Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen!

I pray that you're doing well during this incredibly unique time in many of our lives. Yes, nothing is normal, but perhaps you've been able to get used to this "New (and Lord willing, temporary) Normal" or maybe you're still struggling. May God give us all peace and patience as some of us are going a little "Stir-Crazy".

One thing that I know I'm thankful for is Stir-Fry. Rachel is a great cook and innovator in the kitchen. Often, I'll find myself looking into the cupboard and thinking, "Man, there just aren't enough things here for me to make a proper meal that I know how to make." Which normally boils down to us being out of rice, beans, and chicken. At that time, I normally throw in the towel and make a homemade batch of mac and cheese, cereal, and/or PB&J.

However, Rachel can see combinations of flavors and ingredients that I wouldn't even think possible! She can look into a bunch of random vegetables and meats and decide to make something as wonderfully delicious as Stir-Fry! Where I didn't see connections, Rachel sees an opportunity. All these parts are put together, some heat is added, and a wonderful meal is made.

During this time of Quarantine, I think God is doing the same thing in our lives. You and I can see all the parts: Panic buying, toilet paper shortages, shut-downs, stay at home orders, nursing homes closed, people dying, online school, online church, and the list goes on. You and I look at these parts and think, "Nope. No thank you, I can't make anything out of this!" People can't wait to close the door on this situation and open the doors of their homes and churches. Life feels like it has stopped to a dead halt. You might be feeling a little stir crazy.

God sees it a bit differently.

Yes, there is pain, heartache, even death. Yes, things feel like they're changed for good. But our God is still in control, wide awake at the wheel. In the midst of this, God is putting together a list of different ingredients: families are spending more time together at home. Parents have chances to educate their children in the faith. Churches can still worship online. Leaders are put forward in a visible way for the people to pray for. People are making masks for each other. Neighbors are signing up to help pick up groceries for those who are unable to go shopping themselves. The Gospel is still being preached to the people of God. God is making something beautiful out of the struggles in our nation right now.

Christ is Risen!

The one who took all the sin, pain, and punishment which should have been ours. He took those ingredients and drank the gall of death.

And then He rose.

He made something new for you and for me.

He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

In Christ, Vicar Gonzalez-Feliciano



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

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

MAY ACTIVITIES

Schedule for the week of April 26—May 3

Sun YOUTUBE-Divine Worship Service 8:00am

ZOOM-Sunday School 9:30am

ZOOM-Adult Bible Class

YOUTUBE-Divine Worship Service

Mon Staff Meeting 1:00pm

Tues Stephen Ministry Training 6:45pm

CALL DAY

Wed ZOOM-Midweek Celebration 6:45pm

Thurs No events scheduled

Fri

Sat YOUTUBE-Divine Worship Service 5:30pm

Sun YOUTUBE-Divine Worship Service 8:00am

ZOOM-Sunday School 9:30am ZOOM-Adult Bible Class 9:30am

YOUTUBE-Divine Worship Service 10:30am

Dear Members & Friends of Our Redeemer,

At this unprecedented time it is still impossible to include a calendar for the month of May.

Please check the online calendar to stay up to date. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office at 338-5626 or email me at:

redeemer@ourredeemer.org

May the Lord watch over everyone and keep us safe.

Yours in Christ,

Lorrie

Christ commands:

"Contribute to the needs of the saints.

Therefor we show hospitality."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Watch your email for links
Saturday 5:30pm YOUTUBE
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am YOUTUBE
Sunday School 9:15am ZOOM
Adult Bible Study 9:30am ZOOM

****Communion in May unknown at this time due to COVID19 situation.****

Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am

Not meeting until further notice.

Choir practice Wednesdays at 6:45pm

Not meeting until further notice.

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

You have heard our pleas for mercy, O Lord, and given up Your Son to be our Savior. Hear us now as we come to You on behalf of ourselves and all people according to their needs.

Our hearts have burned in us, O Lord, as Your Word has been read and preached. Keep our faith from growing cold and grant us grace, that we may not waver in faith or succumb to temptation. Give to us and to our children receptive hearts, that we may hear and, hearing, believe and, believing, be steadfast in this faith and hope all our days.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

You have cleansed us, O Lord, with water and the Word in Baptism, and You have marked us as Your own people. Give to us grace, that we may live out this faith in holy lives, lifting up Your name in word and works for as long as we live. Guide us, that with souls purified by obedience to the truth, we may love one another earnestly from a pure heart.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Deliver us from all our afflictions, and grant us strength to bear all our burdens, O Lord. According to Your gracious will, heal the sick, relieve those who suffer, comfort the grieving and give peace to the dying. [We especially pray for Tom Barnes (Melody Strom's stepfather), Jeanette Cain (Vaughn Davisson's cousin), Charles Calef, Jody Cole (Charles Calef's friend), Keri Cotè (friend of Sara Cross), Emee Elkeurti, Ron Freeman (Larry Freeman's nephew), Danny Fuhrmeister, Don Hein, Gabe Hundley (grandson of Karen Abernathy), Ken Jensen (Ron Westfall's nephew), David Jones (Lonne Loney's uncle), Ken and Donna Kober (friends of the Thompson's), Brad Koelper (Donna Saehler's nephew), Creedon Miller (son of Duane and Florence Miller), Tonda Moyer (Lillian Moyer's daughter-in-law), Barb Nace (Doris Siemer's niece), Don Netser (Melissa Mullane's father), Ephraim Newland, Sharon Paulus (Sandy Wagner's sister), Joyce Pence (Chad Pence's mother), and Steve Schultz].

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Stay with us, O Lord, and be our strength in weakness and our hope in time of despair. Your gracious will once kept the saints in faith even unto death. Keep us, we pray, with them in Your faith and fear, that we may be found faithful when Christ comes again in His glory to bring to fulfillment all things, once and forevermore.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Accept, O Lord, this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we bring for all Your goodness and generosity. And with our song of praise, accept our tithes and offerings, that Your Church may have the resources to proclaim Your Gospel and care for the poor and those in need.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give us peace, O Lord, in the face of death. This week *Carol Lake* died. This week the funeral will be private, but please keep this family in your prayers.

We pray for the family and friends of *Carol Lake* as they mourn her death. Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

[We pause for a moment of silent prayer.]

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



MISSION	APRIL
Iowa District East	\$3,333.33
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	\$333.33
TOTAL	\$3,666.66
Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca	\$500.00
Lutheran Family Services	\$500.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$250.00
St. Paul's Chapel	\$375.00
MONTH TOTAL	\$5,291.66
MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	
CommUnity Crisis Center	\$30.00
Lutherans For Life	
TOTAL	\$30.00

Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Removed</u>	
Barbara Wade	3-28-2020
Samuel Wade	3-28-2020
Monte, Sherri & Brock Amundson	3-28-2020
Brian Benson	3-28-2020
Shay, Kristina, Monika, Lauren & Zachary Bevans	3-28-2020
Christina Cook	3-28-2020
Valerie Erickson & Madalynn Mergen	3-28-2020
Rick Holderness	3-28-2020
Jonathan & Shanna McClure & Kids	3-28-2020
Andrew Stockman	3-28-2020
Dawn, Karlie &Kelsie Stoddard	3-28-2020
Gregory Hodges	3-28-2020
Gretchen Daniels	3-28-2020
Anthony Mueller	3-28-2020
<u>Baptism</u>	
Adelaide Grace Philippi	4-7-2020



Oh, it's no bother. We love to have company drop in.



Christ commands: "Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality". Romans 12:13

April 27-May 3

May 4-10

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

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons for Kids

Date		
4/26	An Ascending Truth– Jesus Ascends	Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:1-11
5/3	A Telling Truth-Pentecost	Acts 2:1-24

Birthdays

Sun. 4/26	Glorine Berry, Luke Young
Mon. 4/27	Erica Davisson, Louise Klopp
Tues. 4/28	Kelli Bruckman, Darrick Eldridge, Samuel Gienapp, Elisabeth Hottel, Jessi Kucera, Aaron Mueller,
	Samantha Nelson
Wed. 4/29	Haleigh Jones, Curtis McBride
Thurs. 4/30	Denise Fesler, Sophie Foster, Erik Jorgensen
Fri. 5/1	Jonathan Ealy, Drake Obermueller, Abbie Schmidt, Tom Strumpel
Sat. 5/2	Donald Klemo, Brian Lake, Lynda Miller, Joseph Penney, Faith Quinlan, Scott Rathke, Timothy Schultz

Treasures	
Contributions	\$19,780.00
Debt Reduction	\$5,550.00
Monthly needs for budget	\$64,902.00

Stewardship April 18/19, 2020

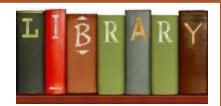


HOORAY!! NEW PHONES!!

The staff is getting used to a recently donated phone system—thank you, Rob Ghabel, for your technical expertise in getting it all set up!!



Digital Services Available During Iowa City Public Library Closure



Did you know that the Iowa City Public has a number of excellent digital (online) services that you can enjoy from your home and computer while the downtown library and Bookmobile are closed?

With your library card, you can enjoy:

eBooks
digital audiobooks
magazines
movies
listen to local music
"The New York Times" newspaper
animated picture books
the history of Iowa City on the Digital History Project
the ICPL streaming video site for a variety of programs

Don't have an ICPL card? No problem. Simply contact us by phone or e-mail and we can issue one online.

Need help navigating the ICPL digital offerings? Give us a call and let us help you.

Is there a genre of books or movies that you enjoy? Are you an armchair traveler? Let our librarians help make your selections.

The librarians are still working in the library (10 AM – 5 PM) despite the closure of the building to the public and are ready and willing to help you or make suggestions. Let us entertain you!

Here is our contact information:

Phone: (319)356-5200

Website: www.icpl.org (to access e-mail and live chat with librarians)



Spring Clean-Up Day was cancelled - Some jobs are getting done!

There are still projects to be completed. If anyone would like to tackle one or more of the jobs remaining by themselves or with social distancing rules please call Brenda Johnson (319)333-9653.

Church

- Clean leaves and debris out of the two-air vent (with grate) in front of church.
- Evergreen tree in the back of church (north end) needs to be removed. (Louise)
- Clean all ground level windows.
- Pick up rocks/stones from the edging, grass and driveway (they can be put back in the rock-mulch gardens).

<u>Vicarage</u>

- Re-stain the back deck (Louise will power wash.)
- Remove the outdoor yard lights at Vicarage (Louise)

Parsonage

- Mulch fence line behind parsonage north side (mulch is not bought yet)
- Fix or repair/replace downspout and elbows on the front of the house
- Clean/wash gutters
- Fix roofing around fireplace

Big Shed

• Basketball hoop (backboard) needs to be washed, repaired/painted or replace.

Little Shed

• Clean the trim (with wet and forget)

Welcome to our new spring/summer members.... Mr. + Mrs. Duck!



Some of the staff suspect that it will eventually become Mr. & Mrs. Duck and Family.

Time will tell.

Seasonal allergies: Nip them in the bud

Relieve seasonal allergies with these tried-and-true techniques.



By Mayo Clinic Staff

Spring means flower buds and blooming trees — and if you're one of the millions of people who have seasonal allergies, it also means sneezing, congestion, a runny nose and other bothersome symptoms. Seasonal allergies — also called hay fever and allergic rhinitis — can make you miserable. But before you settle for plastic flowers and artificial turf, try these simple strategies to keep seasonal allergies under control.

Reduce your exposure to allergy triggers

To reduce your exposure to the things that trigger your allergy signs and symptoms (allergens):

- Stay indoors on dry, windy days. The best time to go outside is after a good rain, which helps clear pollen from the air.
- Delegate lawn mowing, weed pulling and other gardening chores that stir up allergens.
- Remove clothes you've worn outside and shower to rinse pollen from your skin and hair.
- Don't hang laundry outside pollen can stick to sheets and towels.
- Wear a pollen mask if you do outside chores.

Take extra steps when pollen counts are high

Seasonal allergy signs and symptoms can flare up when there's a lot of pollen in the air. These steps can help you reduce your exposure:

- Check your local TV or radio station, your local newspaper, or the Internet for pollen forecasts and current pollen levels.
- If high pollen counts are forecasted, start taking allergy medications before your symptoms start.
- Close doors and windows at night or any other time when pollen counts are high.
- Avoid outdoor activity in the early morning when pollen counts are highest.

Keep indoor air clean

There's no miracle product that can eliminate all allergens from the air in your home, but these suggestions may help:

- Use the air conditioning in your house and car.
- If you have forced air heating or air conditioning in your house, use high-efficiency filters and follow regular maintenance schedules.
- · Keep indoor air dry with a dehumidifier.
- Use a portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter in your bedroom.
- Clean floors often with a vacuum cleaner that has a HEPA filter.

Try an over-the-counter remedy

Several types of nonprescription medications can help ease allergy symptoms. They include:

- Oral antihistamines. Antihistamines can help relieve sneezing, itching, a runny nose and
- watery eyes. Examples of oral antihistamines include loratadine (Claritin, Alavert), cetirizine (Zyrtec Allergy) and fexofenadine (Allegra Allergy).
- Decongestants. Oral decongestants such as pseudoephedrine (Sudafed, Afrinol, others) can
 provide temporary relief from nasal stuffiness. Decongestants also come in nasal sprays, such
 as oxymetazoline (Afrin) and phenylephrine (Neo-Synephrine). Only use nasal decongestants
 for a few days in a row. Longer-term use of decongestant nasal sprays can actually worsen
 symptoms (rebound congestion).

- Nasal spray. Cromolyn sodium nasal spray can ease allergy symptoms and doesn't have serious side effects, though it's most effective when you begin using it before your symptoms start.
- Combination medications. Some allergy medications combine an antihistamine with a decongestant. Examples include loratadine-pseudoephedrine (Claritin-D) and fexofenadine-pseudoephedrine (Allegra-D).

Rinse your sinuses

Rinsing your nasal passages with saline solution (nasal irrigation) is a quick, inexpensive and effective way to relieve nasal congestion. Rinsing directly flushes out mucus and allergens from your nose.

Look for a squeeze bottle or a neti pot - a small container with a spout designed for nasal rinsing - at your pharmacy or health food store. Use water that's distilled, sterile, previously boiled and cooled, or filtered using a filter with an absolute pore size of 1 micron or smaller to make up the saline irrigation solution. Also be sure to rinse the irrigation device after each use with similarly distilled, sterile, previously boiled and cooled, or filtered water and leave open to air-dry.

Interested in alternative treatments? Consider these

A number of natural remedies have been used to treat hay fever symptoms. Treatments that may help include extracts of the shrub butterbur and spirulina (a type of dried algae). However, the benefits and safety aren't clear.

Some people claim acupuncture can help with seasonal allergy symptoms. There's some evidence that acupuncture works, and there's little evidence of harm.

Talk to your doctor before trying alternative treatments.

When home remedies aren't enough, see your doctor

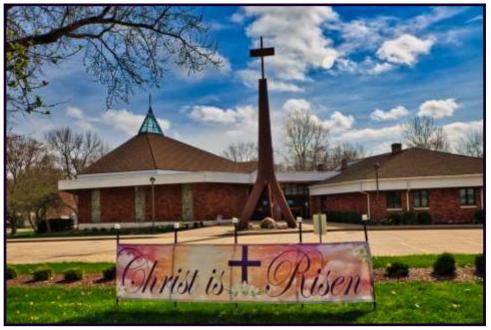
For many people, avoiding allergens and taking over-the-counter medications is enough to ease symptoms. But if your seasonal allergies are still bothersome, don't give up. A number of other treatments are available.

If you have bad seasonal allergies, your doctor may recommend that you have skin tests or blood tests to find out exactly what allergens trigger your symptoms. Testing can help determine what steps you need to take to avoid your specific triggers and identify which treatments are likely to work best for you.

For some people, allergy shots (allergen immunotherapy) can be a good option. Also known as desensitization, this treatment involves regular injections containing tiny amounts of the substances that cause your allergies. Over time, these injections reduce the immune system reaction that causes symptoms. For some allergies, treatment can be given as tablets under the tongue.

Mayo Clinic. (2020). Seasonal allergies: Nip them in the bud. Retrieved from

https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hay-fever/in-depth/seasonal-allergies/art-20048343







Easter comes to
Our Redeemer,
both inside and
outside



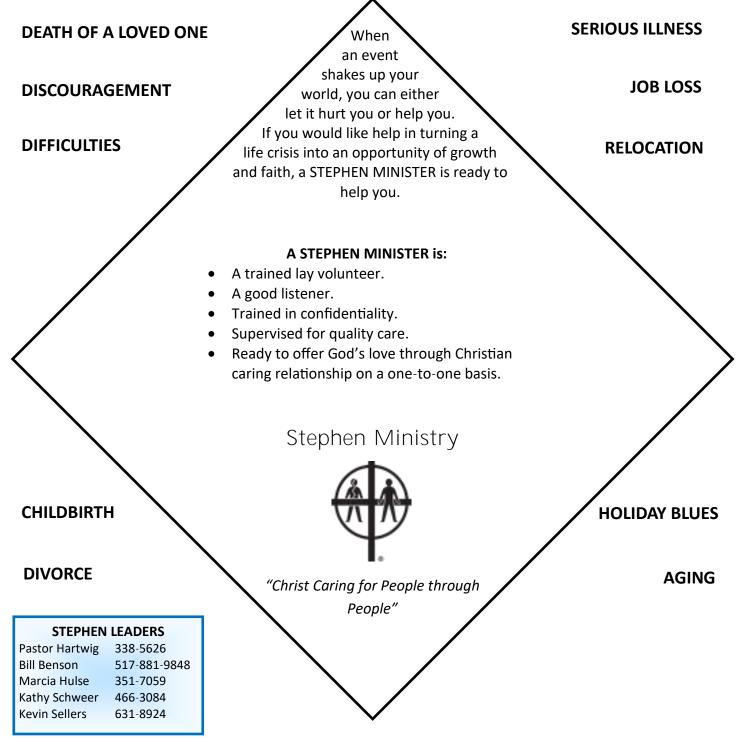


Stephen Ministry

Submitted by Marcia Hulse

We care, Christ cures.

CRISIS CAN TURN YOUR WORLD UPSIDE DOWN



Preschool Newsletter



 $\begin{array}{c} \text{May 2020} \\ \text{Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller} \end{array} \text{ Assistants, Sheena White M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH} \\ \end{array}$ Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org Our Redeemer Preschool where children play, learn, and grow in Jesus!

We Have Been ZOOMING It!



Preschool Enrollment for 2020-2021 school is open. Share the word!

Class Enrollment: M/W/F = 12 T/Th = 10

A Little Peek Into our Virtual Classroom!



Children's Ministry

Birth-5th Grade

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



Zooming into Sunday School!

We have had 20-30 children

learning God's word, doing activities,

learning crafts and even singing some of our favorite songs! Watch your email each week for the Zoom link and join me anytime after 9:20 for some fellowship before the lesson! Please continue to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 for Zoom Sunday School lessons!



Kid's Club Zoom

We have had 10-15 children joining us for Midweek class. We learned a fun way to tell the Easter morning story with the word 'startling' and how to give our heavy backpack of worries to God. We have one lesson left next week! Join us at 6:45 on

700m!

VBS 2020 IS COMING!



August 2nd-6th

Our Children's Ministry team has begun planning our Rainforest Adventure for VBS! If you are interested in joining our planning team or donating a Thrivent card, please contact Marnie!



6th - 12th Graders

May

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

Dates for May Youth events will be sent via email and/or text messages to Youth families.

Wednesday, April 29th 6:45 pm—8:00 pm



6th Grade—Small Group
Review for Exam
ONLINE EXAM



7th Grade—Small Group

Review for Exam over Baptism

OLINE EXAM



8th Grade—Lecture
Genesis to Revelation



Prayers for Youth

Dear Lord, We lift up our youth and their families to you. Please fill them with your Peace which passes all understanding as they face new and unique circumstances. Give them encouragement and bless them with good health. Most of all keep them firm in their faith. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

"PETS & PAJAMAS"

Sunday, April 26th From 9:00 am—9:30 am

Connect with us on the Zoom Youth Sunday School link anytime after 9:00 am,

show off your pets, wear your pajamas or do both!

Guess you could dress your pet in pajamas, too!

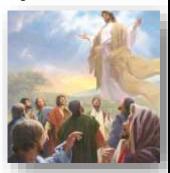
Youth Sunday School

Sundays at 9:30 am
Confirmation & High School

Join us for Youth Sunday School on Sunday, April 26th @ 9:30 am.

4/26 Jesus Ascends

5/3 Pentecost





We are about equipping disciples to make disciples for Jesus.

High School Midweek Schedule



April 29 Isaiah: The "Fifth" Gospel @ 6:45 pm



Isaiah prophesies the coming of the Holy Spirit and points us to the day when our Lord will come again.

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

Office: 338-5626 Fax: 338-9171 Website: http://www.ourredeemer.org Preschool: 338-3949 Prayer Chain: 351-5297 or prayerchain@ourredeemer.org Special Announcements Line: 338-3505

STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.	STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.
Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator redeemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Sara Cross, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)	Sarah Ghabel, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Denise Holida, Adult Coordinator smallgroups@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)
Louise Klopp, Director Choirs/Properties choirdirector@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Marilyn Paetz, Organist organist@ourredeemer.org	351-4262 (home)
Marnie Schrader, Children's Coordinator childrensministry@ourredeemer.org	319-530-1563 (cell)	Kevin Sellers Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 631-8924 (cell)
Laurel Sellers, Consultant consultant@ourredeemer.org	319-331-3242 (cell)	Sheena White, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)

2020 Board of Elders			2020 Board of Directors	
2020 Board of Elders Bill Benson Dave Bohnsack Vaughn Davisson (Chair) Jim Eick Ryan Haack Eric Kooker	517-881-9848 319-430-2054 319-648-4660 319-430-5603 319-325-7915 319-339-0175	President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Board of Elders Properties	2020 Board of Directors Myrl Holida Denny Schrader Barb Schanbacher Larry Freeman Vaughn Davisson Dave Yansky	319-351-4301 319-461-7318 319-351-3998 319-400-8356 319-648-4660 319-621-7694
Chad Pence Art Schwarting Arlan Thompson	319-321-5686 319-325-6152 319-338-2938	At Large	Jeff Kucera Marilyn Albright Kevin Roiseland	563-316-1088 319-430-8129 319-230-5247

DEADLINES

Reflections (printed weekly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) each Wednesday by 5:00 pm

Beacon Newsletter & Church Activities Calendar (printed monthly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) by noon on the 20th of each month.

RADIO

Lutheran Hour Ministries on Radio—WMT 600 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 6:30 am, and KXEL 1540 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. For more information on Lutheran Hour Ministries go to www.LHM.org.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND SCREENING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has a strong, caring ministry with children and youth. To promote the safest and most secure environment possible all employees and volunteers, both new and existing, undergo a background screening before working with younger members. Performing background checks provides safeguards and peace of mind to our staff, volunteers, parents, youth, and children.

