharing of life experiences, allowing the person to again feel the healing power of Christ's love within his/her life.

Implicit in this arrangement is a process-oriented relationship, not an outcome-based arrangement.

WE CARE, CHRIST CURES!

Contact the church office if you have an interest in the Stephen Ministry program at 338-5626 or contact one of your Stephen Minister trainers:

Pastor Brent Hartwig	338-5626
Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Marcia Hulse	351-7059
Kathy Schweer	466-3084
Kevin Sellers	631-8924



CHRISTMAS & COOKIES

Sunday, December 8, 2019
Following 10:30 am Worship

Members of Our Redeemer gather together for food, fun, and fellowship. Whether it is appetizers, pizza, or potluck, this group will dine together. We will decorate a plate of cookies to take home and one to share. All supplies are provided. It is a fun time for fellowship during the season of Christ's birth.

MIDWEEK EVENTS

As Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Join us for many midweek programs for all ages!

MIDWEEK EVENING SCHEDULE

6:00	Meal on select evenings
6:45	Little Lambs (2 yrs-K)
	CrossTown (Grades 1-2)
	Faith Explorers (Grades 3-5)
	Confirmation Classes (6-8)
	High School
	Adult Choir
7:00	Adult Classes
8:00	End of Evening

CANCELLATION

The Midweek Programs will follow the same cancellation pattern as the Iowa City School system. If the Iowa City Schools have cancelled class for the day, we will cancel any meals and classes. We will also use Channel 9 KCRG to post a cancellation.

Use your best judgment if class is not cancelled. We recognize that many of you are dealing with different driving conditions in and outside of Iowa City.

REGISTRATION FOR MIDWEEK & CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Registration materials are available in the church office. Scholarships are available.

MIDWEEK MEALS

Congregational meals are scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month. (These are in addition to congregational Advent and Lenten meals.) A free-will offering will be collected at the door to help cover the costs of the meal. All confirmation (6th-8th grade) and high school families will be assigned a night to set up /clean up. Midweek Meals start at 6:00 pm on the following dates:

- Wednesday, September 11, 2019**
- Wednesday, October 2, 2019**
- Wednesday, November 6, 2019**
- Wednesday, January 8, 2020**
- Wednesday, February 5, 2020**





PANCAKE DAY

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Pancake Day has been a long-standing tradition at Our Redeemer. Originally, Pancake Day supported our 511 Melrose mission effort (Our Redeemer property used by Alcoholics Anonymous). For the last few years, it has supported the CommUnity (previously known as Johnson County Crisis Center). Come help to make, serve, and clean-up. At least come to eat them. Yum!

PARADE PARTY

Parade Party

Come on **Wednesday, September 25th** at **5:30 pm** to the church parking lot to watch the **Homecoming Parade**.



Bring your own chairs or blankets to sit curbside.

Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be served in the parking lot.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE



CHALLENGE

October 20, 2019 & February 9, 2020

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.

General knowledge and trivial interest questions are asked by a trivia host and the winner is the team which, at the end of the event, has correctly answered the most number of questions.

How does the Trivia Challenge work?

The events themselves are quite simple. You gather a group of eight participants to form a team.

The Challenge is run in rounds. During each round the host asks a series of ten questions. The teams discuss the answers at their table and record their answers on their score sheet.

At the conclusion of each round, the sheets are collected and checked for accuracy. Meanwhile, the answers are revealed to the participants.

At the conclusion of the seven rounds, total scores are added up and a traveling trophy is awarded to the winning team.

What do we eat?

We will begin this event with a potluck of appetizers and hors d'oeuvres that can be snacked on throughout the challenge.

Invite your friends and family, form a team, and host a party where the place and the entertainment are provided.

**THIS EVENT IS EXCELLENT
FOR OUTREACH!**

Contact the church office at 338-5626 for more information.



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Sunday, October 27, 2019

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

With optional Potluck Dinner to follow

What is Trunk-or-Treat? It's when several congregational members and committees get together at church, park their cars in the parking lot, open up the trunks of their cars, and kids come to each car to Trunk-or-Treat. We will be opening our Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner at 5:00 pm.



1. Register children to be Trick-or-Treaters
2. Register your car, mini-van, or truck to give out candy. Vehicles should be decorated with a unique theme. Make sure you bring enough candy or treats for everyone.
3. You don't have to have children to register your vehicle.
4. Register if you can bring something to share.

Invite your friends and join us for this fun family event!

IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE STUDY

Why study the Bible? This is both practical and foundational. It is practical because we will learn real reasons why studying the Bible is important, but it is also foundational because it will prepare us for future discussions on the importance of Bible study.

While not an exhaustive list, below are eight reasons for studying the Bible:

- Cultural literacy
- To learn what it says firsthand
- Personal edification
- To help others
- Jesus
- Because it is God's Word to us
- To know God better
- Avoiding error

Cultural Literacy

References to the Bible are found not only in religion, but also art, music, philosophy, literature, law, and more. Knowing what the Bible says is an important part of everyone's knowledge base.

Many popular phrases and figures of speech also find their origin in the Bible including being a Good Samaritan, the folly of letting the blind lead the blind, going the extra mile, ethical maxims such as "do unto others as you would have them do unto you," manna from heaven, etc.

What Does It Say?

Another reason to study the Bible is to learn what it has to say firsthand. Whether one is a supporter or critic of the Bible or perhaps just neutral or uninterested in the topic, history has demonstrated that the

Bible cannot be ignored. Considering that the Bible is important to three major world religions – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – it is worthy of study.

In addition, the recent rise of hostile criticism towards the Bible itself and religion in general also makes it worthy of study. Sometimes the critics do not always quote the Bible correctly or in context. Knowing what it says firsthand and having some knowledge of the context is helpful in understanding not only current events, but key ideas the Bible addresses such as the nature and existence of God, the human condition, the biblical pattern of redemption, salvation, and ethics.

Personal Edification

For hundreds of years the Bible has been read not only as history and God's Word, but also for personal edification. It is full of individuals facing moral choices, life challenges, and, frankly, situations that are applicable to us today. As Paul wrote, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17, NIV).

The Bible is available for us to learn from not only on an intellectual level, but on a personal and emotional level.

To Help Others

We gain centuries of wisdom and are thus able to help others. Proverbs, for instance, contains general principles and ideas to assist people in living their lives in a way that is helpful and pleasing to God. By knowing what the Bible says on different subjects, we can help others through

difficult circumstances and encourage them.

Jesus

Some 2,000 years after the time of Christ, His life and ministry remain relevant in our contemporary world. Regardless of how one views Christ, He cannot be ignored. Far from being a distant prophet or irrelevant figure in history, Jesus Christ is the foundation of Christianity. Particularly studying the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John will help anyone gain a better understanding of Jesus and His mission.

God's Word to Us

For people the world over, the Bible is God's Word to us. People inspired by God recorded the words that make up the Bible. God has chosen to reveal Himself not only through creation and conscience, but also specially through Jesus and through His Word. Studying the Bible, then, is a matter of course for those who love God and desire to follow Him.

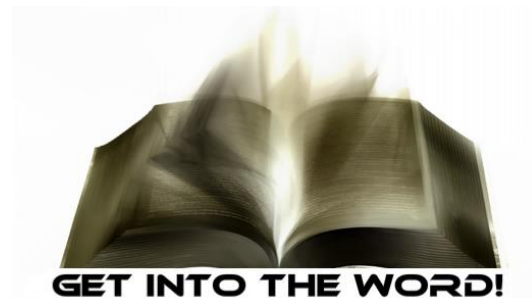
To Know God Better

Since the Bible is God's Word, studying it is a way to know God better. Through His words we come to know not only the nature and attributes of God, but we also come to understand His plan for each of us. In a larger sense, we also come to know God's plan in history, His sovereignty, His providence, His love, and more.

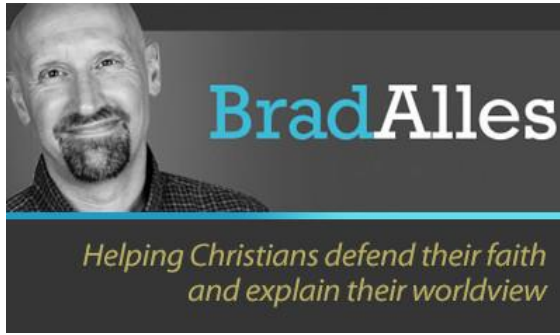
Avoiding Error

Studying the Bible helps us avoid theological error. The Bible tells us, "Watch your life and doctrine closely" (1 Timothy 4:16 NIV), adding that we "must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine" (Titus 2:1 NIV). If the Bible is our authority for faith and life, then the inspired words it contains will help us to avoid error. In a pluralistic world with many religious and non-religious ideas competing for attention, studying the Bible provides us with a firm foundation in God's truth to negate the errors of the world. Knowing the Bible helps us respond to error and answer questions that skeptics and others may have about it.

Excerpts from "Why Study the Bible?" by
Robert Velarde



BIBLE STUDIES



BRAD ALLES

Sunday, November 10, 2019

BIG QUESTIONS, BIBLICAL ANSWERS

9:30-10:15 am

Life's Big Questions, God's Big Answers looks at a key question in-depth and explores it through the Bible and research from journals and books by respected Christian authors. Come hear Brad discuss some of the 13 big questions--13 in-depth answers:

- Are You Ready to Defend Your Faith?
- What is a Worldview?
- Does Evolution Explain the World?
- Does Creation Explain the World?
- What are Humans?
- Is the Bible True? What is the Canon?
- Was Noah's Flood a True Worldwide Event?
- What About Dinosaurs?
- Did Jesus Really Exist?
- What About Jesus' Death, Resurrection, and Their Effects?
- What is Postmodernism and the New Tolerance?
- How Can We Witness Effectively Today?

ABC'S OF DEFENDING THE FAITH

Lunch with Brad Alles at 12:00 pm

Brad walks his audience through defending one's faith. Examples of archeological, geographical, and historical support for the Bible are shared, none of which contradict the Bible. Reliability, consistency, and continuity are only a few of the ways the Bible supports the faith.

Renowned archaeologist Nelson Glueck said, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible." (Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999), p 89.)

Biography: Brad Alles is an Assistant Professor of Education at Concordia University Wisconsin. He graduated from Concordia University Nebraska with a Bachelor's degree in education, and received his Master's degree in Christian education from Concordia University Chicago. Known for his ability to break down Scripture so it's easily understood and applied, adding humor along the way, he is a frequent Bible study teacher at Milwaukee area churches. In addition, he is a featured speaker at state and national youth gatherings, as well as youth worker, teacher, and pastor conferences. His passion for God's Word comes through clearly in his teaching style. His family lives in Germantown, Wisconsin.



BASICS OF THE FAITH

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.

Fall

September 22, 29

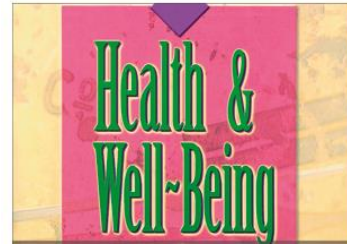
Sundays 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Winter

January 31, February 1

Weekend Immersion

Fri. 7 pm – 9 pm; Sat. 9:30 am – 3:30 pm



THE CHRISTIAN LIFE TODAY: HEALTH & WELL-BEING

September 11-November 20,
December 4
Wednesday Nights (12 sessions)
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The Christian Life Today Bible study series explores contemporary adult issues. This series includes 12 sessions that address topics relating to the study's theme. This series will give Christians the opportunity to receive information about key concerns and issues, seek insights from God's Word, and discuss with other Christians how to apply the truth found in the Scriptures to their lives.

Session topics are:

- The Wisdom of the Master Teacher—A Guide like No Other
- Not Only Survive, but Live Life to Its Fullest
- You Are What You Eat
- Focus on Wisdom
- The Mind: A Terrible Thing to Waste
- In Christ and His Church
- What is a Friend? Developing Friendships
- Sex: A Dirty Word?
- Teach Us to Pray
- Where You End, God Begins
- Building a Future
- Satisfaction in Work



DAKOTA BOYS RANCH
Chaplain Rev. Rick Jones

October 13
Sunday Morning
9:30 am – 10:15 pm

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is a Christian residential treatment and educational center for troubled children and their families.

In addition to Residential Treatment Facilities in Fargo, Bismarck, and Minot, the Ranch provides Outpatient Psychiatric and Psychological Services and Spiritual Life Programs. An on-campus school, Dakota Memorial School (DMS), provides a personalized education for kids who have psychiatric, behavioral, and trauma issues.

With the help of highly trained and qualified staff readily available 24/7, children at the Ranch have a structured and safe environment in which to live, learn, and heal. The goal is to teach children skills needed to lead productive, satisfying, and purposeful lives.

At Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, children have access to an on-site clinical staff including therapists, nurses, psychologists, addiction counselors, occupational therapists, and a psychiatrist. Primary medical providers offer care at each location. In addition to prescribed therapy services, children can participate in our Horse Program, a National Youth Project

Using Minibikes (NYPUM), and a greenhouse technology program.

Hospitality

BIBLICAL HOSPITALITY

Adult Bible Study
Sunday Morning
9:30 am - 10:15 am

To further explore people who show hospitality, those who do it well and those who are poor hosts, we will be going through both the Old and New Testament in our adult education. The purpose of this study will be to read about how hospitality was shown in both the time of the Old and New Testament world and see what lessons we can learn and apply to our lives today.

While many of us desire to be hospitable, it can be difficult to balance certain questions. Am I being scammed? Is this safe for my family and church? Are some people deserving or undeserving? The fears of life often make us second guess the command to be hospitable and to choose an option that makes us comfortable and safe. However, through Bible study and our sermon series, we will learn how hospitality brings us who are in the Church closer in love while continuing to bring strangers to the Gospel into the family.

Welcome in the name of Jesus to our study in hospitality! Readings for each week follow on the next two pages.



BIBLICAL HOSPITALITY

September 23-29

Adam	Genesis 2
Noah	Genesis 8
Abraham	Genesis 15, 17, 22
Sarah	Genesis 16, 18:1-15,

September 30-October 6

Lot	Genesis 19:1-22
Isaac	Genesis 26:6-33
Rebekah	Genesis 24
Laban	Genesis 29:1-30

October 7-20

Jacob	Genesis 32:1-21
Esau	Genesis 33
Shechem	Genesis 34
Joseph	Genesis 44, 45

October 21-27

Pharaoh	Exodus 1:8-22
Moses	Exodus 2:11-22
Aaron	Exodus 32
King of Edom	Numbers 20:14-21

October 28-November 3

Rahab	Joshua 2
Joshua	Joshua 24:14-28
Samson	Judges 14
People of Gibeah	Judges 19

November 4-17

Ruth	Ruth 1
Boaz	Ruth 2, 3, 4
Eli	1 Samuel 1
Eli's Sons	1 Samuel 2:12-17

November 18-24

Saul	1 Samuel 18, 19
Abigail	1 Samuel 25
David	2 Samuel 11
Amnon	2 Samuel 13:1-22

November 25-December 8

Absalom	2 Samuel 13:23-39, 15:1-12
Shimei	2 Samuel 16:5-14, 19:16-23
Rehoboam	1 Kings 12:1-15
Jeroboam	1 Kings 12:25-13:10

December 9-15

Elijah	1 Kings 17:8-24
Elisha	2 Kings 4
King Joram	2 Kings 5:1-14
Gehazi	2 Kings 5:15-27

December 16-January 5

Nehemiah	Nehemiah 5
Mordecai	Esther 2:19-23
Esther	Esther 5:1-8, 7:1-8:8
Isaiah	Isaiah 6:1-8

January 6-12

Jehonadab	Jeremiah 35
Ezekiel	Ezekiel 3:16-27
Shadrach, Meshach, Abendego	Daniel 3
Daniel	Daniel 6

January 13-19

Belshazzar	Daniel 5
Hosea	Hosea 1:1-11, 3
Jonah	Jonah 1, 4
Priests of Israel	Malachi 1:6-14

January 20-February 2

Joseph	Matthew 1:18-25
The Magi	Matthew 2:1-12
Pharisees	Matthew 12:1-45
Matthew	Matthew 9:9-13

February 3-9

Herod	Matthew 14: 1-12
Unforgiving Servant	Matthew 18:21-35
Peter	Acts 10
Joseph of Arimathea	Matthew 27:57-61

February 10-16

John the Baptist	Mark 1:1-11
Judas	John 12:4-8; Matthew 26:14-16, 47-56
Widow of Nain	Luke 7:11-17
Jairus	Mark 5:21-43

February 17-23

Levi	Luke 5:27-32
Gentile Woman	Mark 7:24-30
Rich Young Man	Mark 10:17-31
Bartimaeus	Mark 10:46-52

February 24- March 8

Neighbor	Mark 11:5-13
Zechariah	Luke 1:1-25, 57-80
Mary	Luke 1:26-38
The Shepherds	Luke 2:8-20

March 9-15

Mary Magdalene	Luke 7:36-50
The Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-37
Martha	Luke 10:38-42
The Rich Fool	Luke 12:13-20

March 16-22

The Father	Luke 15:11-32
Zacchaeus	Luke 19:1-10
The Thief	Luke 23:39-43
Cleopas	Luke 24:13-35

March 23-29

Andrew	John 1:35-42
Nathanael	John 1:43-51
Samaritan Woman	John 4:1-42
Mary	John 12:1-12

March 30-April 19

Thomas	John 20:24-31
Ananias	Acts 5:1-11
Stephen	Acts 6
Philip	Acts 8:26-40

April 20-26

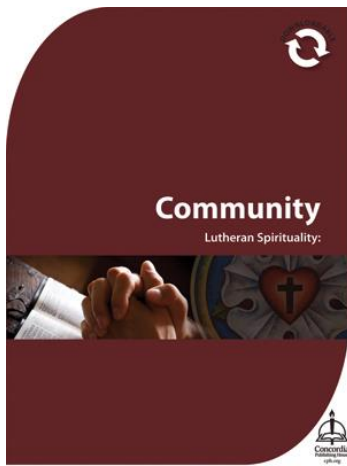
Ananias	Acts 9:1-19
Comelius	Acts 10:1-8, 22-33
Lydia	Acts 16:11-15
Philippian Jailer	Acts 16:25-40

April 27-May 3

Dorcas	Acts 9:36-43
People of Malta	Acts 28:1-10
Aquilla	Acts 18:1-10; Romans 16:3-4
Philippian Church	Philippians 1:1-11

May 4-10

Paul	Acts 27:13-44
Philemon	Philemon 1
James	James 1:19-27
John	1 John 4:7-21



Click **LUTHERAN SPIRITUALITY:
COMMUNITY**

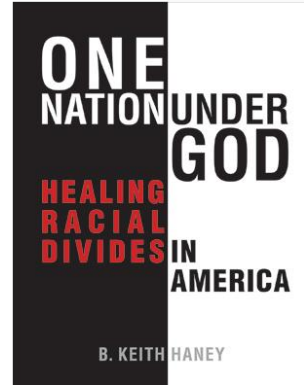
February 5-19
March 4, 11, 25
Wednesday Nights (6 sessions)
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Spirituality is a common term today, but what does it mean? To find the right answer, Lutheran Spirituality directs adult Bible study participants to God's Word. Lutheran Spirituality explores the Bible, Luther's Small Catechism, and the Lutheran hymnal as integral resources for living out our faith in a spiritually confused, and sometimes confusing, world.

Lutherans confess in the words of the Augsburg Confession (Article VII) that the Church is the assembly of all believers among whom the Gospel is purely preached and the holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel. The Lutheran conviction is that the Church is where Jesus lives and gives His abundant gifts.

Session 1: Where Christ Is, There Is the Church

- Session 2: The Lord's Giving--Our Receiving
- Session 3: Fellowship as Partaking
- Session 4: The Gift and Service of the Pastor
- Session 5: We Are Not Alone
- Session 6: Church, Family, and the World



**ONE NATION UNDER GOD:
HEALING RACIAL DIVIDES IN AMERICA**

December 11, 18, 2019
January 8-29, 2020
Wednesday Nights (6 sessions)
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Amid divisive rhetoric, violence, riots, and racial tensions, confusion arises; how can Christians tear down the racial walls dividing our country?

This division stems from a lack of communication, empathy, and understanding. Author Rev. B. Keith Haney, an African American LCMS pastor, encourages everyone to seek answers to racial tensions in the only place where truth and peace can be found: God's Word. Healing must begin with Jesus.

In this downloadable six-session study, you'll openly communicate and begin the

healing process. Healing takes time and effort and can only be accomplished as God changes our sinful human hearts.

Let's be a nation united—united under God.



PEACE IN HIS TIME

April 15
Wednesday Night
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Peace. We want it. We fight for it. We even die for it. But can we ever achieve it? This Men's NetWork Bible study took to the streets to ask the question, is peace possible? The responses, as you will see, range from the philosophic and cynical to the pessimistic and hopeful. There's no doubt about it. Peace is on everyone's wish list these days. Wars, rumors of wars and all the tensions of ordinary life make peace -- a true and lasting peace -- something of a pipe dream: the stuff of fantasy and pie-in-the-sky thinking.

But is lasting peace a mere daydream? In this world we would say, yes, it is. Man, by his very nature, is prone toward war and destruction, whether that's on an international level or in his personal relationships.

Asking the question "Is peace possible?" the Men's NetWork took to the streets. What we found from the people we asked was a variety of responses -- some hopeful, some doubtful, but all interested in the topic. Without God in the picture, the prospects seemed slim. Though there were some who felt man just might do it, even they didn't sound too convincing.

And why would they? Man's abysmal track record when it comes to peace on this planet speaks for itself.

That's where God comes in. Better yet, that's where God came in. With Jesus' arrival, peace in this world not only became possible, it became ours. God reconciled the world to Himself through the saving work of His Son, and by faith in Christ as our Savior, we have peace with God and can know peace in this world.

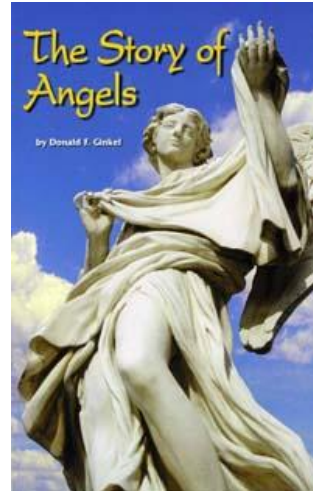


THE REAL MAN OF STEEL

April 22
Wednesday Night
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

A One Session Bible Study on God's Strength.

This Bible study explores the story of Superman as a way to start a conversation about how Jesus is the true " God of all" who shows His strength to us in weakness.



THE STORY OF ANGELS

June 14 – July 5, July 19 – August 30
Summer Sunday School 2020
9:30 am – 10:15 am

Are there other beings on this earth and in space beside human beings? If so, who are they and what do they do? The Bible is not silent on the subject of angels. It speaks clearly on the subject in both the New and Old Testaments.

There is another kind of being beside man, namely, angels. We may or may not feel their presence. We may or may not have seen one or heard one, but they exist, and they exert their influence both in heaven and on earth.

This Bible study is presented to dispel any false notions you may have about angels and to clearly present what God says in Scripture for the benefit of your life and ministry, for the benefit of God's plan for time and eternity, and for the glory of our Almighty God now and forever.

Bible Studies at a Glance

SUNDAY MORNING

The Bible Study time is offered between the Sunday services for convenience; attend the Bible Study before or after you attend a Worship Service. Adult classes are held each Sunday morning. The schedule of courses follows:

*No Sunday School and Bible Class on
September 1, 2019 (Labor Day)
December 1, 2019 (Thanksgiving)
December 22 & 29, 2019 (Christmas Break)
April 5, 2020 (Palm Sunday)
April 12, 2020 (Easter Sunday)
May 17, 2020 (Senior Breakfast)
May 24 (Memorial Day)
June 7, 2020 (Christ Cares Sunday)*

September 8 TBA

September 15-October 6

October 20-November 3

November 17-24

December 8-15

January 5- April 5

April 19-May 10

May 31

Hospitality: People of the Bible

October 13

Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch

November 10

Brad Alles

Big Questions, Biblical Answers

June 12-July 5, July 19-August 30, 2020

The Story of Angels

WEDNESDAY MORNING

On Wednesday mornings, every other week, a Bible Study class is offered prior to our Lunch Bunch program.

SCHEDULE

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING

On Wednesday evenings, a Bible study class is offered for adults as a part of our Midweek program.

September 11-November 20, December 4

The Christian Life Today:
Health & Well-Being
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

December 11, 18; January 8-29

One Nation Under God:
Healing Racial Divides in America
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

February 5-19, March 4, 11, 25

Lutheran Spirituality:
Community
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

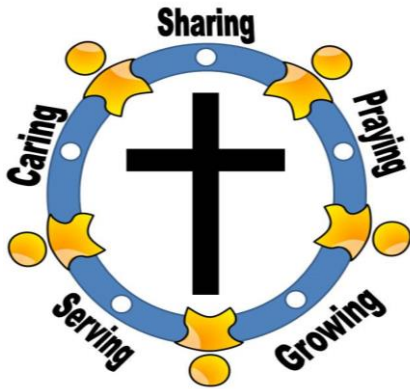
April 15

Peace in His Time
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

April 22

The Real Man of Steel
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

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.*

Like nothing else, Small Groups have the power to change lives. They are the ideal route to discipleship – a place where the rubber of Biblical truth meets the road of human relationships.

Small Groups are intentionally formed “communities of care” of 4-12 people that share a common interest and meet regularly in their homes around Scripture, prayer, service, and concern and support for one another.

Small Group Ministry (SGM) has been around Our Redeemer in some shape or form for many years. Small Groups emulate the following five characteristics:

CARING

A small group provides an environment by which members in the group are cared for and nurtured by one another. This includes prayer support, phone calls, encouragement, and resources that will help meet the group members’ care needs.

SHARING

A small group provides a friendly and supportive atmosphere where members can safely share joys and concerns, knowing that what is said will be treated with sensitivity and will be kept in confidence.

PRAYING

A small group supports each other by praying with one another and for one another as a key part to the growth of relationships.

GROWING

A small group nurtures spiritual growth through time spent together in the Word, contributing to the growth and maturity of each group member.

SERVING

A small group selects service activities that benefit the church and the community. This strengthens group relationships while reaching out to others in need.

CURRENT GROUPS

We currently have several small groups meeting at Our Redeemer. Contact Denise Holida, church extension 35 or email at smallgroups@ourredeemer.org.

COMFORT-TIERS

This is a small group of women who meet in the Fellowship Hall and tie comforters for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and other charities.

The group meets on Thursdays from 9:00 am – noon. Anyone is welcome to come and help tie for an hour or two or all morning. We sometimes use one person to just sit and thread needles for us. We elevate the tables to prevent backaches. Coffee is provided. We sometimes go out to eat together.

If you wish to donate towards the making of these comforters, donations of fabric are welcomed with open arms! We can use:

- Any size or condition (torn, mended, stained--just washed) of old sheets, blankets, draperies, curtains, tablecloths, pillowcases, linens.
- Newer fabric such as yard lengths of 45" fabric (minimum of 3-1/2 yards while 60" fabric requires 2-1/2 yards) or newer sheets or draperies.
- Sewing scraps of any size; even satiny linings and other silky fragile materials go into the 'middles' for a third layer that helps sift out sand during sand storms if that particular comforter goes to a desert area.
- Unmendable or outdated clothing; we tear out the backs of the legs of slacks. We cut off seams of shirts and blouses, even T-shirts, etc. to use the fabric. Some of our comforter tops have pockets included on them and/or a button or two.
- Old blankets; worn old ones go into the comforters as 'middles'.

- Heavy crochet thread to tie with; any yarns are used for crocheting baby sweaters for LWR or knit caps for UI Hospital babies.
- Sewing thread (not quilting thread) of any color, any leftover or new spools.

Monetary donations are always welcome. Make checks payable to Our Redeemer Women's Mission Guild and enter for the Comfort-Tiers on the Memo line.

You can give the check to any active Guild member. We shop at thrift stores, store sales, and garage sales to make the money go further. Or you might like to shop yourself. Questions? Call Lillian Moyer at 354-5644 or Carol Schuldt at 338-4806. Thank you!

LUNCH BUNCH

This is a group of approximately 20 members who meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 12:00 pm for lunch in the Fellowship Hall or other places the group wishes to visit. There is a short devotion followed by lunch and a brief group meeting to share ideas and plans for the next meeting. Members and friends of all ages are welcome.

The main dish is provided. People bring potluck or contribute toward the cost of the main dish. For more information, contact Betty Redeker 337-9051.

... as newborn babies, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,
(1 Peter 2:2)

Before you feed on food for your physical body at Lunch Bunch, come an hour early to the Lunch Bunch Bible Study at 11:00 am. By feeding on God’s Word we become mature Christians. As believers, we have a hunger that can only be satisfied by God’s Word. Anything else will leave us feeling hungry. Join us at 11:00 am as we study the General Epistles verse by verse.

fate worse than death. Other elements may be mixed and matched as required but the Messianic Archetype will include one or more of the following: being the Chosen One, gaining a group of devoted followers, being betrayed by one of these followers, persecution by nonbelievers, parallels to the Passion Play, obvious Crucified Hero Shot, a figurative or literal resurrection, and even a Second Coming. Bonus points can be given if the character has the initials JC.

CHRIST IN FILM



CHRIST IN FILM

For over one hundred years Hollywood has informed and influenced American culture. But what if tinseltown receives its influence from the story of Christ? There are films about Jesus Christ, and there are films with “Christ-figures” that parallel the Christ epic. This Messianic Archetype is a character whose role in the story echoes that of Christ. Christ figures are portrayed as saviors, whether what they are saving is a person, a lot of people, or the whole of humanity. They endure a sizable sacrifice as the means of bringing that salvation about for others, a fate they do not deserve, up to and including death or a

Join us for these films:

September 19

Jesus films (select clips) and lecture to understand the genre of “Christ-figure” films.

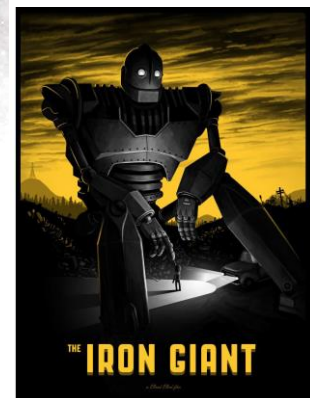
October 17
“Shawshank
Redemption”



December 19
“It’s a Wonderful
Life”



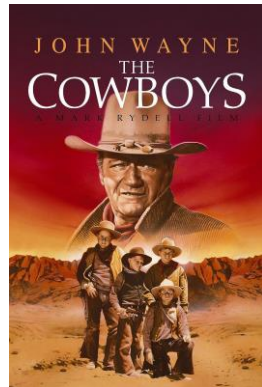
January 16
“The Iron Giant”



February 27
"Tomorrowland"



April 16
"Cool Hand Luke"



May 21
"The Cowboys"



BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN

COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON

*Typically the 2nd and 4th Saturdays
of each month*

8:00 am – 9:30 am

*[check the monthly calendar for any
updates to time and dates]*

Paul's letter to the church in Colossae warns the people to be careful and watchful for greedy false teachers who seek to steal the Lord's people away from the truth. Paul reinforces the teachings that have been given to the people of Colossae, that Jesus is Lord of all, that He has given them His Spirit, and therefore they are to live to Christ, in the image of their Creator.

We will also delve into the personal letter between Paul and Philemon regarding a slave, Onesimus, who was once property of Philemon but is now his brother in Christ.

***Yes, guys! There is homework.
But not too much at this pace!***

During the study, we will discuss the completed questions as well as the implications of the text in our daily lives.

LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE (LLL)

In 1917, a group of 12 men attending a convention of The Lutheran Church-- Missouri Synod in Milwaukee met to settle a \$100,000 debt incurred by the church body. They accomplished that goal, and in the process formed the Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL). The LLL next raised more than \$2.7 million to fund a pension plan for professional church workers.

Our Redeemer LLL members meet during the months of January, March, May, and October on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30 pm for business, special programs, and fellowship. The LLL Steak Cookout happens yearly on the fourth Tuesday of August at 6:30 pm. This cookout is at Our Redeemer. Men bring their own meat and a dish to share. The coals on a hot grill will be ready.

One important outreach ministry LLL supports is 511 Melrose, the meeting place for Iowa City Alcoholics Anonymous groups.

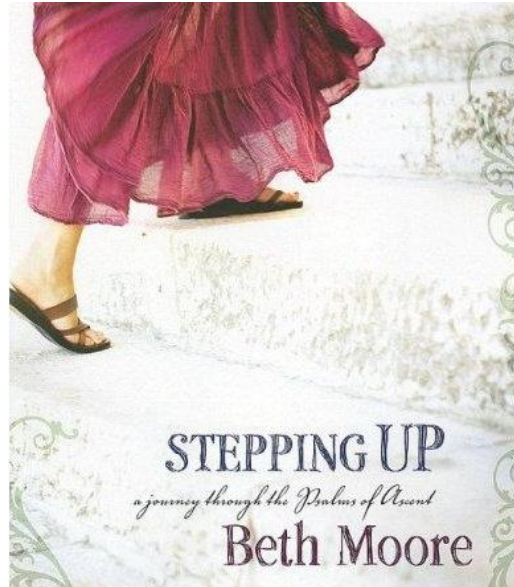
All men over age 18 are encouraged to join. Contact Jerry Sexton at 629-5422 for more information.



MEN AT THE CROSS

Women

BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN



STEPPING UP: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE PSALMS OF ASCENT

By Beth Moore

Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent studies Psalms 120-134, exploring the major feasts of Israel and journeys through themes of unity, joy, gratitude, redemption, repentance, the power of blessings, facing ridicule, and more. Modern-day believers in Jesus Christ can learn much from these treasured Psalms in their journey toward greater intimacy with God.

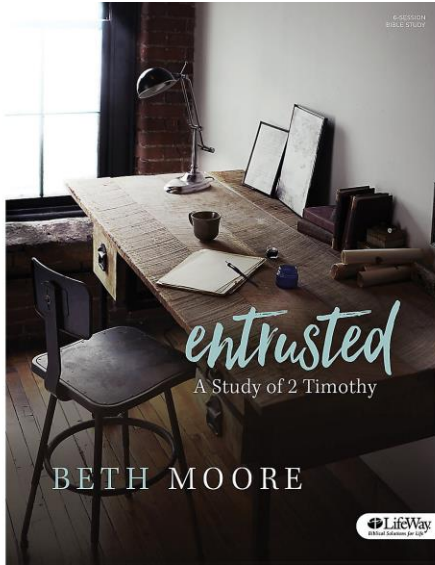
7 session study

Tuesday mornings 9:30 am – 11:30 am:

September 3, 17

October 1, 15, 29

November 12, 26



ENTRUSTED: A STUDY OF 2 TIMOTHY

By Beth Moore

Final words can be compelling. In Paul's final letter, he charged Timothy, his beloved son in the faith, to not be ashamed to fulfill God's call on his life. In this Bible study, Beth Moore challenges you to do the same.

Tuesday mornings 9:30 am – 11:30 am:

January 14, 28
February 11, 25
March 10, 24
April 7, 21

Thursday Evenings 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm:

January 9, 30
February 13, 27
March 12, 26
April 2



WOMEN'S MISSION GUILD (LWML)

MISSION

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

Our Redeemer's Women's Mission Guild is a part of the International Lutheran Women's Missionary League, known as LWML. Since 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

OUR PURPOSE is...

- To help women grow spiritually:
MISSION INSPIRATION
- To encourage and equip women to reach out in love:
MISSION EDUCATION
- To provide opportunities for helping others:
MISSION SERVICE

OUR GOAL is to involve all women of Our Redeemer, each affirming her relationship with God so she is enabled to use her gifts in serving the Lord with gladness. We like to refer to ourselves as Lutheran Women in Mission.

MEETINGS

Our Lutheran Women's Missionary League or Mission Guild typically meets the third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. At most of the meetings, we have devotion, Bible study, speaker or mission project, and a snack. A collection for mites and one for general offering are taken.

LWML SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Within this group are many smaller groups that serve our congregation in the mission to further the Word. These sometimes are ordinary things. You can send a faith-based greeting card from our Card Shop or assist the church library ladies in processing new items.

We have a faithful group of ladies that help serve at funeral lunches or other serving events.

One of our most productive groups is the Comfort-Tiers. This dedicated bunch of stitchers provides World Relief or local charities with more comfort quilts than you could imagine. World Relief efforts are a big part of our mission here. We have two large donations every year.

SUPPORTING MISSIONS

Through our two major annual fun-draisers, the Cookie Walk in December and the Tasting Bee in the spring, we provide funds to several local, national, and international mission projects. One project is camperships to Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca for Our Redeemer members. Campers are eligible for one third of the cost, up to \$60. Call Laurel Sellers at 319-331-3242.



CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

December 7, 2019

On the first Saturday of December the LWML hosts a Cookie Walk. Dozens upon dozens of cookies, every kind you can think of, cover over 80 feet of table space. These cookies are sold for \$6 per pound. If you think the line-up of cookies is long, you should see the line-up at the door. Each year, many people come for these wonderful homemade treats.

Your help is needed:

1. Pray that the attendees might see Christ's light in us while they are shopping.
2. Pull out your favorite recipes and prepare to bake. We encourage each family to bake four or more dozen cookies. If you like a challenge, bake one more dozen than you did last year.
3. Help advertise by placing posters at your workplace and/or local shops.
4. Prayerfully consider giving of your time to assist with set-up, greeting our guests, or cleaning up the crumbs left behind.

2019-2020 LWML SCHEDULE

September 6, 7
Fall Retreat – Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

September 16 6:00 pm
Salad Potluck – Mobile Convention Report

October 6
LWML Sunday - *“Faith Like a Mustard Seed”* Luke 17:6
Honey Sunday to support Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch

October 12 **Fall Zone Rally**
Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha

October 14 **Lutheran World Relief Packing** 6:00 pm

October 19 **World Relief Pickup** 8:00 am

October 21 **Bible Study** 7:00 pm
Vicar Gonzalez-Feliciano

November 18 **Sheila Alt** 7:00 pm
Cookie Decorating

December 7 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Christmas Cookie Walk

December 9 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm

December 16 7:00 pm
LWML Christmas Party

December 18 5:10 pm
Advent Supper – Serving Committee

2020

January No meeting

February 17 7:00 pm
Bunco Night for Mites
Nominating Committee (Pres & Secretary)

March 16 7:00 pm
Houses into Homes

March 18 5:10 pm
Lenten Supper – Serving Committee

April 13 **LWR Kit Packing** 6:00 pm

April 18
Spring World Relief Pickup

April 20 7:00 pm
Linda Diggelmann – Plantings Walk About

April 25 **Tasting Bee** 11:00 am

May 2 **Spring Zone Rally**
Hosted by Our Redeemer

May 11 **Board Meeting** 6:45 pm
2020-2021 Calendar Planning

May 18 6:00 pm
Guild Night Out –

June 12-13
40th Biennial LWML-IED Convention
Theme – *“Under His Wings”* Psalm 91:4b

July No meetings

August **Road Trip** – TBD

September 21 6:00 pm
Salad Potluck
Report on IED Convention



MITE BOX

What is a “Mite Box”? Recall the biblical account of the poor widow who gave two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus said, *“I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”* Mk 12:43

These are the pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters saved from day to day. Mite boxes have changed in color and design over the years, but what has never changed is the dedication of freely given offerings for the purpose of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. 75% of these monies go to the LWML District East for its biennial mission projects; the other 25% goes to the national organization for its biennial mission projects.

WATCH FOR EVENTS!

Meetings and events will appear in ***Reflections*** and ***Beacon***. Please plan to attend any get-together; you are already a member!

CONTACT

Any questions, contact Donna Saehler at 319-321-3207.

24 BELOW

24 Below is a young adult Bible study. Its focus is on applying God’s word to the lives of college students and providing a place of fellowship for them during those early adult years. We meet about once a week during the summer and every other week during the school year. We are also looking for ways to serve as volunteers and to do outreach in our community.

It is not uncommon for young Christians to get swept up as they enter adulthood and lose touch with the Church as a result. I thank God for the opportunity to serve these young adults and pray that we will all continue to grow in His Word.

-Josiah Coblentz at 319-936-0563

Youth

6th – 12th Graders

Mission Statement

Through God, as youth of Our Redeemer, we will build a faith community that identifies our God-given talents, which trains and equips us to live and share what we believe and to serve the congregation and community.

Key Verse

*"...and how from **childhood** you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. **All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for **teaching**, for reproof, for correction, and for **training** in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, **equipped for every good work**." (2 Timothy 3:15-17)*



YOUTH PARENTS

As parents, you have the responsibility to help your children grow in their faith and equip them to become disciples in Christ.

The Lord has given you the task to *"train up your child in the way he should go"* (Proverbs 22:6).

Parent Expectations:

- Attend worship service regularly with your child.
- Attend *Basics of the Faith* at least once while your child is in Confirmation Class.
- Attend *Parent/Teacher Conferences* with your child's Confirmation teacher (Pastor for 6th & 8th graders; Vicar for 7th graders).
- Help with service activities, such as Midweek Meal, fundraisers (annual Peach Sale, Pie Sale), retreats, and other youth activities.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

As part of Our Redeemer's dedication to equip our youth as disciples of Jesus and prepare them for full communing membership in the Lutheran Church-- Missouri Synod, Confirmation classes are held for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.

These classes provide young people the opportunity to understand and grow in the teachings of Holy Scripture, thus building on the foundation given them in their Holy Baptism, preparing them for the Rite of Confirmation.

Confirmation Classes are...

- **Wednesday** nights during the school year from **6:45 pm – 8:00 pm**
- Alternating between *Lecture* and *Small Group*
- **Lecture nights:** Pastor instructs the 6th or 8th graders, and Vicar teaches the 7th graders.
- **Small Group nights:** Girls and boys are split into separate groups by grade and are led by a small group leader.

CONFIRMATION CURRICULUM:

- 6th Graders...
 - The Bible: Old Testament
 - The Bible: New Testament
- 7th Graders...
 - The Ten Commandments
 - The Lord’s Prayer
 - Baptism
- 8th Graders...
 - The Apostles’ Creed
 - Office of the Keys and Confession
 - The Sacrament of the Altar

Successful completion of Confirmation instruction is an important milestone in a young person’s spiritual life and is just the **beginning** of his/her faith journey here at Our Redeemer.



CONFIRMATION YOUTH

6th – 8th graders

Weekly Activities

Sunday School – every Sunday at 9:15 am; meets in Room 208
 Confirmation Class – every Wednesday at 6:45 pm; meets in classrooms on lower level

2019-2020 CONFIRMATION EVENTS

- Sept 8 Rally Day 9:15 am
- Sept 11 Midweek Meal 6:00 pm
- Confirmation Classes start 6:45 pm
- Sept 18 Confirmation Orientation w/Parents and Class Picture Night 6:45 pm
- Sept 21-22 6th Grade Fall Confirmation Retreat
- Sept 25 City High Parade Party 5:30 pm

- Oct 4 Midweek Meal 6:00 pm
- Oct 13 Christmas Program auditions
 - Practice during Sunday School in October and November
- Oct 20 Trivia Challenge Confirmation Team
- Oct 26-27 Youth Worship Weekend
- Nov 1-2 7th & 8th Grades Fall Confirmation Retreat
- Nov 6 Midweek Meal 6:00 pm
- Nov 9 Pie Making Fundraiser 8 am – 12 pm
- Nov 10 Brad Alles (*special event*)

- Dec 4 8th Grade Parent Meeting (*during Confirmation class*)
- Dec 7 Christmas Program Rehearsal
- Dec 14 Christmas Program Rehearsal
- Dec 15 Christmas Program
- Dec 25 CHRISTMAS

- Jan 8 Midweek Meal 6:00 pm
- Jan 20 Ski Trip

- Feb 5 Midweek Meal
- Feb 7-8 Confirmation Winter Retreat
- Feb 9 Trivia Challenge Confirmation Team
- Feb 12 Spring Retreat Parent Meeting 8 pm
- Feb 26 Ash Wednesday Worship Service

- Mar 4 Youth Lenten Meal 5:10 pm
- Mar 18 Spring Break – Worship 6:10 pm
- Mar 27-29 Confirmation Spring Retreat to St. Louis

- April 1 Youth Lenten Meal 5:10 pm
- April 1 Spiritual Growth Event 7:00 pm
- April 5 Palm Sunday / CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
- April 8 Prayer Walk (during Confirmation Class)
- April 12 EASTER SUNDAY / Easter Breakfast
- April 26 Sunday School Sunday
- April 29 Spring Youth Parent Meeting 8:00 pm

May/June/July

- Peach Sale fundraiser
- Christ Cares Sunday (June 7)
- Summer Youth Events
- 4th of July Parade
- VBS

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

9th – 12th graders

Weekly Activities

Sunday School – every Sunday at 9:15 am

Midweek – every Wednesday at 6:45 pm

2019-20 HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

Sept 8	Rally Day	9:15 am
Sept 11	Midweek Meal	6:00 pm
	Midweek classes start	6:45 pm
Sept 18	Picture Night during Midweek class	
Sept 25	City High Parade Party	5:30 pm
Oct 2	Midweek Meal	
Oct 9	Youth Worship SKIT Rehearsal	12 pm
Oct 13	Youth Worship Rehearsal w/Lunch	
Oct 16	Youth Worship Rehearsal	
Oct 20	Trivia Challenge High School Team	
	Youth Worship Rehearsal	2:00 pm
Oct 23	Youth Worship Rehearsal	
Oct 26-27	YOUTH WORSHIP WEEKEND	
Oct. 26	Youth Worship Rehearsal	2:00 pm
	Youth Worship Service	5:30 pm
	Dinner at Wendy's <i>following service</i>	
Oct. 27	Youth Worship Rehearsal	7:15 am
	Youth Worship Service	8:00 am
	Youth Worship Service	10:30 am
Nov 6	Midweek Meal	
Nov 9	Pie Making Fundraiser	8 am – 12 pm
Nov 10	Brad Alles (<i>special event</i>)	
Dec 4	Set up for Cookie Walk	
Dec 11	Advent Meal <i>High School helps</i>	
Dec 15	Live Nativity & Christmas Party	
Dec 18	Jesus' Birthday Party w/Kids Club	
Dec 25	CHRISTMAS	
Jan 8	Midweek Meal	
Jan 19	UKANDU Initial Meeting	12:00 pm
Jan 20	Ski Trip	
Jan 29	College Care Packages w/Kids Club	
Feb 5	Midweek Meal	
Feb 9	Trivia Challenge High School Team	
Feb 15	UKANDU REGISTRATION DUE	

Feb 26 Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Mar 4 Card Night, make cards for confirmands

March 18 Spring Break – Worship at 6:10 pm

April 1 Spiritual Growth Event *High Schoolers present gifts to 8th grade confirmands*

April 5 Palm Sunday / CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

April 8 Prayer Walk and Clean Up

April 11 Set Up for Easter Breakfast *High School Families* 8:00 am

April 12 EASTER SUNDAY / Easter Breakfast *High School Families host*

April 26 Sunday School Sunday

May 16 Set Up for Senior Breakfast *hosted by 9th – 11th grade families* 9:00 am

May 17 Senior Breakfast *hosted by 9th – 11th grade families* 9:15 am

June/July

Peach Sale fundraiser

Christ Cares Sunday (June 7)

Summer Youth Events

UKANDU – *Summer Servant Event*

4th of July Parade

VBS

MIDWEEK

High School Youth meet in the **youth room** from 6:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays during the school year.

Midweek is about building a faith community through...

- Christ-centered **Bible Studies**
- engaging **service projects**
- interactive **fellowship activities**

Always focused on Jesus Christ our Savior!
Friends are always welcome!

LIVE NATIVITY

Our Redeemer is sometimes known as “the church with the real animals at Christmas,” because each December the High School youth host the Live Nativity.

The scene consists of Mary, Joseph, shepherds, wise men, and an angel portrayed by the high school students.

This event attracts many members of our community and is a great way to proclaim the birth of our Savior!

All High School youth are needed to host this event to the community.

The Live Nativity will be on **Sunday, December 15th from 4:00-6:00 pm.**



SUMMER SERVANT EVENT – UKANDU



UKANDU is the summer servant event for high school youth at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Participants can expect to serve alongside 250 other people from a variety of churches to bring the love of Jesus to the people of inner-city Chicago.

UKANDU is a Christian mission organization dedicated to helping youth and adults become the heart and hands of Christ to those in need around the world.

The philosophy comes from Scripture and is reflected in its name. *“I (You) CAN DO all things through Christ who strengthens me”* (Philippians 4:13). And *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”* (Ephesians 2:10).

Dates for UKANDU 2020 will be announced in January 2020. Usually, UKANDU is held the last full week of June in Chicago.



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING (NYG)

Held every three years, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith, and their Lutheran identity.

During the five days of the Gathering, we will spend time together in God's Word, worship, service, and fellowship with 25,000+ other Lutherans from across the world. This event is organized by LCMS Youth Ministry in St. Louis.

The next **LCMS Youth Gathering** will be held in Houston in July 2022. Registration will begin in September 2021.

FUNDRAISING and PRIZE ACCOUNTS

All Confirmation and High School youth and their families are part of the annual **Youth Peach Fundraiser**.

Profits from the **Youth Peach Fundraiser**

support the Confirmation and High School youth events and activities, including Confirmation Retreats, the LCMS Youth Gathering, and Servant Events.



The **Youth Peach Fundraiser** is the *primary fundraiser* for the youth and earns the largest amount of money to support the youth program.



Each youth (6th – 12th grade) has the opportunity to earn money by helping with the **Youth Peach Fundraiser**. Money earned will be added to each youth's church **Prize Account**.

Prize Account funds can be used as payment towards any Our Redeemer youth activity that requires money.

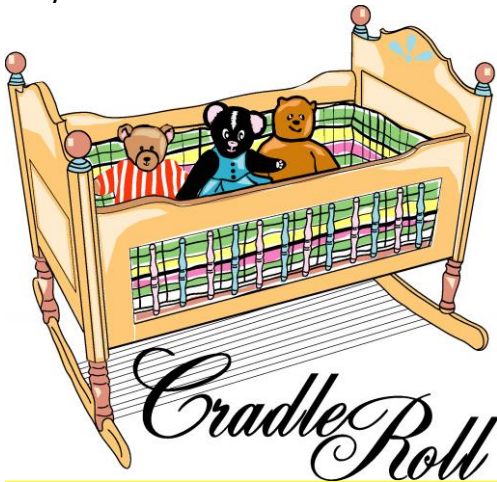
Any questions, please contact the Youth Coordinator at youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org.

Mission Statement

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

CRADLE ROLL

Children are given several gifts at baptism. Baptism is more than a ceremony, more than a tradition, more than a christening (like a ship). Baptism is being brought into God's family. In order to remember the promises of forgiveness and the washing away of sin at baptism, each baptized child is given a baptism medallion, a personalized baptism banner, an embroidered linen baptismal napkin, and the book *Our Faith from A to Z* by Ruth M. Meyer.



OUR REDEEMER PRESCHOOL

Our Redeemer Preschool has been fulfilling the educational and spiritual needs of children in the Iowa City area since 1981.

Our Redeemer Preschool desires to nurture children with Christ as the center of their lives. We use the Voyages Christian curriculum to share the gift of the Gospel message of Christ Jesus. Our Redeemer Preschool uses The Creative Curriculum in order to apply a developmentally appropriate academic atmosphere. The fundamental beliefs of this curriculum are as follows:

1. Constructive, purposeful play is a vehicle for meaningful learning.
2. The development of social competence is a key focus of the preschool years.
3. Curriculum and assessment must be linked.
4. Families are partners in children's learning.
5. The teacher's role is vital in connecting content, teaching, and learning.
6. All children, including those with special needs, can thrive in an appropriate preschool classroom.

ADMISSION STATEMENT

Our Redeemer Christian Preschool admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, or other school-administered programs.

AGES

The preschool serves children of Our Redeemer and our community who are between the ages of 3 and 5, toilet-trained, and not yet enrolled in kindergarten.

SESSIONS

Classes run from after Labor Day through Memorial Day for age 3-PreKindergarten year.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
\$210/Month

Tuesday/Thursday
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
\$154/Month

5 Days
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
\$348/Month

** For Extended Care Options, contact the Director*

** Discounts available for Our Redeemer members and for families with multiple students enrolled.*

The preschool is fully licensed by the State of Iowa. Contact Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller, at 338-3949 or preschool@ourredeemer.org.

KIDS CLUB

Kids Club is a church-sponsored weekly program for young people. For more information about our Kids Club, please contact the church office or our Children's Ministry Coordinator, Marnie Schrader.

LITTLE LAMBS is for children 4 years through Kindergarten. **CROSSTOWN** is for children in 1st and 2nd grade. **FAITH EXPLORERS** is for children in grades 3 through 5.



Every Wednesday evening during Kids Club programs, the children learn Bible stories and verses, sing songs, play games, and participate in craft and mission projects. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church believes that these programs provide fun and enriching midweek Christian activities for children.

COST

Registration fee: \$10/year

Scholarships are available.

Kids Club T-shirt: \$10/shirt

Shirts are available if you are a first-time registrant or if your child has outgrown his/her shirt.

Children are encouraged to wear their shirts weekly and prizes are awarded.

Registration forms are available in the church office. Call 338-5626 or email Marnie Schrader at mvschrader@icloud.com for more information.

BIBLE / PENCIL

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will provide all students with a Bible if needed. Students in 3rd through 5th grades are expected to bring their Bibles with them to class each week. Students who have not yet received a Bible should contact the church office. Students should also come prepared with a pencil each week.

Students receive a small prize each week for coming prepared: wearing their club t-shirt and bringing their Bibles. To receive these incentives, students must be on time for Opening at 6:45 pm.

MEMORY WORK

In building a strong foundation of faith for our children, we believe it is important to begin teaching some of the core components of the catechism and Bible verse memory at an early age. These will be taught in the Openings for each age group.

CALENDAR

CLASSES BEGIN: Classes will begin on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, promptly at 6:45 pm for the Kid's Club Orientation in the Sanctuary. Each week following that, we will begin our opening in the Fellowship Hall promptly at 6:45. We have many important things to cover and ask that students arrive early each week.

Kids Club Sunday is February 23, 2020.

MIDWEEK CELEBRATION: The finale for the Midweek year will be Wednesday, April 29, 2020.

CANCELLATION

If at any time during the year the Iowa City schools are cancelled on a Wednesday, our Kids Club program (*Little Lambs, Cross Town, Faith Explorers*) will also be cancelled on that day. Stay tuned to Channel 9 KCRG for last minute weather-related cancellations.

SNACKS

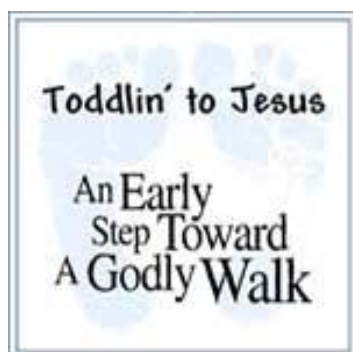
Our snacks are through donations. Our snack coordinator will place a sign-up sheet at our Kids Club Orientation and will be contacting parents throughout the year to request donations.

BIRTHDAYS

Once a month throughout the Midweek year, we celebrate each student's birthday (or half-birthday if it falls outside of our calendar year) for that month in front of the whole club. Snacks may be brought for your child's birthday. You may contact the snack coordinator to arrange this or the snack coordinator may contact you.

CLASSROOM LOCATIONS

See church map of classroom locations on the map at the end of this Equipping Booklet.



TODDLIN' TO JESUS

It is never too early to strengthen our relationship with God and to share that special bond with our children. We realize how difficult it can be to participate in church services and activities at times with little ones in tow. Yet, it is extremely important not to hinder these children from the benefits the church family can provide. Thus, we have developed a special time just for you and your little ones and "little ones to be" during the Sunday School hour, starting at 9:15 am during the school year.

Children aged birth to before they start preschool, accompanied by their parents, as well as expecting parents, are invited to participate in Toddlin' to Jesus. You will be able to meet with other parents and children for Bible study, prayer, singing, and playing. For more information about Toddlin' to Jesus, please contact Marnie Schrader at childrenministry@ourredeemer.org or (319)530-1563.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

*For birth through two years of age, please see **Toddlin' to Jesus** section.*

On Sunday mornings, children ages 3-years through 8th grade attend classes to help them "Grow in Christ". The 3-year-olds through 3rd grade meet in the music room at 9:15 am for Opening and then are excused to go to their classrooms at 9:30 am. The 4th through 8th grades meet in their classrooms at 9:15 am and meet in the Chapel for music from 10:00-10:15. Our Sunday School classrooms are bursting with energy, excitement, and true Bible learning. Each week, students hear the Good News of Jesus' death and resurrection and are exposed to a substantial scope of Bible stories. Our lesson time also includes songs, drama, crafts, games, optional snacks, and memory work. Sunday School is held year-round, except on select holidays and other special church events. Look in **Reflections** for further announcements. For more information, contact Marnie Schrader at childrenministry@ourredeemer.org or (319)530-1563.

MEMORY WORK

In building a strong foundation of faith for our children, we believe it is important to begin teaching some of the core components of the catechism and Bible verse memory at an early age. These are taught in the classroom lesson times.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MEMORY WORK?

- We use memory work for our everyday experiences.
- Certain facts must be memorized for quick recall and retrieval.
- Memory can become part of our life and this memorized information can be internalized and become part of a student’s life patterns and belief system.
- Memory work can assist students to think more sharply and utilize and apply information.

BENEFITS OF MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE PASSAGES, HYMNS, BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

- When this is accomplished, we can look up/quote Scriptural sections more easily.
- Selected Scripture and hymns can be recited to give strength and encouragement in times of distress and pain.
- Memorization reminds the students of their beliefs and provides strength to live accordingly.
- It has learning potential.

WHAT IS OUR REDEEMER’S GOAL?

Memory selections:

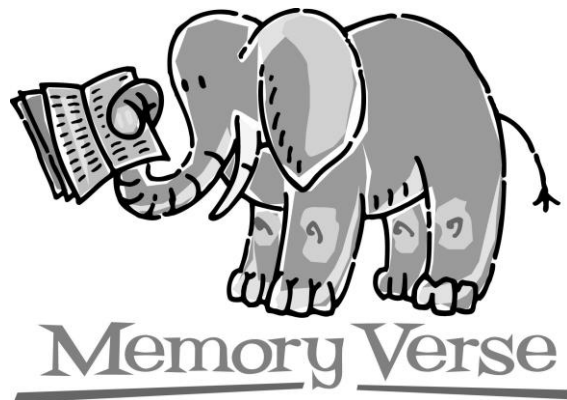
1. Are carefully chosen on the basis of their meaning and value for living and sharing the Christian faith.
2. Correlate with the student’s moral and spiritual development and are adapted to meet differences in memorizing ability.
3. Are taught meaningfully and enjoyably.

4. Are meaningfully applied to the life of the student.

On Sunday School Sunday, April 26, 2020, the classes will be reciting the following Memory Assignments to the congregation:

MEMORY ASSIGNMENTS	
Toddlin’	Jesus Loves Me & Hippo Song
3 years	Exodus 3:12
4 years	Exodus 3:12
Kindergarten	Psalm 119:105
1 st Grade	John 3:16
2 nd Grade	John 3:16
3 rd Grade	The Lord’s Prayer
4 th Grade	The Lord’s Prayer
5 th Grade	Books of the Bible (Old & New Testament)
6/7/8 th Grade	The Apostle’s Creed & The Ten Commandments
High School	Proverbs 3:5-6 & Psalm 23

It is recommended that teachers and parents also learn the Memory Assignments!



Recognizing the differences in memorizing ability, we find it extremely important to teach not only portions of Scripture, but also how and where to find Scripture when needed, equipping students for their lifetime of spiritual growth and learning.

Classroom Locations

See church map of classroom locations on the map at the back of this Equipping Booklet.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & LUNCH



Children in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to participate in our annual Children's Christmas Program. This program, held on Sunday, December 15, 2019, during both the 8:00 am and 10:30 am services, offers children an opportunity to actively share the Good News of our Savior's birth.

Children in the 3 & 4-year-old Sunday School class, Preschool A and Preschool B, will take some time of their class to practice a few songs they will sing before the program on the assigned day.

Children will learn songs for the program during Sunday School music time in October & November. There will be two Saturday morning practices on December 7 & 14, 2019 as well. More information will be given in October.

The program is followed by a wonderful soup lunch in the Fellowship Hall by the Children's Ministry Committee. For more information, contact Marnie Schrader at childrensministry@ourredeemer.org or (319)530-1563.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Date to TBA

Children age 4 years through 8th grade enjoy a fantastic week here at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church each summer. The transformation from church home to VBS theme is amazing!

Each year, families are excited to see if they will be walking into the midst of a jungle, beach, desert, mountains, or even outer space!

Our evenings begin with an Opening, which is followed by great Bible lessons, fun crafts, games, snacks, Bible verse memory, and recreation.



Volunteers are always needed to help in various positions. For more information, contact Marnie Schrader at childrensministry@ourredeemer.org or (319)530-1563.

Service Connections:

ASSIMILATION

To ensure that we are connecting our members to Jesus, His Word, and each other, reflecting His love in word and deed.

The purpose of this group is to improve the assimilation or integration of members into the activities of the church. This has been described as “the task of moving people from an awareness of your church to attendance at your church to active membership in your church.”

This team of people strives to accomplish its goals through various means that begin at the front doors of the church.

WELCOME CENTER

A Welcome Center is located just inside the main entrance of the church in the narthex, under the ‘Blessed You Are Here’ sign. In addition to the guest registry, there is information about Our Redeemer.

NAME TAGS

Someone said, “Words have meaning and names have power.” Name tags for every member are in the drawers of the Welcome Center in the narthex. We ask that EVERY MEMBER wear his/her name tag, whether you are a new member or a charter member. This is one way we continue to get to know one another. And when someone says “Good Morning...” and uses your name, there is power.

MEMBER NEWS BULLETIN BOARD

Located in the upstairs hallway, next to the restrooms, you will find an interesting bulletin board with great information. Sports news, various types of recognition, and other accolades are reported and shared about our members, along with community news and opportunities. In the narthex, you will find a board with photos of our newest members. Be sure to check these boards!

NEW MEMBER BRUNCH

**February 2, 2020
12:00 pm**

Each year this committee hosts a brunch to welcome all new members to Our Redeemer. Any and all new members are invited! This includes members who have transferred their membership from another congregation and those who have completed Basics of the Faith class and Adult Confirmation.

ASSIMILATION PARTICIPATION

The committee typically meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Cory Strumpel at 319-627-4322 or tomandcory@gmail.com.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

This committee works closely with the Children's Ministry Coordinator overseeing all of Our Redeemer's educational ministries. These ministries include Sunday School, Kids Club, and Vacation Bible School. For more information, contact the church office at 338-5626.

Our Redeemer is always looking for qualified and capable teachers. Teachers are needed for Adult, Youth, and Children classes. If you are interested in being a teacher, contact the church office at 338-5626.



HEALTH MINISTRIES

This ministry is a Christian service shaped by Christ's concern for all aspects of the human condition, and directed to the service of the whole person. Health Ministries responds to the health needs of the congregation and promotes wellness of the body, mind, and spirit.

Members with health concerns who would like a visit should contact Erica Davisson at #319-541-7242 or leave a message in the church office at 338-5626.

Medical equipment such as walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, and shower chair are available for loan. Please contact the church office.

HUMAN CARE

The Human Care Committee has been active at Our Redeemer for many years. The Committee is quite popular and active, probably because the projects we are involved with are rewarding and fun.

Our present activities include:

PRIME TIME DINNER

Sunday, November 3, 2019

12:00 pm

The committee hosts a dinner each fall, with entertainment and/or raffles, for members 60 years of age and older. At the dinner we recognize those who have “special” birthdays during the past year. Special birthdays are 75, 80, 85, 90, etc. We also serve a Wednesday night Advent meal and Lenten meal.

ANGEL TREE

Members of our congregation may take an angel from the tree and provide the gift requested by the child whose parent is a prisoner. Sometimes these may be the only gifts these kids receive. In addition, a gift card for groceries is included in each gift bag along with information about Our Redeemer.

MITTEN TREE

Members of our congregation donate mittens, scarves, snow pants, and hats. The committee donates them to the Iowa City School District for distribution to students who need them.

COMMUNITY BIN IN THE NARTHEX

Members of our congregation donate food and paper products. Each week the donations are delivered to the CommUnity (formerly Crisis Center). The congregation is very generous as it amounts to several tons of items each year, including the VBS donation of approximately 800 items.

COMMUNITY SPREAD THE LOVE CAMPAIGN

February is the CommUnity (formerly Crisis Center) Spread the Love Campaign peanut butter and jelly drive. Notices are put in Reflections and Beacon and signs are posted. The peanut butter and jelly that are collected during the month of February are delivered to CommUnity (formerly the Crisis Center) in early March.

SOCTOBER

October is *Soctober*. For people without permanent housing, feet work overtime when there isn't a warm home to return to each night. Socks are not often donated, yet new socks are like gold to homeless people. We ask the congregation to donate new crew socks (dark are preferred) with a reinforced toe. Notices will be put in Reflections and Beacon and signs will be posted. The socks will be delivered to CommUnity (formerly the Crisis Center) in early November.

EMERGENCY FUNDS

Funds are available through our committee, as a grant or a loan, for members of Our Redeemer who may be experiencing a short term emergency. Examples could be a fire, loss of job, medical emergency, etc., when a few extra dollars could help carry someone through. Requests for funds should be made by contacting Pastor Hartwig who will then contact the appropriate people from the Human Care Committee.

BIRTHDAY CARDS

Cards, signed by the members of the committee, are sent to congregation members 60 years of age and older.

CARE PROJECT

This is a program where members of Our Redeemer can contact us if they need some short-time help, such as a ride, small household chores, etc. We have a volunteer list of people who are willing to help when a request is made.

CONTACT

The committee meets on a monthly basis. For more information, contact Dean Hargens at 337-4635.

MISSION

The Mission Committee's focus is emphasizing our Lord's Great Commission:
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...
(Matthew 28:19a)



We help support missionaries and mission trips, both domestic and international. This help can be in the form of prayer support, financial support, and/or physical support.

In past years, the Mission Committee organized short term mission trips to domestic and international locations. In the future, the Mission Committee's efforts will be directed toward one international location, a location and missionary known to Our Redeemer and directly supported by the congregation.

The Mission Committee also organizes a Pancake Day fundraiser each Spring to support a local organization. In recent years, the funds raised have helped CommUnity (formerly the Johnson County Crisis Center).

The Mission Committee is always open to new members, but it should be noted that committee membership is not required to participate in any Mission Committee activity such as a short term mission trip, pancake day, etc.

CONTACT

For more information about the Mission Committee, contact Bob Powers at 338-9651.

OUTREACH

The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to follow the Great Commission of our Savior Jesus who commanded, “go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19a). We are about equipping disciples for Jesus. A Christian disciple is one who trusts in Jesus as his/her Savior and follows Jesus to spread the Gospel of salvation to others so that they also become disciples of Jesus. As a committee, we are here to provide opportunities for the members of Our Redeemer to reach out to their family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and our community with the message of forgiveness, life, and salvation that only comes through Jesus Christ.

“And let us consider how to stir one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

What does the Outreach Committee do to provide opportunities for members to reach out to others? Some of what we do:

- Christ Cares Sunday – serve our community in multiple ways
- 4th of July Parade Float – hand out bottles of water with a Bible verse
- Johnson County Fair Booth – share information about our Savior, church, and preschool
- Fun Faith Fest – provide worship, food, fun, games, and fellowship
- City High Homecoming Parade – serve hot dogs and chips
- Christmas and Carols – serve cookies and hot cocoa

- Live Nativity – serve cookies and hot cocoa and cider
- Co-fund two preschool mailers
- Biblical Character – share God’s Word
- Visitor Letters – reach out to visitors who worship with us

For more information, contact Marlene Thompson at 319-338-2938 or Marilyn Kempnich at 319-351-5297, co-chairs of the Outreach Committee.

PROPERTIES

The Church Properties Committee is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the church, church grounds, vicarage, and parsonage. This is done through both contract and volunteer work.

Administrative Connections:

BEACON

Our monthly church newsletter *Beacon* is designed as a summary of events and activities, a quick look at upcoming events, informational articles, and an activity calendar for the Body of Christ here at Our Redeemer.

The name of the newsletter comes from Matthew 5:14: "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden." Notice the skylight at the top of the sanctuary. From this place, we shine our Gospel light into the community. Not just the building, but we the people are the light in this community.

***We encourage regular reading
of this publication.***

The *Beacon* is on the www.ourredeemer.org website under publications and a link is emailed each month. Paper form is available on the last Sunday of the month, replacing *Reflections* that week.

Submissions are due to the church office no later than 5:00 pm on the 20th of each month. Contact our Office Coordinator, Lorrie Bailey.

CARD SHOP

LWML hosts a Christian card shop located just outside the Fellowship Hall. This service is available to provide low-cost Christian messages of hope, encouragement, concern, and joy.

Payment box is located on the wall to the left of the display. For more information, contact Kathy Folkmann at 354-0480.

COMMUNICATION CABINETS

To provide a way to stay in communication with one another, each member family of Our Redeemer is assigned a communication box located in the hallway opposite the nursery.

If you do not yet have a box assigned to your family or you have further questions, please contact our Office Coordinator, Lorrie Bailey, at 338-5626.

COMMUNICATION RACKS

Previous and current issues of *Beacon*, *Reflections*, sermon notes, *IDE Today*, *Lutheran Digest*, and other important communications can be found on communication racks outside the church office.

DEVOTIONS

Many resources are available to help with personal and group devotions. Copies of *Portals of Prayer*, *My Devotions*, and *Happy Times* can be found in the narthex.

Devotional materials can also be found in the church library.

If you need assistance finding the right materials for you, contact the church office at 338-5626.

LIBRARY

The Church Library provides Christian resources to the members of Our Redeemer. The goal is to furnish a balance of materials and subjects for all ages. These collections become available through donations or through monetary funding. New purchases are carefully selected by the church librarians and the Pastor. Part of the library materials for adult studies are located in room 208-210. The main library holds books of many subjects, including Christian fiction, nonfiction, children and juniors. Family videos are also available. A card system has been established for checking out materials. The check out and return rules can be found at the library desk area.

To donate materials, or if you have any questions, please contact:

Kelli Kucera 512-6789

Shana Stuart 337-9465

REFLECTIONS

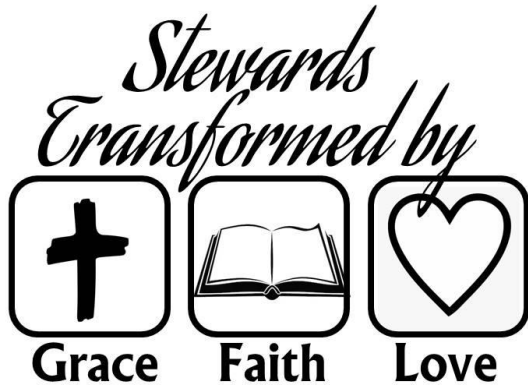
Our weekly church newsletter *Reflections* helps us reflect on how God is working within the Body of Christ here at Our Redeemer.

We encourage regular reading of the up-to-date information in this publication.

Reflections can be found at the ushers table at weekend worship, or located online at www.ourredeemer.org. It is replaced the last Sunday of the month with the *Beacon*. The most recent copies are placed on the wire rack outside the office door.

Submissions are due to the church office no later than 5:00 pm each Wednesday. Contact our Office Coordinator, Lorrie Bailey, at 338-5626.

Worship Connections:



Stewards Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love (Stewardship Series)

As God's people, we are so blessed that His abundant gifts of grace, faith, and love never cease and are new every morning. How great is His faithfulness to us (Lamentations 3:23)! Filled with God's presence, we become God-pleasing stewards who manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. For each of the three weeks, the program focuses on one of the virtues of grace, faith, and love.

October 6, 2019

Stewards Transformed by Grace:

Grace is God's unmerited and unearned favor. All we are and have are by God's grace. The zenith of God's grace is the gift of salvation through Jesus. God's grace enables us to be His stewards. God's grace

gives us both the desire and the power to do His will.

October 20, 2019

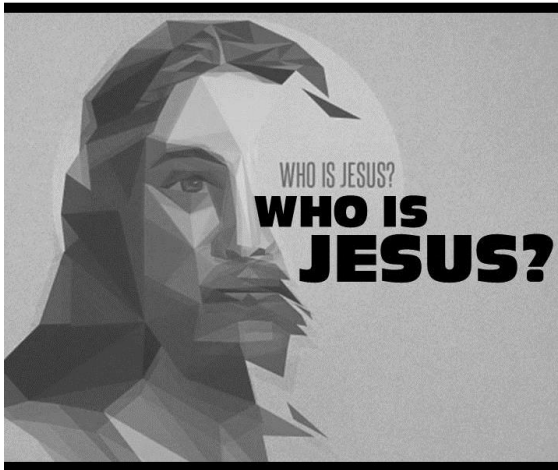
Stewards Transformed by Faith:

By grace, God gives us faith. Faith enables us to put our trust in Jesus. Our stewardship is faith in action. Through faith, we are empowered to be God's hands, feet, and mouth.

November 17, 2019

Stewards Transformed by Love:

"We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). God's lavish love for us overflows through us to others. With God's strength, we are empowered to live lives worthy of His love.



Christmas Eve: December 24, 2019
Jesus Is the Son Of Mary
(Matthew 1:18–25)

Christmas Day: December 25, 2019
Jesus Is the Son Of Sinners
(Matthew 1:1-17)

Who is Jesus? (Advent Sermon Series)

Since the dawn of time, about 60 billion people have walked on Planet Earth. Of those 60 billion people, only a handful have made any real, lasting impression. In that handful of people, one stands far above all of the others. His name is Jesus.

In this sermon series for Advent and Christmas, noted preacher and biblical scholar R. Reed Lessing explores the answer to the question “Who is Jesus?” by focusing on the genealogy of Mary’s Son as it is given to us in the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew 1:1-17.

Advent 1: December 4, 2019
Jesus Is the Son Of David
(Matthew 1:1, 6, 17)

Advent 2: December 11, 2019
Jesus Is the Son Of Abraham
(Matthew 1:1)

Advent 3: December 18, 2019
Jesus Is the Son Of Solomon
(Matthew 1:6)





**Let My People Go!
The Book of Exodus
(Lenten Sermon Series)**

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and so does the emphasis of this sermon series on Moses's book called Exodus. God's salvation of the ancient Israelites from slavery in Egypt is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Israel's Scriptures mention the exodus 125 times!

Throughout Exodus, God reveals who He is through His absence and His presence, through silence and speech, through wrath and mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the book paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus, especially as we follow Him along the way to Golgotha and the empty tomb.

Ash Wednesday – February 26
“Big Things with Small Stuff” (Ex 2:1–10)

Lent One – March 4
“How God Changes Us” (Ex 3:1–14)

Lent Two – March 11
“Stop Trying and Start Trusting”
(Ex 14:1–29)

Lent Three – March 18
“Strike the Rock!” (Ex 17:1–7)

Lent Four – March 25
“Mine!” (Ex 20:1–17)

Lent Five – April 1
“Digging Ourselves into a Hole”
(Ex 32:1–14)

Palm Sunday – April 5
“A New Beginning!” (Ex 34:1–8)

Maundy Thursday – April 9
“Access!” (Ex 24:1–11)

Good Friday – April 10
“Agnus Dei” (Ex 12:1–13)

Easter – April 12
“Against all Odds!” (Ex 15:1–18)



ADVENT AND LENTEN SUPPERS

All are invited to come!

During the seasons of Advent and Lent, various groups and individuals prepare dinner for the congregation prior to these special worship services.

Advent dinners are on the three Wednesdays prior to Christmas, and Lenten dinners are on the five Wednesdays prior to Easter.

Dinner is served at 5:10 pm with a special worship service at 6:10 pm. There is no cost, only a free-will donation to cover expenses.

Advent Dinner

Wednesday, December 4, 2019
Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Lenten Dinners

Wednesday, March 4, 2020
Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Wednesday, March 18, 2020
Wednesday, March 25, 2020
Wednesday, April 1, 2020

LENTEN PRAYER WALK

Lent is a time of reflection. Join us for a time of focused prayer. In small groups or individually, journey from prayer station to prayer station focusing on the life and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Prayer Walk is specifically placed on the Wednesday of Passion Week.

ACOLYTES

It is expected that all confirmation students (grades 6-8) serve as acolytes.

The word “acolyte” means “follower” or “attendant.” It refers to the fact that the acolyte is assisting the pastor in the worship service in very specific ways.

Here at Our Redeemer, the duties include candle lighting, receiving the offering plates, and caring for the return trays for the communion cups.

ADULT CHOIR

Anyone of high school age and older who enjoys singing is encouraged to join! Rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 6:45 pm, starting August 28, 2019, through early May. The choir sings regularly for worship services.

Contact the church office at 338-5626.

BAPTISM

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)



We believe the Bible teaches that a person is saved by God's grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism is one of the miraculous means of grace through which God creates and/or strengthens the gift of faith. This Sacrament, explicitly commanded by God with His precious promises attached to it, is a powerful means of grace by which God grants faith and the forgiveness of sins. Anyone wishing to be baptized should contact Pastor Hartwig.

Expectant parents are encouraged to contact Pastor Hartwig with their expected due date so that a baptismal date may be scheduled.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUPPORT

We encourage families to bring their children to worship and are pleased to offer resources for worship time.

Children's worship bags are available for children and are located on the "trees" in the narthex. Take one during the service and return it back to the "trees" at the close.

Children's worship bulletins are available from the ushers.

FELLOWSHIP TIME

As we come to our church home to nurture and support one another, a special fellowship time is available after 8:00 am worship prior to Bible Study.

Our fellowship area is located in the narthex, where coffee and treats are hosted each week by different groups.

If you or your group would like to host, please see the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Place.

GREETERS

The greeter program is designed to help members and visitors feel warmly welcomed as they come to worship at Our Redeemer. Contact the church office if you would like to be a greeter.

HANDBELL CHOIR

If you are high school age or older, and can read music, the Handbell Choir is looking for you! We play during Sunday worship services approximately once per month, September through May. Two rehearsals are usually held prior to these services, so this is not a weekly commitment. Please contact the church office at 338-5626.

NURSERY

We are pleased to have children at worship and encourage families to bring them. If nursery services are needed, the nursery is located just past the church library and restrooms on the upper level. For more information, please contact the church office at 338-5626.

ORGAN AND PIANO

Our Redeemer is blessed to have Marilyn Paetz as a staff organist. Likewise, we have three talented pianists who rotate serving for the Gracious Beginnings Divine Service on Saturdays. Thank you all for using your talents and skills in glory to God.

If you have the talent and skill of playing either the organ or piano, please let Pastor Hartwig know. With vacations, illnesses, and life-challenges, there could be a time we need a spare. Or we could benefit from you giving an Offertory during services.

PRAISE TEAM

The Praise Team enhances worship with contemporary music during the 10:30 am service on Sunday morning. The group introduces new music and traditional favorites to the worship service. Rehearsals are scheduled on a week-to-week basis, often at 8:00 am Sunday mornings. Contact the church office at 338-5626.

PRAYER CHAIN

Jesus instructed us to pray and assures us in Matthew 18:19: *“Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.”*

This prayer chain consists of members from Our Redeemer who have seen the power of prayer in the life of God’s people.

If you would like to become a member of the prayer chain, contact the church office at 338-5626 or Skip Kempnich at 351-5297 or prayerchain@ourredeemer.org.

If you would like the group to offer prayers on your behalf, for a loved one or for any special needs you may have, contact the church office at 338-5626 or Skip Kempnich at 351-5297 or prayerchain@ourredeemer.org.

When requesting a prayer, be sure to indicate if you would or would not want the prayer to be included in the public worship services.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Music is God’s greatest gift. It has often so stimulated and stirred me that I felt the desire to preach,” said Luther. And he also stated, “Music is an outstanding gift of God.” We invite you to use your musical talents during our Divine Worship Services. This invitation includes our youth.

Please contact Twyla Freeman to let her know what you would like to do musically during our worship services. You can contact Twyla Freeman at 530-2371 or email her at specialmusic@ourredeemer.org.



TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANTS

We are fortunate to have some of the latest technology devices to enhance our worship experience.

Our sound system helps us hear the Word, message, and music more clearly during the service and also allows us to record one service each week for uploading to our web site so the service can be accessed via computer at a later date.

Our projection system permits a hands-free worship environment and also aids a

visitor not familiar with our liturgies to more easily follow along.

Our cameras allow a service to be aired on the local access channel on Mediacom each week.

A volunteer is needed at each service to put the correct slide on the screens at the right time. The services are set up on the computer prior to the service by the Director of Technology. Advancing the slides for the screens is not complicated. There are only a few buttons to learn.

A second volunteer is needed at the sound board during services.

A third volunteer is needed to operate the cameras for the service being recorded and for other special services.

Please consider helping in this area!

Training is available at any time on any of the equipment.

Contact the Director of Technology, Kevin Sellers, at 319-631-8924 or at technology@ourredeemer.org

USHERS

Ushers are an important part of our Sunday services. They distribute worship bulletins and other worship aids prior to the services. Ushers also assist in gathering the offering and distributing communion. Five ushers participate in each service. Ushers volunteer to serve regularly at one service per month. Contact Dave Fruendt (338-5546) about early service and Dave Hintze (351-5873) about late service.

YOUTH CHOIR

Allison Haack will be leading a youth choir for youth in Kindergarten through eighth grade. For more information, contact Allison Haack at 319-400-1212.

An up-to-date 2019-2020 Calendar

Available at www.ourredeemer.org
Click on Master Calendar

Printed copies of the monthly calendar are available when the *Beacon* comes out—they will be at the ushers tables that weekend or in the office for the month following.

The Google Calendar can be linked to your Google calendar – contact Kevin Sellers



Directory



UPPER LEVEL	Chapel & Sanctuary	Clergy & Staff Offices	Library & Gathering Place	Children's Nursery	Music & Choir Rm
COMMON	Educ Office & Classrooms	Public Circulation			
LOWER LEVEL	Fellowship Hall	Kitchen & Food Service	Preschool	Youth Room	Utility & Storage

Sunday Morning Openings

Age/Grade	Room Number
4 year olds through 4 th grade	206-Music Room

Sunday Morning Classrooms:

Age/Grade	Room Number
0-3 years	215-Toddlin' Classroom
Preschool 1 (3 year olds)	217-Classroom
Preschool 2 (4 year olds)	219-Classroom
Kindergarten	117-Classroom
1 st /2 nd Grade	119-Classroom
3 rd Grade	121-Classroom
4 th Grade	123-Classroom
5 th Grade	112-Classroom
6 th /7 th /8 th Grade	208-Classroom
High School	110-Classroom
Adult	101-Fellowship Hall

Sunday Morning Closings

Age/Grade	Room Number
5 th through 8 th grade	202-Chapel of the Shepherd

Wednesday Night Openings

Age/Grade	Room Number
4 years through 2 nd Grade - Little Lambs & CrossTown	201-Sanctuary
3 rd through 5 th grade - Faith Explorers	201-Sanctuary

Wednesday Night Classrooms:

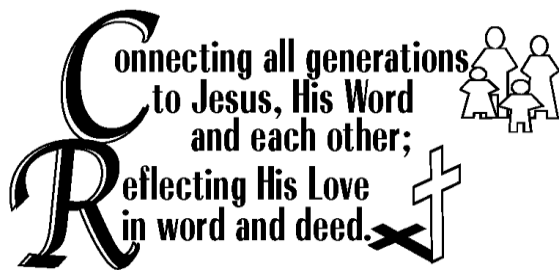
Age/Grade	Room Number
4 years – Kindergarten – Little Lambs	215-Classroom
1 st – 2 nd Grade - CrossTown	219-Classroom
3 th - 4 th – 5 th Grade- Faith Explorers	121-Classroom
6 th Grade Small Group, Girls 8 th Grade Small Group, Girls	117-Classroom
6 th Grade Small Group, Boys 8 th Grade Small Group, Boys	119-Classroom
7 th Grade Small Group, Boys	113-Education Office
7 th Grade Lecture 7 th Grade Small Group, Girls	123-Classroom
6 th Grade Lecture 8 th Grade Lecture	112-Classroom
High School	110-Classroom
Adult	208/210-Classroom



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Our Mission:

"This is what we do"



Our Vision:

"This is where the Spirit is taking us"

Our Redeemer Congregation is a grace-filled, God-glorifying community of believers devoted to Word, fellowship, Sacraments, and prayer, committed to involving more people in ministry so that the Body of Christ would be built up for service to others as we reach out to more people with the Gospel.

Our Motto:

"This is what we are about"

**Equipping Disciples
to make Disciples
for Jesus**

THESE ARE THE VALUES THAT MATTER TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR REDEEMER:

CHRIST-CENTERED, Bible-based

We are a Christ-centered and Bible-based church which desires that all generations be intimately connected to Jesus and His Word. (John 14:6)

Caring Small Groups

We believe spiritual growth and caring communities are most effective in small groups which include Word, Prayer, Fellowship, and Service. (Acts 2:42, 46-47)

Everlasting Life through GRACE

We believe that it is by God's grace that we are saved eternally and that it is by God's grace that we are equipped to serve here and now. (2 Cor. 5:14-21)

Neighbor to Neighbor: Gifted to Serve

We believe in helping people discover, develop, and use their spiritual gifts and in providing opportunities for people to use their resources, gifts, and skills in service to others to the Lord's glory. (1 Cor. 12)

Together WE Worship

We believe in offering vibrant, genuine worship in Word and Sacrament with a variety of styles to the glory of God and the edification of His people. (John 4:24)

Encouraging in Loving Relationships

We believe that caring and loving relationships should permeate every aspect of family, church, and community life. (Eph. 4:11-16)

Reflecting Jesus' Love

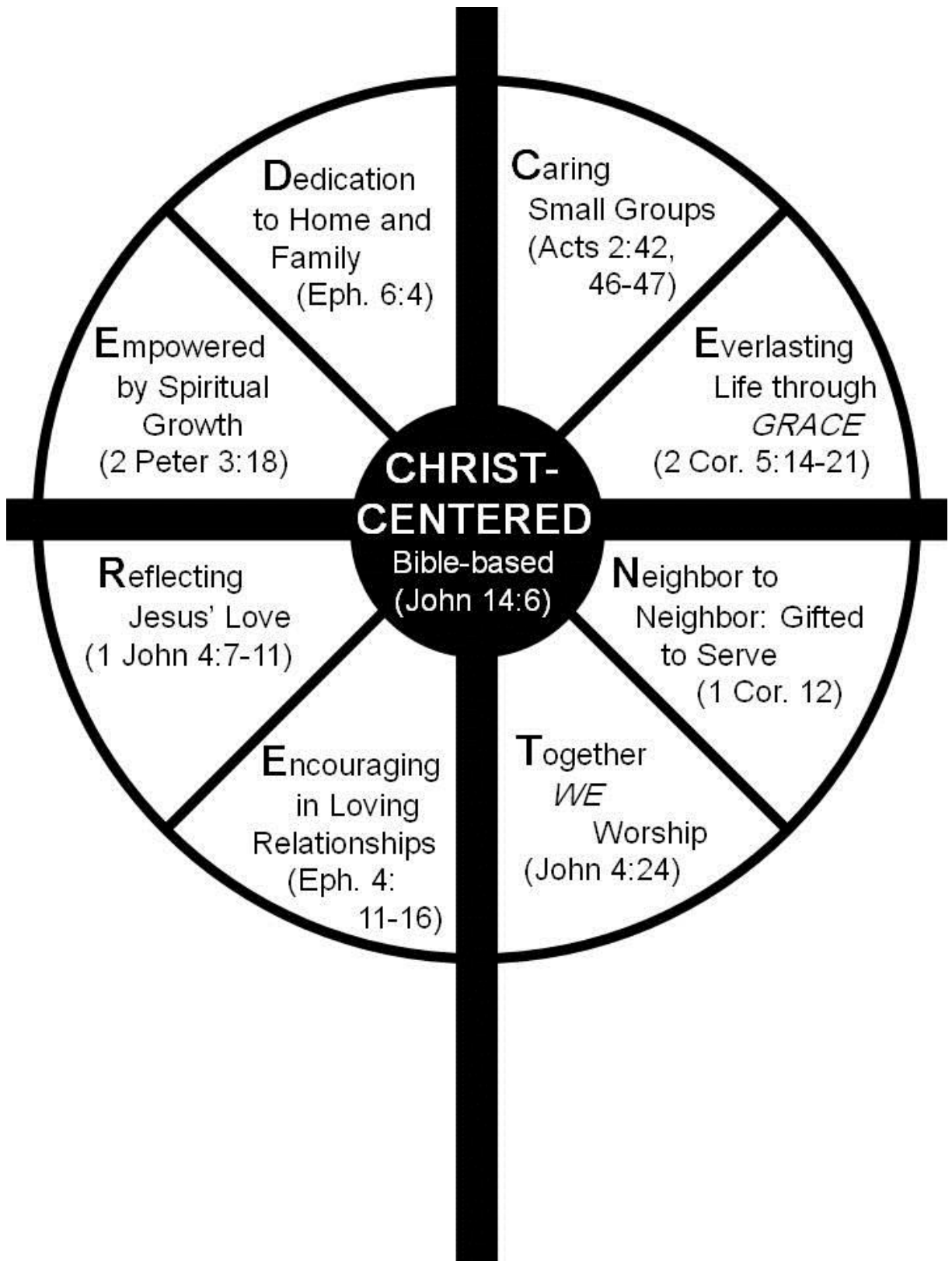
We believe that all of us—individually and corporately—are to reflect Jesus' unconditional love in word and deed, living the Christian life as followers (disciples) of Christ. (1 John 4:7-11)

Empowered by Spiritual Growth

We believe in the continued spiritual growth of our own members and those in our community through the offering of various Christian Education opportunities for all ages. (2 Pet. 3:18)

Dedication to Home and Family

We believe that the home/family is the essential agency for Christian education in our society and that the church is God's plan to provide support for the family. (Eph. 6:4)



Worship Services

Gracious Beginnings

Saturday 5:30 pm

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised (Psalm 113:3). As evening commences, our weekend worship schedule is inaugurated with **gracious beginnings**.

As we casually gather together in this place, we encounter, experience, and express our joy in response to what God has done for us. We worship by hearing God's Word, remembering baptism, and sharing bread and wine in Jesus' name while lifting our voices high in prayer and song. The melodic tones of the **piano**, and sometimes more instruments, with its dynamic range direct our voices in worship.

God is Our Foundation

Sunday 8:00 am

We hear that *"no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ,"* the chief cornerstone (1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20). Our worship of God is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets as components of the Divine Service liturgy, connecting us with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven. Word and Sacrament are **our foundation!**

In this Divine Service, in which the worshiper comes face to face with God and talks to him as a child to a father, we respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving from our mind, heart, and voice. Our Casavant tracker **organ** is ideally suited to accompany our voices during this service.

God is Our Hope

Sunday 10:30 am

Psalm 150 encourages us to *"Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, Let everything that has breath praise the LORD."*

In this Divine Service, a variety of music swells to fill the liturgy. We sing and make melody in our hearts to the Lord through Christian music, hymns, and spiritual songs, (Eph. 5: 19). Receiving the key note from God, we sing in unison with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father. As varied as our voices, a **myriad of instruments**--organ, bass, guitar, synthesizer, and drums come together in this Divine Service to harmoniously sing praises to the Lord. All praise, glory, and honor to God because He is **our hope!**

Advent and Lenten Worship

Wednesdays 1:00 and 6:10 pm

Prior to the birth of the Bethlehem babe on Christmas Day and before the death and resurrection of Our Redeemer on Good Friday and Easter, we gather together to meditate upon the importance of the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated on the **first, third, and fifth Sundays and the corresponding Saturdays** of each month.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool

2301 E. Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245