

The Parish Beacon

Volume 41– No. 11

December 2020

Dear Christian friends:

Peace. Peace on Earth.

The hymn *Silent Night* speaks of Christ sleeping in heavenly peace. Bing Crosby and David Bowie sing their popular duet *Peace on Earth / The Little Drummer Boy*. The poem turned carol *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* speaks of peace. Most Christmas cards in the mail focus on peace. Simply put, especially at this time of year, peace is popular!

And let us not forget the angel who sang of peace to the shepherds.
What did they say? "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" [Luke 2:14]

The peace in the New Testament is not international. There is no promise of harmony between nations. We learn in Romans 16:20 that the world will not know final rest from war until the God of peace crushes Satan.

The world in which we live, the nation in which we live, is anything but peaceful. Look around. It's not simply the pandemic or civil injustice causing anguish in our country. There is little peace in the lives of men and women everywhere.

The peace of Christmas is about peace with God. Jesus Christ was born so that we can be reconciled through Him. Jesus is Our Redeemer! There can be no peace without God. His intervention is essential, for sin has so marred individuals and society that strife is our constant companion.

The peace of Christmas is not a mere absence of strife, but the active experience of a harmony with God that promotes total well-being regardless of circumstance.

This same peace is the Peace of Christ. Forgiven we forgive. At peace with God, we offer peace. This is what is happening at the end of our worship service. We have just been reminded of our peace with God through the invocation, confession and absolution, law and gospel of the sermon, the Lord's Supper, and the benediction. We are at peace and we offer the peace of Christ to those in our sanctuary and all we encounter throughout the week. Let us always be sharing the peace of Christ!

I wish each and every one of you peace and joy this Christmas – the peace that only comes from following Jesus, the peace that is beyond all human understanding.

Merry Christmas! Pastor Hartwig



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun 11/29 Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream 8:00am
 Adult Bible Class—ZOOM & In Person 9:20am
 Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream 10:30am
 Deck the Halls 1:30am
ADVENT BEGINS-First Sunday in Advent

Mon 11/30 Staff Meeting 1:00pm
 Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm

Tues 12/1 SM-Small Group/Thompson 6:30pm
 Human Care Committee 6:30pm

Wed 12/2 Bible Study 11:00am
 Lunch Bunch 12:00pm
 Advent Service 1:00pm
 Sing-a-long 6:00pm
 Advent Service 6:10pm
 Confirmation Classes & HS Midweek 7:00pm
 Adult Midweek 7:00pm

Thurs 12/3 Comfort Tiers 9:00am
 Visitation Meeting 11:00am
 Board of Elders Christmas Dinner 6:30
 Women's Bible Study 7:00pm

Fri 12/4 No events planned

Sat 12/5 Worship Service-Christmas and Carols
 In Person/Live Stream 5:30pm

Sun 12/6 Worship Service-Christmas and Carols
 In Person/Live Stream 8:00am
 Sunday School—In Person 9:20am
 Adult Bible Class—ZOOM & In Person 9:20am
 Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream 10:30am

Dear Members & Friends of Our Redeemer,

Office hours here at church are:

Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

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

Yours in Christ,

Lorrie

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

****WATCH YOUR WEDNESDAY EMAIL FOR SIGN-UP
 LINKS FOR WORSHIP****

Saturday 5:30pm In Person/LIVE STREAM

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am In Person/LIVE STREAM

Sunday School 9:20am—In Person

Adult Bible Study 9:20am-Fellowship Hall/ZOOM

******Communion on December 6, 20, 24, 31 ******

Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am

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

Praise Team not meeting until further notice.

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, we lift up our souls and in You we put our trust. Do not let us be ashamed of our hope but come quickly. Sustain us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may have joy at the advent of Christ, our Savior.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

Almighty God, preserve and bless all Christian households, that husbands and wives would live in love and service to each other, that fathers and mothers would diligently bring up their children in Your fear, and that children would honor their parents and be well equipped for service to their neighbors in this life.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

Almighty God, be with the governing authorities and enable them to preserve peace and order in our nation. Hear our prayers for all government officials; our military and police; and other civil servants as well as all newly elected officials. Increase a spirit of unity and cooperation among the people of our land and the nations of the world.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

Almighty God, You have given all judgment to Your Son, whose words will not pass away. Grant that Your people may hold fast to the words of Your Son's Supper, and that no human thinking may obscure His testament, by which the true body and blood of Christ are eaten for the forgiveness of sins. Sustain us in repentance and saving faith, united in a true confession and always awake, watching for Your return.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

Almighty God, behold in mercy all who are in any danger, trouble, sickness or need. Hear our prayers for the sick and suffering [We especially pray for **Dorothy Blume** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **Jeanette Cain** (Vaughn Davisson's cousin), **Charles Calef**, **David Caplin** (Lillian Moyer's son-in-law), **Jody Cole** (Charles Calef's friend), **Emee Elkeurti**, **Ron Freeman** (Larry Freeman's nephew), **Aubrey Galindo** (friend of Schrader's), **Gabe Hundley** (grandson of Karen Abernathy), **Dora Jacobson** (granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), **David Jones** (Lonne Loney's uncle), **Rev. Larry Lemke**, **Creedon Miller** (Duane and Flo Miller's son), **Barb Nace** (Doris Siemer's niece), **Ron Rafferty**, **Nora Sellers** (Great niece of Kevin & Laurel Sellers), **Concetta Stein** (Vicar's grandma), **Shirley Stutzman**, **Karen Warner**, and **Mark Wilson**],

Give health to our world and bring the pandemic to an end.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

This past week Bev Wiese died. Her private graveside funeral will happen Sunday/today. We pray for her family and friends.

Almighty God, keep the family and friends of **Bev Wiese** 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.

The Lord answers, calls to us, and we respond:

Here I am

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.**

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER



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|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| November 29 | 8:00am & 10:30am 1:30pm | Sunday Service with Communion Deck the Halls |
| December 2 | 1:00pm 6:00/6:10pm | Advent Service Sing-a-long/Advent Service |
| December 5 | 5:30pm | Service of Christmas & Carols |
| December 6 | 8:00am & 10:30am | Service of Christmas & Carols |
| December 9 | 1:00pm 6:00/6:10pm | Advent Service Sing-a-long/Advent Service |
| December 12 | 5:30pm | Saturday Service |
| December 13 | 8:00am & 10:30am 3:00-6:00pm | Sunday Service/Children's Program Live Nativity |
| December 14 | 7:00pm | Christmas Meeting LWML |
| December 16 | 1:00pm 6:00/6:10pm | Advent Service Sing-a-long/Advent Service |
| December 19 | 5:30pm | Saturday Service with communion |
| December 20 | 8:00am & 10:30am | Sunday Service with communion |
| December 23 | 1:00pm 6:00/6:10pm | Advent Service Sing-a-long/Advent Service |
| December 24 | 3:30pm 5:00pm 6:30pm 11:30pm | Christmas Eve Family Worship Christmas Eve Family Worship Christmas Eve Communion Worship Christmas Eve Communion Worship |
| December 25 | 9:30am | Christmas Day Communion Worship |
| December 26 | 5:30pm | Saturday Service with Communion |
| December 27 * | 8:00am & 10:30am | Sunday Service with Communion |
| December 31 | 7:00pm | New Year's Eve Worship with communion |



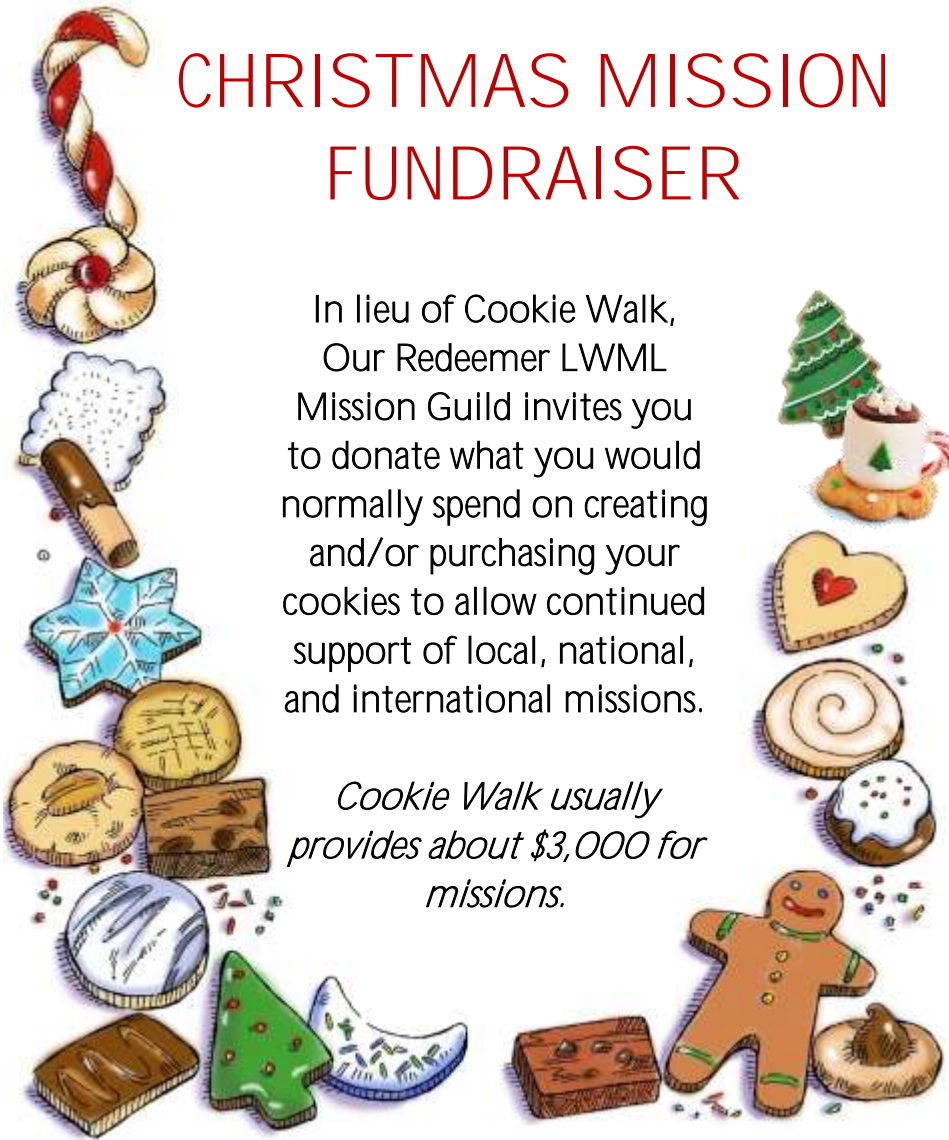
**No Sunday School Classes*

*Midweek Classes December 2, 9,
and 16 at 7:00pm
No Midweek Classes
December 23, 30*

CHRISTMAS MISSION FUNDRAISER

In lieu of Cookie Walk, Our Redeemer LWML Mission Guild invites you to donate what you would normally spend on creating and/or purchasing your cookies to allow continued support of local, national, and international missions.

Cookie Walk usually provides about \$3,000 for missions.



Cookie Walk is regretfully cancelled during this COVID year, but will hopefully return in the future!

This is the last weekend to make a donation.

Make checks to LWML and clearly mark Cookie Walk in the memo line.

There is a box in the narthex or leave them in the office.

Thank you!!

How much will there be for missions in 2020?

Presently there is \$1,990—stay tuned for the mission total next month!



PHOTO TIME

That is NORMALLY! We usually take photos for the church pictorial directory in September and October. But the Assimilation Committee will hold off this fall and ask that if you have never had a photo in the directory, or it is time to update your photo, that you take one at home, a selfie, or have someone take it for you, when all are present that should be in the picture and email it to the church office for Lorrie to put into the directory. Another option is to bring a current photo to the church office.

Include with your photo the names of everyone pictured and your contact information as you want it in the directory: address, email address, phone numbers (home, work, mobile—the ones you want listed for other members to see in the directory).

It is best if the photo is head and shoulders, or a bit farther back with a larger family, and be sure the focus is clear—we get poor results trying to reproduce an out of focus photo! We have new members and a new vicar who want to get to know others in the church and the photo directory is an excellent way to help them do that. And, who are we kidding--? We use it all the time to put names to faces!!

Thank you for your help!

Cory Strumpel and the Assimilation Committee

Membership Changes and Official Acts

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <u>Death</u> | |
| Albert Jacob Heinitz | 10-25-2020 |
| <u>Weddings</u> | |
| Joel Schuldt and Diane Willoughby | 11-19-2020 |
| <u>Transfer Out</u> | |
| Anthony Mueller | 11-24-2020 |

| MISSION | October |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 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 | \$25.00 |
| Lutherans For Life | ** |
| Concordia Seminary Food Bank | ** |
| TOTAL | \$25.00 |



| | |
|---|--------------|
| Pledges received for the month of November | \$16,414.00 |
| Total amount of pledges received | \$142,534.82 |
| Total amount pledges promised | \$358,446.16 |

Thank you for your continued support.

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons for Kids

| | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| November 29 | <i>No Class – Thanksgiving Weekend</i> | |
| December 6 | Exodus 7 | Signs of the True God – Moses and the Plagues |
| December 13 | Exodus 12:1-32 | The Passover Promise – The Passover |
| December 20 | Exodus 16 | Food from Heaven – God Cares for His People |



Everyone His Witness: LASSIE Adult Bible Class

| | |
|-------------|--|
| November 29 | INVITE: Keep the conversation about Jesus going |
| December 6 | ENCOURAGE: Follow up and Follow through |

Birthdays

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Sun. 11/29 | Brice Bernhard, Marek Ghabel, Anne Hinkle, Seth Penney, Sandra Sanders, Maureen Schultz, Harold Warner |
| Mon. 11/30 | James Siems, Jay Wefel, Gary Wright |
| Tues. 12/1 | Christopher Bower, Henry Diggelmann, Annika Kopf, Harper Lenhart, Mallory Martens, Derrick Robe |
| Wed. 12/2 | Paula Caylor, Lisa Kleinmeyer, Jordyn Kucera, Rhett Marks, Merri Mullane, Thomas Schultz, Kelsey Yoder |
| Thurs. 12/3 | *** |
| Fri. 12/4 | Levi Saterfield, Jady Waring, Randy Weyer |
| Sat. 12/5 | Noah Hartwig, Eric Kooker, Chelsea Zeman |

Stewardship November 21/22, 2020

| ATTENDANCE | | TREASURES | |
|--|------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Equipping Disciples Video 11/16 | 113 | Sunday School/Adult Bible Class | 41+74=115 |
| Sat. 10/17 In Person/LIVE STREAM 5:30pm | 47 | Contributions | \$7,202.00 |
| Sun. 10/18 In person/LIVE STREAM 8:00am | 91 | A Little Farther | \$195.00 |
| Sun. 10/18 In Person/LIVE STREAM 10:30am | 118 | Monthly needs for budget | \$64,902.00 |
| TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE | 287 | Prerecord (YOUTUBE) | 31 |

Board Reports

TREASURER'S REPORT

- January-October—deficit of \$43K, last year YTD deficit was \$46K.
- The government SBA loan is expected to be approved soon. This loan is separate from the deficit.

ELDER'S REPORT

- Christmas services will be as follows:
Christmas Eve—3:30 and 5:00
non communion services
6:30 and 11:30
communion services
- There have been episodes of vandalism the last few months

AT-LARGE REPORTS

CHURCH PROPERTIES

- Work is complete on integrating the Internet/ phone systems from the Parsonage and Vicarage to run through the church's system.
- Eagle Scout project to replace the retaining wall behind the vicarage is complete.
- A speed bump will be placed next to the pre-school to deter drivers from cutting through the parking lot.

STAFF REPORTS

Pastor Hartwig-

- Out of quarantine and stated his appreciation for the staff and volunteers stepping up to assist.

Vicar Stein-

- Thankful for the staff and volunteers during his quarantine.

Youth Ministry-Kara Hartwig-

- There are 27 students in Confirmation classes.
- Youth Worship service weekend is November 7/8.
- Reminding members about the need for fruit for the annual pie sale.

Small Group-Denise Holidia-No Report

Kaja Mueller-No Report

Marnie Schrader –No Report

Other–

- Voters meeting November 15, with this meeting devoted to budget approval.
- Reminder for committee chairs to submit their annual reports

KUDOS

Our Redeemer's

Board of Directors recognizes:



MAREK GHABEL



for completion of repairing the retaining wall behind the Vicarage. This effort was a project to gain his Eagle Scout badge. The Board congratulates him on this momentous achievement.

Thank you !



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

Stephen Ministers Participate in Life-Changing Ministry

Stephen Ministry is an important way we, as a congregation, can carry out God's love with those going through painful times in life. But to meet all these needs, we need to continue to train Stephen Ministers. We need people with gifts of caring, compassion, patience, faith, listening—who would like to be trained to make a difference in people's lives.

Some people are drawn to ministry opportunities where they can make a positive difference in people's lives—and Stephen Ministry offers a powerful way to do just that. Stephen Ministers help bring Christ's love and care when people need it most.

Maybe you can reflect on a time when you were going through a difficult time and could've used the care of a Stephen Minister—and now consider how, as a Stephen Minister, you could be there for others during their life difficulties.

People typically become Stephen Ministers out of a desire to help others, but along the way they find that they experience tremendous growth themselves—personally, spiritually, and relationally. Stephen Ministers often comment on how they have become better parents, spouses, siblings, coworkers and friends because of the training.

For some, the main barrier to their considering becoming a Stephen Minister is their lack of confidence or a sense of uncertainty about whether they could be an effective caregiver. People may worry that they'll say or do something wrong with a suffering person, that they won't know how to handle a care receiver's needs and concerns, or that their faith won't be strong enough to support someone else in a time of need. Through training you will learn what to say and do—and what not to say and do—when people are struggling with a range of life difficulties. You're going to find Stephen Minister training to be a very interactive and engaging experience. You'll learn, grow, become part of a caring Christian community, and have some fun along the way. Will you consider serving in this way? If you have questions about Stephen Ministry, speak with one of the Stephen Leaders.

Applications are available on the Welcome Center Counter. We would like for your application to be turned in to Pastor Hartwig sometime during this month (December).

Stephen Ministry training will be on Tuesday evenings 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., from mid-January to late April. The training also includes a weekend retreat in February, during which we'll cover four training sessions. New class of Stephen Ministers are typically commissioned at a worship service in May.

The Bible says, ***"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."*** (Romans 2:28)

Dear God, I know that you have someone in mind that you would like to see become a Stephen Minister. Guide them to choose to use their gifts, their talents, their skills, to help bring your love and care when people need it most. Amen

STEPHEN LEADERS

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



The Angel Tree Prison Ministry program will look different this year because of COVID-19 and will be conducted virtually and online. Virtual tags will be made available via online platform and the church will provide access for you (Access will include a link and password).

Individuals will pay online to sponsor each gift package (\$22), and Prison Fellowship will send sponsored gifts directly to Angel Tree Kids. Each gift package will include a gift card, a personal message from the parent, an age-appropriate Gospel presentation, and an opportunity to request a Bible. As a Human Care Committee, we haven't decided about grocery gift cards at this point, because Angel Tree is trying to minimize unnecessary person to person contact.

An email was sent out to you with all of the information on it. If you know of someone that does not have a computer but would like to make a donation please pass on the mailing information to them.



SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS AND CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Here is a wonderful opportunity to raise your hand and say “Here, I Am Lord”. Because of the COVID virus as well as not having family near, local care center/ assisted living residents can’t or won't have visitors this year. The Outreach Committee is going to collect Christmas (not Holiday) Cards to share the Good News of Jesus’ birth and we need your help! All you need to do is sign your first name and include “from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church” and place the card in the envelope. You can also add a short encouraging message if you desire. Please don’t seal the envelope as we will be adding a Church stamp to the inside of the card. There will be a collection box on the counter in the Narthex for your finished cards. We are hoping to collect and deliver 200 cards. This is a perfect way to use up those remaining Christmas cards you might have at home. Or you can purchase a few from the LWML Card racks downstairs by the Fellowship Hall. We prefer Christmas cards and not holiday cards. Please have your signed cards to the church by Sunday December 6th.



Can we count on you (and your family) to say “Here I am Lord –Send Me, Send Me”? If you have questions, please contact Donna Saehler at 319-321-3207, Marlene Thompson at 319-338-2938 or Marilyn Kempnich at 319-351-5297.



Building Healthy Families

We can all identify ways COVID-19 has caused us trouble, but the very dark clouds of the pandemic have also had a bit of a silver lining. Before the pandemic, anyone wanting to see a Lutheran Family Service counselor had to go to one of their offices. With the recent launch of LFS’ Distance Counseling Program, they can help anyone in Iowa and some surrounding states who has access to a computer, tablet or smart phone and an Internet connection! Covid has brought many healthy people to a point of breaking, and for those who were already struggling, has made things so much worse. Call Lutheran Family Service at 515-573-3138 or visit their web site (www.LutheranFamilyService.org) to request business sized cards announcing the Distance Counseling resource, and share them with anyone you know who is in need of help. While you’re there, make a gift through the *For Such a Time as This Year-End Giving Campaign* which will help purchase HIPPA-compliant software and computers needed for the growth of this program. If you’ve never partnered with Lutheran Family Service before, this is a good time to start!

Lutheran Family Service - www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Marek Ghabel's Eagle Scout project is completed!!

So many people came out to help. We are so grateful for all the helping hands and hard work that was done. A total of 316.5 hours of work between all the volunteers.



Prime Time Dinner 2020

Many thanks to the kitchen assistants who helped box up the meals to go.



Chef Steve Rudin cooked a delicious meal for Prime Time again! Thank you Chef!



Let the assembly begin



Drawing for prize bags packed with some fun things.





2020
Thank you to all of
you who made
donations to the
Socktober Box!!

We collected the following:
947 pairs of socks
12 underwear
29 T-shirts
25 Thrivent Notebooks



YES!! He was able to make
all of the boxes fit in his car!
No second trip!! Thank you
to the gentleman who picked
them up.



On Saturday, October 17, 2020 we took our shipment to Cedar Rapids, Iowa for Lutheran World Relief.

Here are the totals for that shipment:

83 boxes containing 566 Quilts
 21 boxes containing 125 School Kits
7 boxes containing 19 Baby Kits
 111 total Boxes 710 total Items



Thank you SO much for donating all the items for the school kits--this congregation did a fabulous job this year and we had a lot of school kits to send to needy children from your donations. Thank you also for donating items for the baby kits, health kits, and items donated to the quilters.

Thanks go out to the Quilters for making SO many quilts--our congregations is truly blessed. Thanks go out to Carol and George Schuldt for storing the quilt boxes, bringing them in and labeling them on Sunday 10/11/20. Thank you to the LWML for putting all the labels on the boxes on 10/12. A special thank you to Dave and Cynthia Freundt, Lillian Moyer, Donna Saehler, Laurel Sellers, Tom and Sandy Wagner and Lynne Westphal for loading the boxes into the vehicles, and to Donna, Laurel, Tom, Sandy and Lynne for taking the boxes to Trinity Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids. The youth and their parents at Trinity Lutheran Church unload the boxes from all the vehicles and put them in a semi that then takes them to St. Paul, MN.



Many Hands



Several Vehicles

And many boxes to pack

Abraham and Child Sacrifice



It was so good to have Pastor Hartwig back in the Church to teach adult study and lead worship after his isolation. He led a very interesting study about how Abraham went to sacrifice his son, Isaac; based upon the Scripture – Genesis Chapter 22.

I have always wondered how Abraham could even think about sacrificing his son, but Pastor cleared that up for me - realize that in the cultures that surrounded Abraham, child sacrifice was the NORM. It was NORMAL for parents to sacrifice their CHILD FOR NUMEROUS REASONS. SO, ABRAHAM, BEING INFLUENCED BY CULTURE DIDN'T THINK IT ODD OR BARBARIC TO SACRIFICE HIS SON. WHAT??!! I am glad that we do not live in a culture where sacrificing children is NORMAL; or do we?

If we look at our culture in the USA or throughout the world, is there anything that even resembles child sacrifice? Is there any practice that we, as a culture, use to kill children? Is there a practice so wide spread and accepted that we really do not see the reality of it? The reality that a baby's life is taken from it after the heart has started to beat – the reality that our Gracious God created that very life and had His plans for that life even before birth?

Is there any practice that we accept just as Abraham accepted child sacrifice, that kills today's children? Let's think about this -----If there is such a wide spread practice, what might it be called or where might it be done?

It is pretty common knowledge that a million babies are killed each year in the USA alone by a practice called ABORTION. It is pretty common knowledge that over 330,000 of those babies lose their lives in a place called Planned Parenthood alone. Yet this practice does not seem too cruel or barbaric to many people; rather it seems commonplace. I had a discussion with a woman who wanted to know - how about all the women who are raped? It is a great question. The reality is that rape occurs in about only 1% of abortion cases. That is serious and not good; however, if we realize that God created those lives and had plans for those lives, adoption becomes a much safer option for both mother and child. Oh, how I do not want to have to think about all this! Yet, here it is – a wide spread practice and the Law of our Land...

God have Mercy.

Tom and Cory Strumpel – Lutherans for Life

Preschool Newsletter

Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller Assistants, Kate Ramsey M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org
Our Redeemer Preschool where children play, learn, and grow in Jesus!





Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade

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

Children's Christmas Service



Sunday, December 13th, 8:00 & 10:30
(November 29-No Sunday School)

Please don't forget to sign up for the Children's Christmas Service. Links are provided in the weekly sign up email sent out by Lorrie in the office.

Sunday School
9:20am to 10:05am



Come in and share
in the learning of
God's word!



Masks/face coverings are required for participation in all Children's Ministry activities at this time.



Kid's Club

6:45pm to 8:00pm
Gathering Place

Contact Marnie Schrader to sign up!



**for supporting our
YOUTH PIE SALE!**



We appreciate our Confirmation & High School youth and their families who peeled & sliced apples, measured ingredients, mixed dough, prepared filling, rolled crusts, crimped edges, and packaged pies!



As you can see our freezers were packed full, so we're really thankful for everyone who purchased pies from us!



A huge thank you to Becky West and Angela Hotz for leading our pie making efforts!



Also, thanks to Thrivent, Hy-Vee, Fareway, Hotz Produce, and Bud's Meats for their donations!



A special thank you to Tracy Nelson and Karyl Bohnsack for their help with the selling of pies!

- 33 Volunteers
- 207 Pies
- 200 lbs of apples
- 40 lbs of sugar
- 6 gallons of lard





7th & 8th Grade Fall Confirmation Retreat

Kari Smith from Lutheran Family Service presented ***Dating in the Right Direction*** as the kickoff to the retreat. Parents and youth attended together.

Dating in the Right Direction



You should never TRUST someone more than you KNOW them. RELY on them more than you TRUST them. COMMIT more than RELY..and never TOUCH more than you COMMIT to each other.



Thank you to Tracy Nelson for all the yummy fall treats!



Philippians Bible Study



Capture the Flag in the parking lot





Youth Worship Weekend

November 7-8, 2020



READERS THEATER "Go and Tell"

Some of our High School Youth shared the message of answering God's call with "Here I Am! Send Me!" during our Youth Worship service!



Some of our High School Youth contributed recordings for our Memory Work video—a special thank you to Noah Hartwig for creating the video!



A huge thank you to Skip & Marilyn Kempnich, Chris Schwarz, and Kevin & Laurel Sellers for helping us with music and sound!



Youth

6th - 12th Graders

December

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

| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
|------|---|---|
| 2 | Advent Worship Service Confirmation & High School Midweek | 6:10pm Service 7:00 pm Classes |
| 6 | Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Service during Sunday School (for Confirmation students who already signed up w/Marnie) | 9:20 am |
| 9 | Advent Worship Service Confirmation Classes & High School Christmas Party | 6:10pm Service 7:00 pm Classes |
| 13 | Children's Christmas Service (for those who have attended rehearsals) Live Nativity High School | 8:00 am and 10:30 am Meet @ 3 :00 pm |
| 16 | Advent Worship Service Jesus' Birthday Party w/Kids Club High School Youth help | 6:10pm Service 7:00 pm Classes |
| 20 | Sunday School Confirmation & High School | 9:20 am |
| 24 | Christmas Eve Worship | 3:30 pm 5:00 pm 6:30 pm 11:30 pm |
| 25 | Christmas Day Worship | 9:30 am |

Confirmation & Midweek Classes

for Confirmation & High School Youth



will be on ZOOM only on

Wednesday, December 2nd

ROOM & ZOOM

Confirmation & High School Youth

will be in-person and on ZOOM on

Wednesday, December 9th

and

Wednesday, December 16th

Live Nativity

All High School Youth

Sunday, December 13th

3:00 pm until 6:30 pm

Please mark your calendars to help with this annual Youth event that shares the Good News of Jesus' birth with our community.

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

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

| <u>STAFF & EMAIL</u> | <u>PHONE NO.</u> | <u>STAFF & EMAIL</u> | <u>PHONE NO.</u> |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org | 338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home) | Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director preschool@ourredeemer.org | 338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church) |
| Donal Stein, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org | 338-5626 (church) | Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator redemer@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) | Kate Ramsey, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org | 338-3949 (preschool) |

2020 Board of Elders

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Bill Benson | 517-881-9848 |
| Dave Bohnsack | 319-430-2054 |
| Vaughn Davisson (Chair) | 319-648-4660 |
| Jim Eick | 319-430-5603 |
| Ryan Haack | 319-325-7915 |
| Eric Kooker | 319-339-0175 |
| Chad Pence | 319-321-5686 |
| Art Schwarting | 319-325-6152 |
| Arlan Thompson | 319-338-2938 |

2020 Board of Directors

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| President | Myrl Holida | 319-351-4301 |
| Vice President | Denny Schrader | 319-461-7318 |
| Secretary | Barb Schanbacher | 319-351-3998 |
| Treasurer | Larry Freeman | 319-400-8356 |
| Board of Elders | Vaughn Davisson | 319-648-4660 |
| Properties | Dave Yansky | 319-621-7694 |
| At Large | Jeff Kucera | 563-316-1088 |
| | Marilyn Albright | 319-430-8129 |
| | Kevin Roiseland | 319-230-5247 |

DEADLINES

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

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

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.

Seek and Ye Shall Find

Matthew 2:1-12



**“You’re going where?
Because of a dream?
You can’t be serious!
Things aren’t what they seem.**

**You’re going to search?
For a newborn King?
How can you be certain
About such a thing?”**

**But they traveled afar
Till they finally drew near;
Following the Star
Without any fear.**

**How’d the Magi wonder
At what they had read
When no one, even Herod,
Knew where the Babe was laid?**

**But they continued on
Searching for The Truth;
To find The King,
This very young Youth.**

**They rejoiced when they found Him,
Worshipping at His feet
And presenting gifts so rich
To welcome and to greet.**

**Thus we should also search
With daily praise and joy
Rejoicing with the Magi--
At the birth of Mary’s Boy.**

Carol Schuldt