



I do believe;  
help my unbelief

Mark 9:24

## **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

**EQUIPPING DISCIPLES  
2022-2023**

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319-338-5626     [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org)  
[www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org)

# Our Redeemer Staff

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# ELDERS

Bill Benson  
Dave Bohnsack  
Tim Eick  
Rick Gienapp  
Ryan Haack  
Skip Kempnich  
Eric Kooker  
Chad Pence  
Art Schwarting



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.

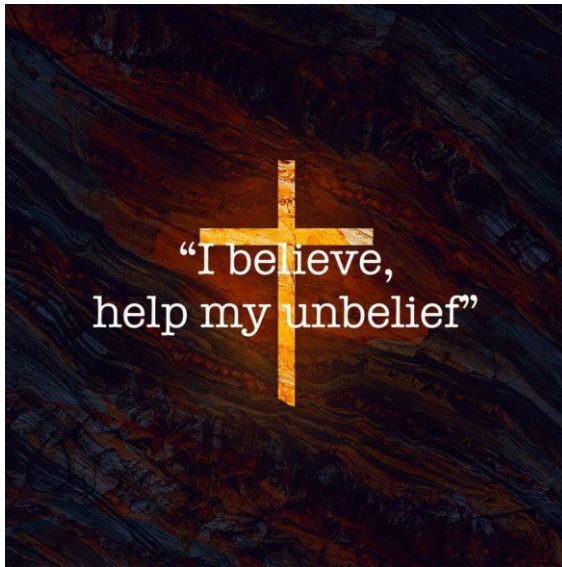
Each elder is responsible as a prayer partner with another committee chair and concerns himself with the spiritual welfare of the person and committee involved.

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

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

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## **I BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF**

**I believe; help my unbelief!** – These are the words of a father asking Jesus to heal his son from an unclean spirit that the disciples could not cast out. It expresses the struggle between trusting in Jesus and feeling overwhelmed by despair and uncertainty, especially when God’s help appears to falter and fail, as with the helplessness of God’s disciples to cast out the demon.

Many times we are pulled into situations where we can’t help but be filled with questions about God. Does He really exist? Does He love me? Is the Bible reliable? Is the Gospel story just embellishment about a normal man? Is this just mythology? These questions need to be voiced and addressed. We must be able to echo the father and say, “help my unbelief” and receive help.

Christians, pastors, laypeople, and everyone in-between, have these questions. No one is alone in questioning these things. That’s why we are going through them together as a church. To be strengthened and informed in our faith and the assurance of Christ.

Otherwise, left alone these questions could overwhelm Christians and turn them away from the church or lead them towards unorthodox teachings. Doubt can rise up quickly and suddenly, and the sinful world, flesh, and Satan will work hard to unsettle one’s conscience. Action and teaching must be undertaken to help center those who are struggling with the promises of Christ and the assurance that God has orchestrated all things, provided evidence of the truth, settled all questions, and offered salvation freely.

May this year be a blessing to us as we are afflicted with doubt and troubling circumstances as our doubts fan into flame and questions arise. May we, as a community of believers, ask our questions freely and be openly uncertain, then look to Jesus Christ our Savior who will increase our faith and bear with our weaknesses, so that he may answer our questions, content our anxious hearts, and bring us to everlasting life.

*“I believe; help my unbelief!” ~Mark 9:24b*



# 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 an emotionally charged time or instability during which a crucial life change occurred; that is, a situation or period in which things are uncertain, difficult, or painful, especially a time when action must be taken to avoid a breakdown or life spinning out of control. It is not an indication of futility, 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. Confidentiality is implicit in all Stephen Ministry relationships.

## **WE CARE, CHRIST CURES!**

Contact the church office if you have an interest in the Stephen Ministry program at 319-338-5626 or contact one of your Stephen Minister trainers:

Pastor Brent Hartwig	319-338-5626
Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Marcia Hulse	319-351-7059
Kathy Schweer	319-466-3084
Kevin Sellers	319-631-8924



### CHRISTMAS & COOKIES

**Sunday, December 4, 2022**  
**Following 10:30 am Worship**

Members of Our Redeemer gather 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 pm	Meal on select evenings
6:45 pm	Kids Club (4 yrs-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade)
	Confirmation Classes (6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)
	High School Midweek
	Adult Choir
7:00 pm	Adult Classes
8:00 pm	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. Confirmation classes may have other cancellation arrangements.

### REGISTRATION FOR MIDWEEK & CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Registration materials are available in the church office or online  
<https://forms.gle/5AF2v2Q2J6hKzoce6>

At Our Redeemer, we are about equipping disciples, and therefore offer opportunities for you to be in God's Word during the week.

### 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 (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 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 14, 2022**  
**Wednesday, October 5, 2022**  
**Wednesday, November 2, 2022**  
**Wednesday, January 11, 2023**  
**Wednesday, February 1, 2023**

## NOT SO NEWLYWED GAME



**Sunday, February 5, 2023**

Fun, fellowship, food, and frolic. Based on the old Newlywed Game, three contestant couples vie for a prize by answering questions, trying to match their spouse's answers.

Everyone is welcome to take part as the studio (or fellowship hall) audience. If you and your spouse would like to be one of the contestant couples, please let the church office know.

You will want to come and cheer them on to victory. Everyone is asked to bring snacks and appetizers as we do for Trivia Challenge. A Thrivent Action Team will provide beverages and paper goods.

## PANCAKE DAY



**Saturday, March 4, 2023**

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. Yum!

## PARADE PARTY

### Parade Party

Come on **Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**, at **5:30 pm** to the church parking lot to watch the **City High 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

November 13, 2022, & March 5, 2023  
Following Late Service

### What is 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 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, co-workers, neighbors, 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

Sunday, October 30, 2022  
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

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 for goodies!



Watch *Reflections* in the Fall for more information.

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



## IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE STUDY



The Third Commandment tells us that we should *“Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.”*

We Lutherans understand this commandment to mean more than just ‘going to church on Sundays.’ Instead, we are to love God and His Word, and gladly hear and learn it!

That means Bible Study is an important component of Christian life! Because the Bible *is* God’s Word, it can be trusted as a sort of ‘measuring stick’ and ‘guide’ for Christian life. As the Psalmist writes in Psalm 119:105:

*“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”*

And as St. Paul kindly reminds all of us Christians in 2 Timothy 3:16:

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”*

Studying the Bible helps us to live God-pleasing lives. But more than that, it helps us obtain a closer relationship with God. As we learn more about what God has done for us, we see more clearly what He desires for us. So come, be enriched by God’s Word and spend time in Bible Study!

## 4 REASONS WHY BIBLE STUDY IS IMPORTANT

### NUMBER 1 TO GAIN A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Bible study helps us to gain a better understanding of who God is and his role in our lives.



### NUMBER 2 TO GAIN WISDOM

But there is a difference between reading and understanding. When we study God’s word, we can apply that knowledge appropriately to our everyday life. That is wisdom.



### NUMBER 3 DEFENSE AGAINST THE ENEMY AND RESISTANCE TO TEMPTATION

We must stay prayed up and armored up with the word of God, that we may be able to “quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”



### NUMBER 4 DEFENDING YOUR FAITH AND TEACHING OTHERS

We are living, breathing, walking testimonies of Jesus Christ. We might not be able to know everything. But we should know enough to defend our beliefs.



## **Bible Studies**

### **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**

**October 2, 9**

**Sundays 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

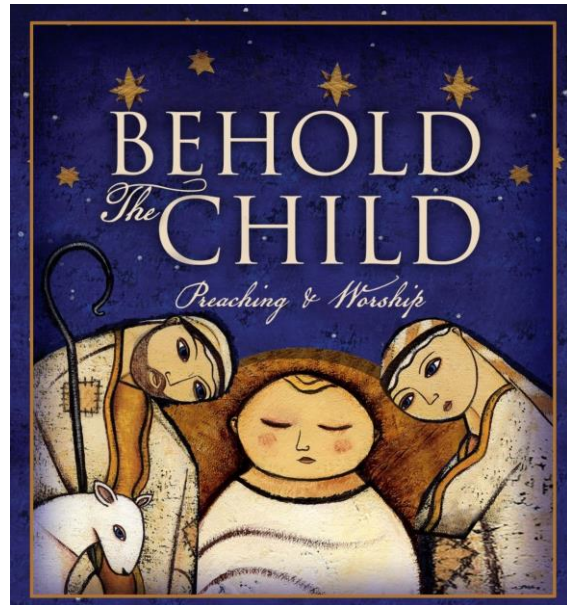
#### **Spring**

**March 31, April 1**

**Weekend Immersion**

**Fri. 7 pm – 9 pm; Sat. 8:30 am – 2:30 pm**

## **BEHOLD THE CHILD**



We center this Advent season around the Holy Child! Behold the Child in the manger whose life, suffering, death, and resurrection paid the ultimate price for our sins. Believe in the most blessed Child, both the Son of God and of man, who gives us eternal life. Following devotional themes from Matthew, Luke, and John, learn about the Child who would become the world's redeemer.

**Advent Sunday 1: November 27, 2022**

For You and All the World

(Luke 2:8-20)

**Advent Sunday 2: December 4, 2022**

To Set You Free from All Your Sorrow

(Matthew 2:1-12)

**Advent Sunday 3: December 11, 2022**

For You, to Bear Your Flesh in Weakness

(Luke 1:46-55)

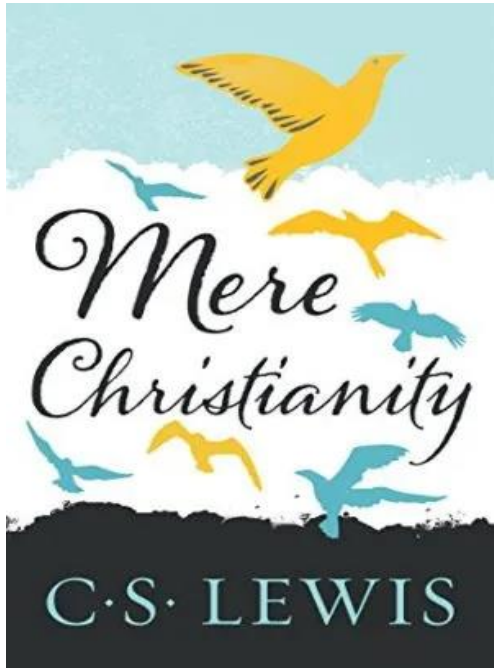
**Advent Sunday 4: December 18, 2022**

All the World with His Free Grace

Supplying

(John 1:1-14)

## BOOK CLUB: MERE CHRISTIANITY



**Thursday Nights**  
**7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

**September 22, 2022**  
Session 1 (Books 1 and 2)

**October 27, 2022**  
Session 2 (Book 3)

**November 17, 2022**  
Session 3 (Book 4)

In *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis aims to prove to the sensible skeptic that God does exist and that He sent His son Jesus Christ to redeem the world. The book begins with a logical proof for the Christian God and then discusses the common ground upon which all those of the Christian faith stand together. Readers at all stages of belief will find that *Mere Christianity* provides an approachable path to discovering a robust, rational case for the Christian faith.

## DOUBT: A CHARACTER STUDY



**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study**  
**9:20 am – 10:05 am**

Something surely must be wrong with me if I'm doubting my faith...right? You may feel that you're alone in your times of doubt, but this is not true! You are not the first nor the last Christian to struggle with doubts of God, your faith, and everything in between. In this Bible Study we will be addressing various characters throughout the Old and New Testaments who doubted God. Prominent figures, who we may put on a pedestal in our minds, have struggled. Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.

**September 11, 2022**  
Introduction

**September 18, 2022**  
Sarah, wife of Abraham

**October 2, 2022**  
Thomas, disciple of Jesus

**October 9, 2022**  
Moses, leader of the Exodus

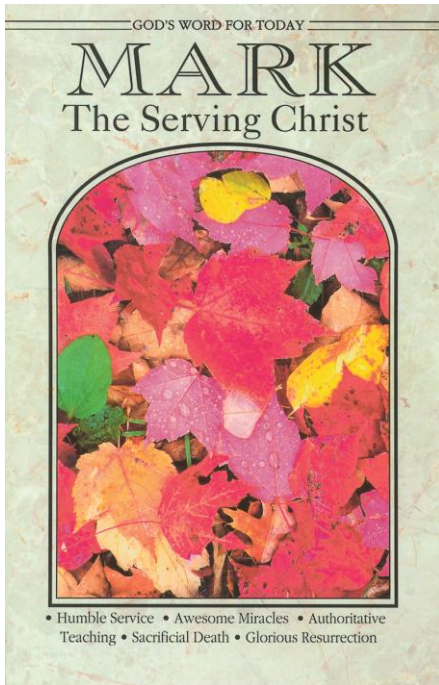
**October 16, 2022**  
John the Baptist, a prophet of the Lord

**October 30, 2022**  
Gideon, chosen by God

**November 6, 2022**  
Father of the boy with the unclean spirit

**November 13, 2022**  
Conclusion

**GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY:**  
**MARK – THE SERVING CHRIST**



**Wednesday Nights**  
**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**  
**September 14, 2022 – November 16, 2022**

Many people who are great by the world's standards or who are in positions of authority lord their greatness over those they consider below them. Often such people expect to be served, but not our Lord Jesus. The Lord of heaven and earth took on the lowly form of a man to serve humanity and to sacrifice His life to ransom people from sin, death, and Satan. (10 sessions)

**HEROES OF THE FAITH:**  
**COURAGEOUS HEROES OF THE FAITH**



**Wednesday Nights**  
**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**  
**November 30, 2022**  
**December 7 – 21, 2022**  
**January 11 – 18, 2023**

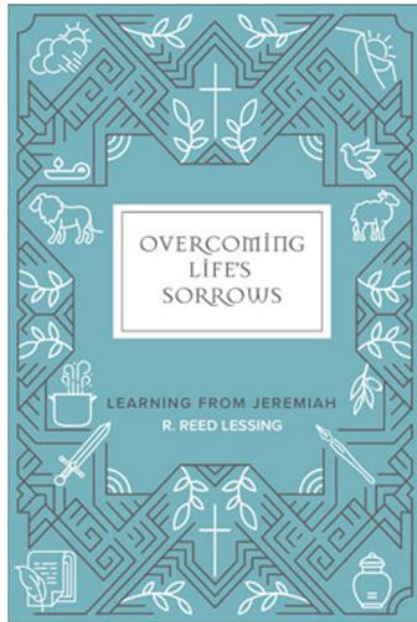
*Courageous Heroes of the Faith* will introduce you to the cultural setting and life story of biblical characters, examine the joys and challenges they faced, and show how God forgave, sustained, and empowered them to serve Him.

This study includes:

- Noah
- Rahab
- Jonathan
- Hezekiah
- Mary and Martha
- Apollos

As you progress through the study, you will learn how God chooses ordinary people – people like you – to do His extraordinary work. (6 sessions)

**JEREMIAH SORROWS:**  
**OVERCOMING LIFE'S SORROWS**



**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study**  
**9:20 am – 10:05 am**

Take a moment and think about your life. What personal trials, disasters, or setbacks have you had to overcome? Were there moments when you thought you couldn't possibly persevere? God gives an example of someone in a similar situation: the prophet Jeremiah. The book of Jeremiah is quite possibly the best against-all-odds story ever written and can help you see how to overcome your sorrows.

Settle into Jeremiah's narrative and see how Jeremiah finds hope and joy despite numerous tragedies. You'll see how through God's Word, hope, trust, faith, and more, you can get through anything.

**January 8, 2023**  
Meet Jeremiah

**January 15, 2023**  
Overcoming through God's Word,  
Confession, and Absolution

**January 22, 2023**  
Overcoming through Hope and Worship

**January 29, 2023**  
Overcoming through Expressing Grief

**February 5, 2023**  
Overcoming through Renouncing Idolatry

**February 19, 2023**  
Overcoming through Laments and God's  
Tests

**February 26, 2023**  
Overcoming through Listening, Trust, and  
Humility

**March 5, 2023**  
Overcoming through God's Grace and the  
Good Shepherd

**March 12, 2023**  
Overcoming through Seeing and  
Persistence

**March 19, 2023**  
Overcoming through Surrender and  
Shalom

**March 26, 2023**  
Overcoming through the New David and  
the Renewed Covenant

**April 2, 2023**  
Overcoming through Taking Risks and  
Tenacity

**April 16, 2023**  
Overcoming through the Storm

**April 23, 2023**  
Overcoming through Faith

**April 30, 2023**  
Overcoming through Singing

**May 14, 2023**  
Who Overcomes?

## MISSION UPDATES



### **Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 9:20 am – 10:05 am**

**September 25, 2022  
Parish Nurses of Eswatini**

Anita Nicholson and her University of Iowa College of Nursing students traveled to Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland) twice a year before the COVID-19 pandemic. They hope to travel again next year.

Eswatini is a small country located in Southern Africa, where two-thirds of the population live in extreme poverty.

Anita and her students work along-side Eswatini nurses at Good Shepherd Hospital and Faith Community nurses to provide care to patients across the rural countryside suffering acute and chronic illnesses (including AIDS). They also educate youth in schools on HIV prevention, as Eswatini has the highest HIV prevalence rates in the world.



### **October 23, 2022 Panama Lutheran Church**

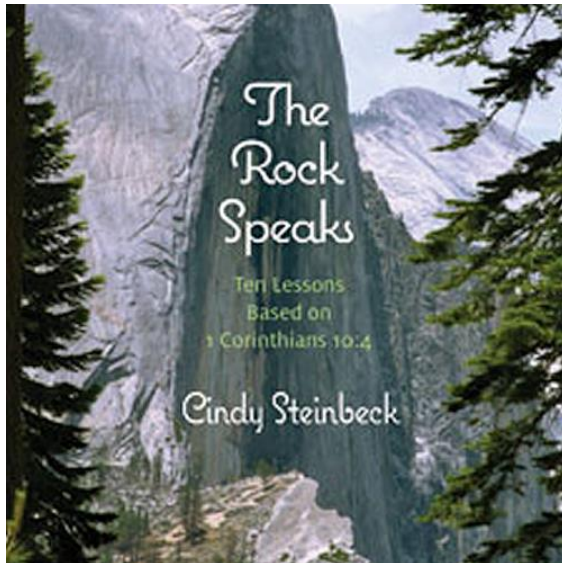
Our Redeemer has supported Panama missions with Mission Trips, budgeted mission dollars, and, most recently, as a representative to FORO. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Balboa is now being served by Rev. Arthur Rickman and was previously served by Rev. Brian Gauthier, both who have ties to people at Our Redeemer. God is Great Lutheran Church in Loma Cova and Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Sora are also a part of this Panama mission.



### **February 12, 2022 UKANDU**

Each year Our Redeemer sends youth and adults to UKANDU to do charitable mission work in inner city Chicago. This servant event has a huge impact on all attendees.

## THE ROCK SPEAKS

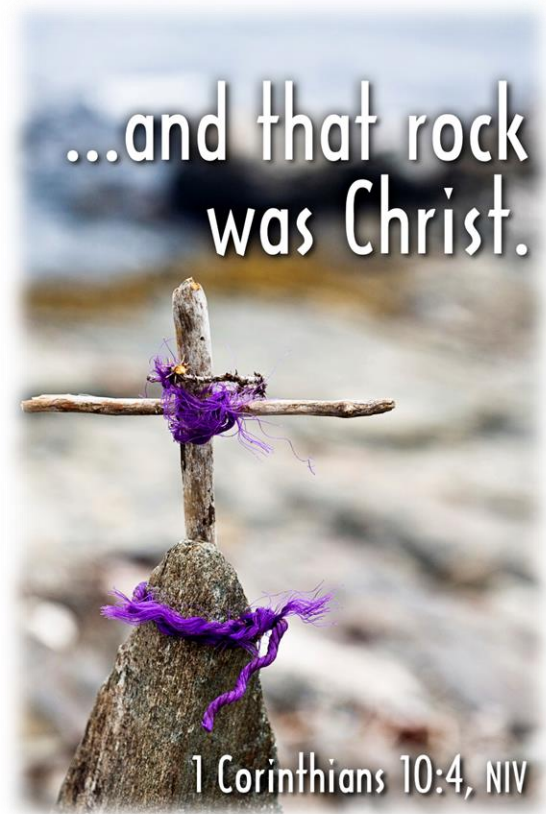


**Wednesday Nights**  
**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**  
**January 25; February 1 – 15**  
**March 1, 8, 22, 29; April 12, 19**

This Bible study invites you to explore how Jesus calls you to trust in Him as your rock and salvation, based on 1 Corinthians 10:4: "All drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ."

In *The Rock Speaks*, you don't need to be an agriculturalist to understand and grow as you study the words of Scripture. Drawing from the author's observations of rocks and soil, words from the Old Testament, and events in the New Testament, the study reveals how Jesus calls you into a deeper understanding of creation and salvation.

Topics include sustenance, abundance, life, growth, and more. (10 sessions)



# *Bible Studies at a Glance*

## **SUNDAY MORNING**

Bible Study time is offered between 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 is:

### ***No Sunday School and Bible Class on:***

September 4, 2022 (Labor Day)  
December 25, 2022 (Christmas)  
January 1, 2023 (Christmas Break)  
April 9, 2023 (Easter Sunday)  
May 7, 2023 (Senior Breakfast)  
June 4, 2023 (Christ Cares Sunday)

### **September 11, 18**

*Doubt: A Character Study*

### **September 25**

*Mission Update – Parish Nurses of Eswatini*

### **October 2, 9, 16**

*Doubt: A Character Study*

### **October 23**

*Mission Update – Panama Lutheran Church*

### **October 30, Nov 6, 13**

*Doubt: A Character Study*

### **November 27 – December 18**

*Behold the Child*

### **January 8 – February 5**

*Jeremiah: Overcoming Life's Sorrows*

### **February 12**

*Mission Update – UKANDU*

### **February 19 – April 2, April 16- 30, May 14**

*Jeremiah: Overcoming Life's Sorrows*

### **May 21**

*Sunday School Celebration*

## **WEDNESDAY MORNING**

On the first and third Wednesday morning of each month, a Bible Study class is offered prior to our Lunch Bunch program.

### **SCHEDULE**

**11:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**2 Corinthians**

## **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

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

### **September 14 – November 16**

*God's Word for Today:*  
*Mark – The Serving Christ*  
**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

### **November 30; December 7-21; January 11-18**

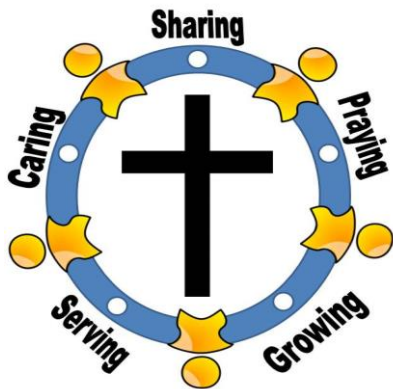
*Heroes of the Faith:*  
*Courageous Heroes of the Faith*  
**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

### **January 25, February 1 – 15; March 1, 8, 22-29; April 12, 19**

**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 who share a common interest and meet regularly in their homes for Scripture, prayer, and service, with concern and support for one another.

Small Group Ministry (SGM) has been active in 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 for 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.

We currently have several small groups meeting at Our Redeemer.

Contact Denise Holidia at email [smallgroups@ourredeemer.org](mailto: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 toward 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.
- New 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 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 319-383-4597. Thank you!

## LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Usually the main dish is provided and those attending may contribute by bringing a potluck dish.

You are also invited to come an hour earlier at 11:00 am to participate in an interesting Lunch Bunch Bible Study led by the pastor and/or vicar.

Please join us for both events or come to the event that your schedule permits.

For more information, contact Betty Redeker at 621-9051.

## CHRIST IN FILM



Thursday nights as listed  
6:00 pm

### CHRIST IN FILM

For over 100 years, Hollywood has informed and influenced American popular culture. While that relationship is one that often draws consternation from Christians, Tinseltown actually incorporates Christian themes to a surprising degree!

There are films about Jesus Christ, and there are films with “Christ-figures” that parallel His story—and they appear in many films! Christ figures are portrayed as “saviors” of individuals, groups of people, or even all humanity. They endure a sizable sacrifice as the means of bringing that salvation about for others, often a fate they do not deserve, up to and including death. Sometimes he or she even has the initials “J.C.”

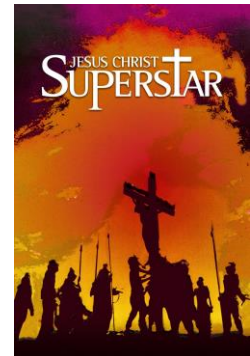
Other biblical elements may be mixed and matched, but the “Chosen One” may gain a group of devoted followers, be betrayed by a follower, face persecution from nonbelievers, undergo a “Passion,” or perhaps even a literal resurrection!

A brief discussion and Bible study follows each film. Come learn how Christians can see Christ even in secular art—and how we might use it to share the Good News!



January 26, 2023  
*Megamind*  
(PG) 96m

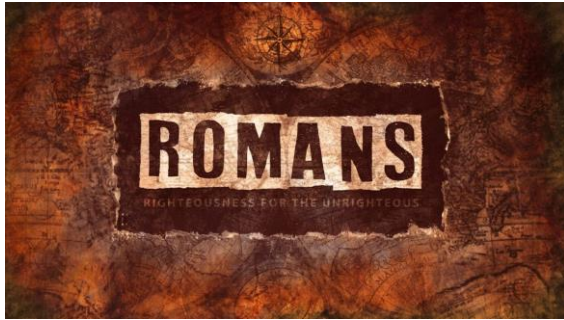
February 23, 2023  
*Jesus Christ Superstar*  
(G) 108m



March 23, 2023  
*Spider-Man 2*  
(PG-13) 135m

April 27, 2023  
*A Monster Calls*  
(PG-13) 108m



**BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN****ROMANS**

**Typically the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays  
of each month  
8:00 am – 9:30 am**

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

The Book of Romans was likely written A.D. 56-58. Romans 1:1 identifies the author of the Book of Romans as the apostle Paul. Romans 16:22 indicates that Paul used a man named Tertius to transcribe his words.

As with all Paul's epistles to the churches, his purpose in writing was to proclaim the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine and to edify and encourage the believers who would receive his letter. Of particular concern to Paul were those to whom this letter was written—those in Rome who were "loved by God and called to be saints" (Romans 1:7). Because he himself was a Roman citizen, he had a unique passion for those in the assembly of believers in Rome. Since he had not, to this point, visited the church in Rome, this letter also served as his introduction to them.

**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**

**BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN**

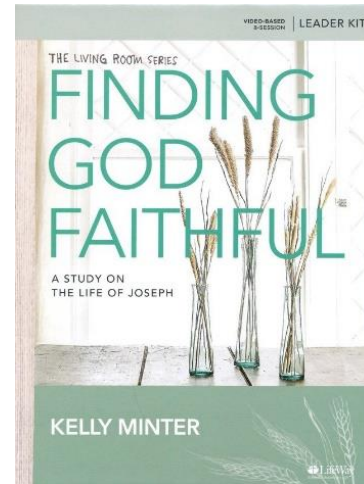


**DANIEL: LIVES OF INTEGRITY, WORDS OF PROPHECY**

By Beth Moore

**Tuesday mornings 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**September 13, 27; October 11, 25**  
**November 8, 22; December 13, 2022;**  
**2023 dates TBD**

Join Beth Moore in a faith-building study of prophecy and learn how to shine for Christ in our modern culture. Just as the prophet Daniel faced unbelievable pressures to compromise his faith, to live in a hostile culture, and confront temptations and threats, today's believers face many of the same trials. (12 sessions)

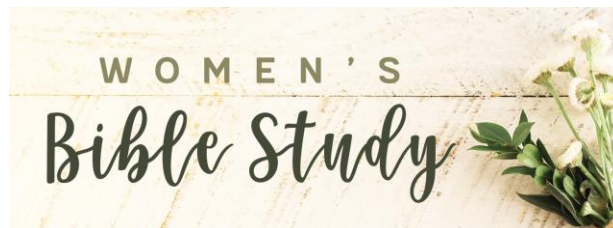


**FINDING GOD FAITHFUL: A STUDY ON THE LIFE OF JOSEPH**

By Kelly Minter

**Tuesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30 pm**  
**September 13, 27; October 11, 25**  
**November 1, 29; December 13, 2022;**  
**January 10**

Trace the path of Joseph's life in the book of Genesis to observe how God's sovereignty reigns, even in our darkest moments. Learn to recognize when God is working during periods of waiting, trust God's plan when life doesn't make sense, and rest in the sufficiency of His presence in every circumstance. His provision is enough, His presence is constant, and His purpose is unstoppable. (8 sessions)



## 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 devotions, Bible study, a speaker or mission project, and a snack. Collections for mites and for general offering are taken.

### LWML SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Within LWML are many small 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 women 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. Our Redeemer campers at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca are eligible for one third of the cost, up to \$60. Grants to women serving Jesus Christ and supporting the LWML through the LCMS or its recognized service organizations are available, grants starting at \$100. Call Melissa Mullane at 319-936-5827 for more information.



### CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

December 3, 2022

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 by the 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.

Congregational help is needed:

1. Pray that the attendees might see Christ's light in this mission-centered activity 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.



### 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."*

~ Mark 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; all women are already members!

### CONTACT

Any questions, contact Laurel Sellers at 319-331-3242.

**2022-2023 LWML SCHEDULE**

**2022**

September 9-10 **Fall Retreat**  
Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

September 19 **Salad potluck** 6:00 pm  
Vicar Garrett  
Convention Report

October 8 **Fall Zone Event**  
Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha

October 9 **LWML Sunday**  
*For Us and With Us*  
(Romans 8:31-39)

October 15 **World Relief Pickup** 8:00 am

October 17 **Comfort Dog Joy** 7:00 pm  
Bible Study

November 21 **Emma Hartwig Shower**  
7:00 pm

December 3 **Christmas Cookie Walk**  
9:00 am – 11:00 am

December 5 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm

December 12 **LWML Christmas Party**  
7:00 pm

December 14 **Advent Supper**  
Serving Committee 5:10 pm

**2023**

January No meeting

February 20 **Bunco Night**  
Nominating Committee  
(VP, Treasurer) 7:00 pm

March 20 **Carnegie Libraries** 7:00 pm  
Shana Stuart

March 22 **Lenten Supper**  
Serving Committee 5:10 pm

April 1 **Spring Zone Servant Event**  
Our Redeemer, Iowa City

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

April TBD **Spring World Relief Pickup**

April 17 **Rose Parade Float** 7:00 pm  
Laurel Hollipeter

April 22 **Tasting Bee** 11:00 am

May 8 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm  
2023-2024 Calendar Planning

May 15 **Guild Night Out** 6:00 pm

June 10-11 **IED-LWML National Convention**  
Milwaukee, WI  
“Celebrate the Lord of the Nations”

July No meeting

August **Road Trip** – TBD

September 18 **Salad Potluck** 6:00 pm  
Report on Convention



## Youth

6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders

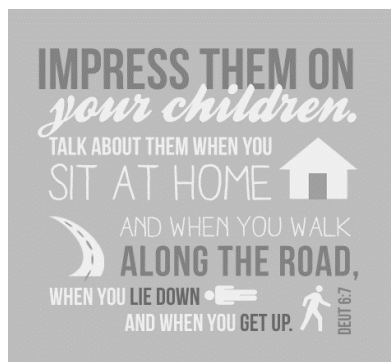
### Mission Statement

*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 is 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



### PARENTS OF YOUTH

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

## 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 (LCMS), Confirmation classes are held for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> 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, which is held during the spring for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmands. They:

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

### What is taught during Confirmation?

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

The Bible: Old Testament  
The Bible: New Testament

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

The Ten Commandments  
The Lord’s Prayer  
Baptism

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

The Apostles’ Creed  
Office of the Keys and Confession  
The Sacrament of the Altar

## CONFIRMATION RETREATS

Students are expected to attend three retreats held during the school year. Since lessons are taught during these retreats, it is important for students to participate. The youth really enjoy their time spent at the retreats. There are fees for some of the retreats, but full scholarships are available.

### FALL

We host a 6<sup>th</sup> grade fall retreat and a separate 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade fall retreat. These retreats are held at church. A highlight for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders is making creation pizza with Pastor. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders enjoy the evening worship service, sleeping overnight at church and playing games.

### WINTER

This retreat is for all Confirmation students (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders) and is held at a local hotel. This overnight retreat is usually held on a Friday night and ends on Saturday morning. The youth enjoy getting to swim as part of the fellowship time of this retreat.

### SPRING

This special retreat is for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents. It is a weekend retreat. We usually leave church on a Friday around noon and return late Sunday afternoon. For this trip, we take a charter bus to one of these cities: St. Louis, St. Paul, or Chicago. At each destination, we learn about one person of the Holy Trinity (St. Louis – God the Father; St. Paul – God the Son; and Chicago – God the Holy Spirit).

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

## CONFIRMATION YOUTH

*6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders*

### Weekly Activities

**Sunday School** – every Sunday at 9:20 am; meets in Room 208

**Confirmation Class** – every Wednesday at 6:45 pm; meets in classrooms on lower level

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

*9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders*

### Weekly Activities

**Sunday School** – every Sunday at 9:20 am

**Midweek** – every Wednesday at 6:45 pm

As youth move forward into high school, Our Redeemer continues its dedication to equip our youth as disciples of Jesus. Each week, we offer Sunday School and Midweek geared specifically for high school students.

Sunday School gives high school students the opportunity to understand and grow in God's Word and build on the foundation given them in baptism and Confirmation classes.

At Midweek, high school students have fun playing games and hearing a short devotion. During the fall and spring, we like to meet outside. High school also hosts service projects, like Jesus' Birthday Party and College Care Package Packing Night, for the younger children who are in Kids Club.

Each month during the school year, there are special high school youth events, such as Youth Worship, service projects, fundraisers, the annual lock out, and more.

## MIDWEEK

**High School Youth** meet outside or in the Fellowship Hall from 6:45 pm until 8:00 pm on Wednesdays during the school year.

Midweek is about building a faith community through...

- a casual, cheerful atmosphere,
- group games & activities to foster a sense of belonging within our church family, and
- Christ-centered devotions

The group is always focused on Jesus Christ our Savior!

Typical activities include playing kickball, group games, watching a movie, walking to Heyn's for ice cream, exploring biblical topics in a book club, and studying the Bible.

*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 encouraged to participate in this outreach event to our community.

The Live Nativity will be on **Sunday, December 11, from 4:00-6:00 pm.**

## SUMMER SERVANT EVENT – UKANDU



UKANDU is the summer servant event for high school youth at Our Redeemer. Participants can expect to serve alongside 200 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 2023 are **June 17 – 24, 2023.**

## LCMS YOUTH GATHERING (NYG)



This international event is organized by LCMS Youth Ministry in St. Louis. At Our Redeemer, we take a group of high school students, parent/adult chaperones, and Young Adult Volunteers (college-age adults who are official YAVs for the Gathering) on a 10-day trip to participate in the Gathering. During the five days at the Gathering, we spend time together in God’s Word, worship, service, and fellowship with 25,000+ other Lutherans from across the world.

The next **LCMS Youth Gathering** will be held in New Orleans in July, 2025. Registration will begin in September, 2024.

## FUNDRAISING and PRIZE ACCOUNTS

The Confirmation and High School youth and their families host two annual fundraisers each year: the **Youth Colorado Peach Fundraiser** and the **Youth Pie Sale**.

Profits from the **Youth Peach Fundraiser** and **Youth Pie Sale** 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. Many people in our community, as well as our congregation, look forward to our peach sale each summer. ALL youth families are expected to help sell peaches and volunteer on Peach Pickup Day in order to make this fundraiser successful.



The Youth Pie Sale is hosted each November. Youth families make 100+ homemade fruit pies in a four-hour morning work session to sell to our congregation. Each youth (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) has the opportunity to earn money by helping with these fundraisers. 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](mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org).

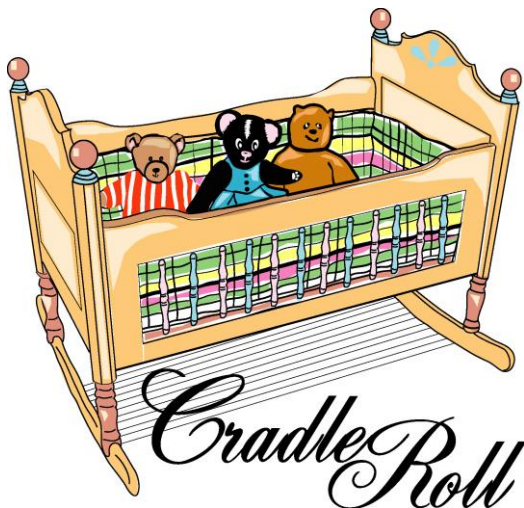


### Mission Statement

*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.



"Let the little children  
Come to Me  
and do not hinder them,  
for to such belongs  
the kingdom of heaven."  
Matthew 19:14



## **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. Our philosophy is to provide a Christ-centered atmosphere that allows children to observe, make choices, be active, explore, and experiment.

We use the “One in Christ” Christian curriculum to share the gift of the Gospel message of Christ Jesus, along with “Handwriting Without Tears” curriculum for furthering handwriting skills.

### **Our Mission**

- To introduce and reinforce the basic Christian truths about God who made and cares for us, and about Jesus who always loves and forgives us.
- To encourage each child to grow physically, academically, socially, and spiritually.
- To give ample opportunities for independent, self-initiated activities, as well as opportunities for peer interaction and cooperation.
- To promote learning through play, "One in Christ" Curriculum is used. Teachers engage students according to where they are developmentally and help them grow.

## **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  
\$232/Month

*Tuesday/Thursday*  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
\$170/Month

*5 Days*  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
\$384/Month

*\* For Extended Care Options, contact the Director.*

*\* Scholarships are available for those who apply. See Director for more information.*

Our Redeemer Christian Preschool is fully licensed by the State of Iowa.

Contact Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller, at 319-338-3949 or [preschool@ourredeemer.org](mailto:preschool@ourredeemer.org).

## **KIDS CLUB**



**Kids Club** is a Gospel-centered midweek program for children age 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. As part of Our Redeemer’s dedication to “equipping disciples to make disciples for Jesus”, we are excited to host Kids Club where children hear the saving Gospel truth about Jesus. For more information about our Kids Club, please contact the church office 319-338-5626 or [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org).

Every Wednesday evening at Kids Club, the children hear Bible stories, learn Bible verses, and sing songs. Other activities include games, crafts, and mission projects. Snacks are provided. Kids Club provides children with fun and enriching midweek Christian activities, as well as fellowship with their church family.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration can be done online by using this link:

<https://forms.gle/5AF2v2Q2J6hKzoce6>

or by contacting the church office at 319-338-5626 or emailing [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org).

### **CALENDAR**

Kids Club begins on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. We meet every Wednesday night from 6:45 pm until 8:00 pm. The last night of Kids Club will be Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

### **CANCELLATION**

If the Iowa City schools are cancelled on a Wednesday, our Kids Club program will also be cancelled on that day. If school is virtual, stay tuned to Channel 9 KCRG or the [ourredeemer.org](http://ourredeemer.org) website for last minute weather-related cancellations.

### **SNACKS**

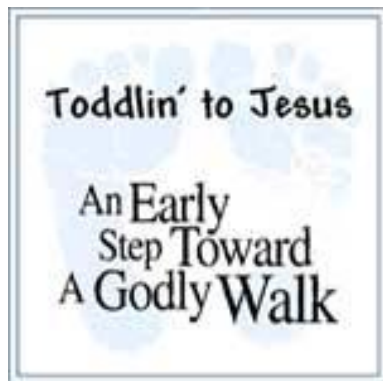
A light snack will be provided. Please note any food allergies.

### **CLASSROOM LOCATIONS**

See church map on page 52 of this booklet.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL



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 9:20 am during the school year.

Children aged birth to before they start preschool, accompanied by their parents, as well as expectant 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 email the church office at [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org) or call 319-338-5626.



**On Sunday mornings**, children ages 3-years through 8<sup>th</sup> grade attend classes to help them develop an "Enduring Faith." Our 3-year-old and 4-year-old preschoolers meet in their assigned classroom at 9:20 am. Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students meet at 9:20 am in the choir room for music and attend class from 9:30-10:15 am.

Our classrooms are bursting with energy and excitement for learning true Bible knowledge. Each week, students hear the Good News of Jesus' death and resurrection and are exposed to a wide range of Bible stories. Our lesson time also includes drama, crafts, various lesson-related activities, and memory work. Sunday school is held year-round, except for select holidays and other special church events. Look in our weekly ***Reflections*** for further announcements. For more information, contact the church office at [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org) or call 319-338-5626.

### **Classroom Locations**

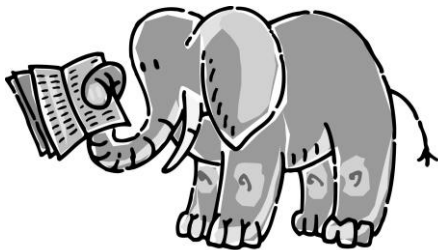
See church map on page 52 of this booklet.

## 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 memory verses 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.



## Memory Verse

*Benefits of memorizing Scripture passages, hymns, books of the Bible:*

- When this is accomplished, we can look up/quote Scripture 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, May 21, 2023, Pastor leads a special celebration during the Sunday School "hour". Each class will share its memory verses with the congregation during the worship services.

Memory Assignments	
Toddlin'	The Lord's Prayer
PreK 3 & 4	Exodus 3:12
K & 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Psalms 119:105
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	John 3:16
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Books of the Bible (Old & New Testament)
6/7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	The Ten Commandments
High School	Proverbs 3:5-6, Psalm 23

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.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & LUNCH



Children in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate in our annual Children's Christmas Service. This program, to be held on Sunday, December 11, 2022, during both the 8:00 and 10:30 am services, offers children an opportunity to actively share the Good News of our Savior's birth.

Children in the PreK 3 & 4 will learn and practice songs in their classroom and will share them at the beginning of the Children's Christmas Service.

Older children will learn songs for the program during Sunday School music time in October and November. There will be two Saturday morning practices on December 3 & 10, 2022, as well. More information will be given in October, 2022.

The program is followed by a wonderful soup luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, email the church office at [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org) or call 319-338-5626.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL August 6 - 10, 2023

Children age 4 years through 8<sup>th</sup> grade enjoy a fantastic week here at Our Redeemer 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 a free meal, then an opening, which is followed by Jesus-centered Bible lessons, creative crafts, engaging games, themed snacks, lively music, Bible memory work, and Christian fellowship.

Volunteers are always needed to help in various positions. For more information, contact the church office at [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org) or call 319-338-5626.



## Service Connections:

### ASSIMILATION

*Assimilation seeks 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.

New member brunch is scheduled for October 30, 2022.

### ASSIMILATION PARTICIPATION

The committee typically meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

For more information, contact Pam Wilson at 319-530-1920 or [markpamwilson@msn.com](mailto:markpamwilson@msn.com).

## 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 the church office at 319-338-5626.

Medical equipment such as walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, and shower chairs 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 6, 2022  
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 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 collected during the month of February are delivered to CommUnity 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 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.

### **UNDIES SUNDAY**

This campaign runs the entire month of June. Members of our congregation donate clean/new underwear for men, women, and children. The committee donates collected items to the Iowa City Shelter House. We are proud and thankful to have Our Redeemer leading the way in being the first to establish this type of campaign for much-needed and most-requested items benefitting the homeless.

### **CONTACT**

The committee meets on a monthly basis. For more information, contact Tracy Nelson at 319-530-7432.

### **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 a variety of 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 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.

### **CONTACT**

For more information about the Mission Committee, contact Bob Powers at [baronvonpowers@gmail.com](mailto:baronvonpowers@gmail.com) or 319-338-9651.

## OUTREACH



The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to follow the Great Commission of our Savior Jesus who commanded, “therefore go 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 community with the message of forgiveness, life, and salvation that comes only 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*

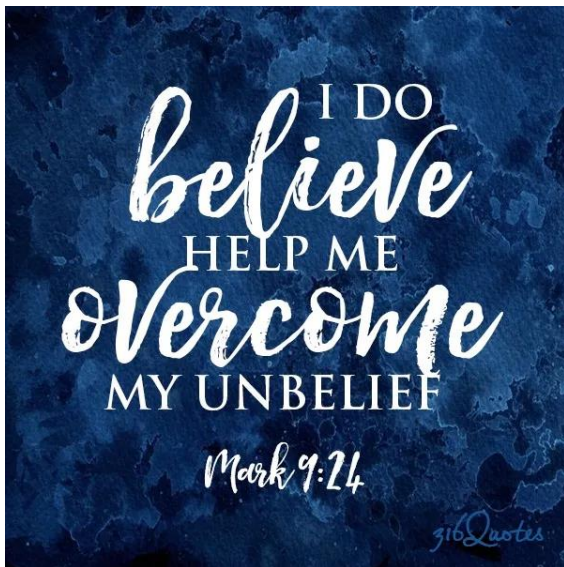
What does the Outreach Committee do to provide opportunities for members to reach out to others? Some of what we do:

- Pancake Day – Vicar works with CommUnity to plan this event; committee assists with greeting and welcoming people as well as helping with set up, serving, and clean up.
- Christ Cares Sunday – serve our community in multiple ways such as:
  - Ronald McDonald House meal and stock the pantry.
  - Landscaping at multiple locations.
  - Bingo and music with assisted living residents.
  - Appreciation baskets for firemen and police.
  - Shirts for the military serving overseas.
  - Make greeting cards.
  - Etc.
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Float – hand out bottles of water with a Bible verse.
- Fun Faith Fest – provide worship, food, fun, games, and fellowship for our community.
- City High Homecoming Parade – serve hot dogs and chips to the community.
- Engage congregation and preschool in making/signing Christmas cards and delivering them to senior living facilities.
- Christmas and Carols – serve cookies, hot cocoa, and cider following the Saturday evening service.
- Live Nativity – serve cookies, hot cocoa, and cider to our community.
- Preschool Mailers – co-fund two preschool mailers which include Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas schedules.

- Who Am I? (Biblical Characters) – share God’s Word through monologues given by actors in biblical costumes, and provide a meal, craft, prizes, fellowship and snacks.
- Visitor Letters – send letters or emails to visitors who worship with us.

We encourage Our Redeemer members to use these opportunities, as well as Trivia Challenge, Vacation Bible School, and other activities to reach out and invite family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and others.

For more information, contact Arlan Thompson, chairman of the Outreach Committee, at 319-338-2938.



## PROPERTIES



The Church Properties Committee is responsible for directing the upkeep and maintenance of the church, church grounds, vicarage, and parsonage within an annual budget approved at the November Voters’ Meeting. Work is completed by the property maintenance manager, contract labor, or volunteer labor. The committee is responsible for delegating the work to be done and directing the solicitation of bids for completion of work that cannot be managed through church resources. The property maintenance manager is responsible for oversight of all contracted 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* can be found on the website ([www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org)) under the publications tab 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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Contact our Office Coordinator, Lorrie Bailey at 319-338-5626 or email [redemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redemer@ourredeemer.org).



### 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 encouragement, hope, concern, and joy.

Payment box is located on the wall to the left of the display. For more information, contact Kathy Folkmann at 319-354-0480.

### 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 319-338-5626.

### 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 inside 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 office. Additional 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 319-338-5626.

## LIBRARY

The Church Library provides Christian resources for 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. 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:

Shana Stuart 319-321-9804

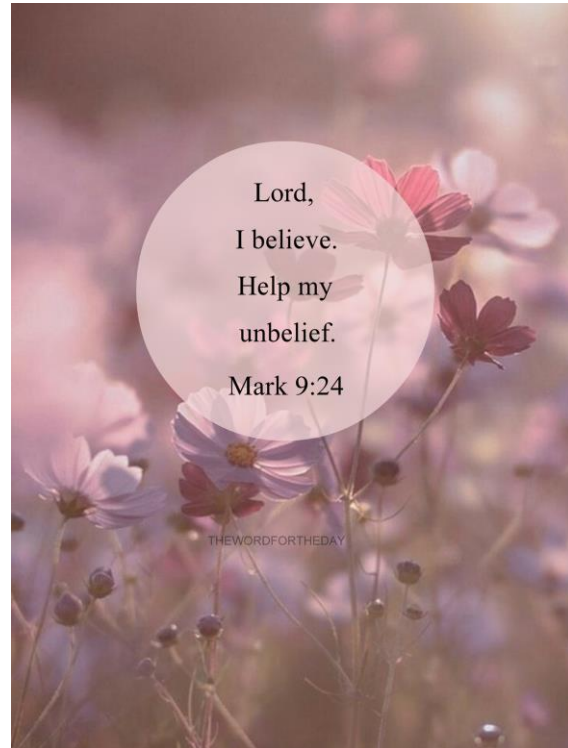
## REFLECTIONS

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* is emailed each week and can be found on the wire rack in the office or located online at [www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org) under the publications tab. It is replaced the last Sunday of the month with the *Beacon*.

Submissions are due to the church office no later than 5:00 pm each Wednesday. Contact our Office Coordinator, Lorrie Bailey, at 319-338-5626.



## THEME SONG

### LSB 745 In God, My Faithful God

1. In God, my faithful God,  
I trust when dark my road;  
Great woes may overtake me,  
Yet He will not forsake me.  
My troubles He can alter;  
His hand lets nothing falter.
2. My sins fill me with care,  
Yet I will not despair.  
I build on Christ, who loves me;  
From this rock nothing moves  
me.  
To Him I will surrender,  
To Him, my soul's defender.
3. If death my portion be,  
It brings great gain to me;  
It speeds my life's endeavor  
To live with Christ forever.  
He gives me joy in sorrow,  
Come death now or tomorrow.
4. O Jesus Christ, my Lord,  
So meek in deed and word,  
You suffered death to save us  
Because Your love would have us  
Be heirs of heav'nly gladness  
When ends this life of sadness.
5. "So be it," then, I say  
With all my heart each day.  
Dear Lord, we all adore You,  
We sing for joy before You.  
Guide us while here we wander  
Until we praise You yonder.



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## THEME VERSES

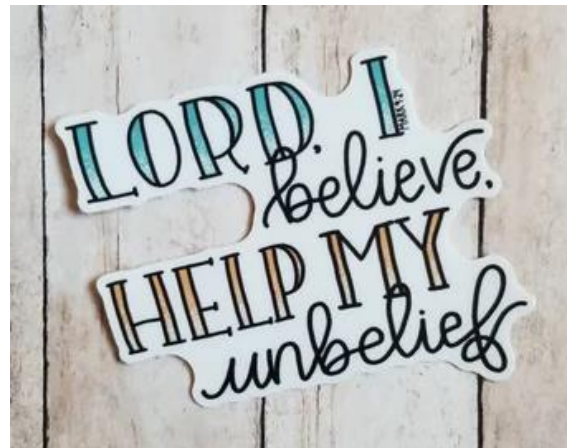
**Theme: I Believe; help my unbelief!**

**Verses:**

- *Mark 9:24b* – “I believe; help my unbelief!”
- *Isaiah 41:10* – fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
- *Psalms 121:1-2* – I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
- *Hebrews 12:11* – For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
- *Lamentations 3:31-32* – For the Lord will not cast off forever, but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
- *Isaiah 42:3* – a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- *Luke 17:5* – The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”
- *2 Corinthians 12:9a* – But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”
- *Psalms 13:1* – How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?
- *Psalms 143:7* – Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not your

face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.

- *2 Corinthians 4:8-9* – We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.
- *James 1:3b* – the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.
- *Hebrews 4:15* – For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.



## Worship Connections:



### Money Matters (Stewardship Series)

We go to schools to become equipped to earn money. Then we spend the rest of our lives getting it. We invest countless hours in thought and discussion on how we're going to handle it. We walk around shopping malls determining how we're going to spend it. We get caught up worrying that we won't have enough of it. We dream and scheme to figure out ways to acquire more of it. Arguments over it are the leading cause of marital disintegration, business partner breakups and government shutdowns. The obsession with getting more of it destroys many lives. Its absence causes endless nightmares. Some call the love of money the root of all evil. Others call it the means for great good. But we cannot afford to ignore the reality or the importance of *money*.

Neither does St. Paul. The apostle's most thorough teaching about money is in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. It is fitting that our fall stewardship emphasis be based upon these two chapters. I'm calling our campaign, "*Money Matters*." Sermons include:

#### Stewardship Sunday 1:

September 25, 2022

The Macedonian Model  
(2 Corinthians 8:1–9)

#### Stewardship Sunday 2:

October 9, 2022

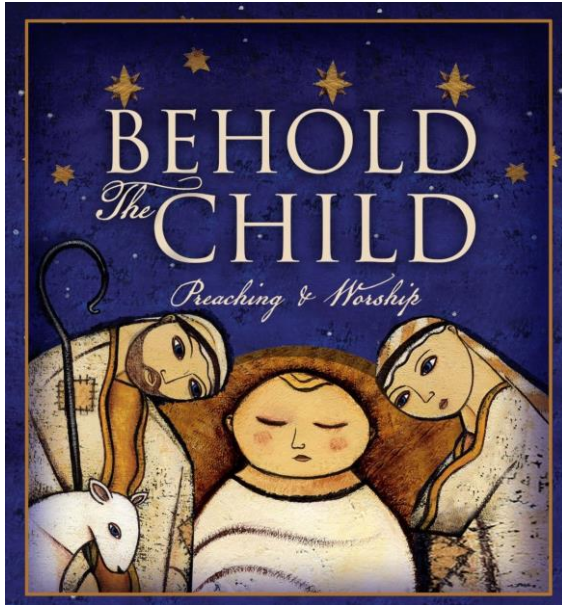
Hey, Big Spender!  
(2 Corinthians 9:1–7)

#### Stewardship Sunday 3:

November 13, 2022

Sowing and Harvesting  
(2 Corinthians 9:8–15)





## **Behold the Child (Advent Sermon Series)**

We center this Advent season around the Holy Child! Behold the Child in the manger whose life, suffering, death, and resurrection paid the ultimate price for our sins. Believe in the most blessed Child, both the Son of God and man, who gives us eternal life. Following devotional themes from Matthew, Luke, and John, learn about the Child who would become the world's redeemer.

### **Advent Sunday 1: November 27, 2022**

For You and All the World  
(Luke 2:8-20)

### **Advent Sunday 2: December 4, 2022**

To Set you Free from All Your Sorrow  
(Matthew 2:1-12)

### **Advent Sunday 3: December 11, 2022**

For You, to Bear Your Flesh in Weakness  
(Luke 1:46-55)

### **Advent Sunday 4: December 18, 2022**

All the World with His Free Grace  
Supplying  
(John 1:1-14)





## **The Crucial Hours (Lenten Sermon Series)**

The series ponders key words and moments from the account of Jesus' passion that demonstrate the thorough completeness of his saving work for us, the breadth and depth of his love for us, and the strength of his union with us.

### **Ash Wednesday: February 22, 2023**

I Will Keep the Passover  
(*Matthew 26:18*)

**Lenten Week 1: March 1, 2023**  
Satan Has Asked to Sift All of You  
(*Luke 22:31-32*)

**Lenten Week 2: March 8, 2023**  
They Bound Him  
(*John 18:12*)

**Lenten Week 3: March 15, 2023**  
The Semblance of Legality  
(*Luke 22:66*)

**Lenten Week 4: March 22, 2023**  
What to Remember When You are Seized  
with Remorse  
(*Matthew 17:3-4*)

**Lenten Week 5: March 29, 2023**  
A Part for the Whole?  
(*John 12:20-33*)

**Palm Sunday: April 2, 2023**  
During this Palm Sunday worship service we will enter the sanctuary together as Jesus entered Jerusalem. We will give our attention to the whole Passion Week.

**Maundy Thursday: April 6, 2023**  
The Three Unions in Holy Communion  
(*Matthew 26:20-30; Mark 14:17-26; Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29*)

**Good Friday: April 7, 2023**  
Seven Crucial Last Words  
(*from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*)

**Easter Sunday: April 9, 2023**  
God's Easter Sunday Declaration about You  
(*Romans 4:25*)



***This year Confirmation will be held on  
Sunday, April 30, 2023.***

## 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 four 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 Dinners

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

### Lenten Dinners

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

## 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, April 5, 2023, 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 acolytes light the candles. Acolyte training happens during Confirmation Orientation.

## 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 31, 2022, through early May. The choir sings regularly for worship services. If you are interested in details, please contact Louise Klopp at [choirdirector@ourredeemer.org](mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org).



## **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.

## **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 Gathering Place, where coffee and treats are hosted each week by different groups or individuals.

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

## **HANDBELL CHOIR**

If you are high school age or older, and can read music, the Handbell Choir is looking for you! The director, Louise Klopp, will send out potential dates for practice and Sunday music. Please let her know if you are interested in participating.

For details, please contact Louise Klopp at [choirdirector@ourredeemer.org](mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org).

## **NURSERY**

We are pleased to have children at worship and encourage families to bring them. The nursery will be available to families needing a changing table, rocking chair, or toddler bathroom.

## **ORGAN AND PIANO**

Our Redeemer is blessed to have Marilyn Paetz as a staff organist. Likewise, we are blessed that Barb Schanbacher serves as pianist for the Gracious Beginnings Divine Service on Saturdays. Thank you 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 substitute. 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.

If you are interested in details, please contact Louise Klopp at [choirdirector@ourredeemer.org](mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org).

## **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.”*

A prayer chain is a list of people who agree to pray for a loved one during a troubled time. 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 319-338-5626 or Skip Kempnich at 319-351-5297 or [prayerchain@ourredeemer.org](mailto: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 [prayerchain@ourredeemer.org](mailto:prayerchain@ourredeemer.org) or 319-351-5297.

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 319-530-2371 or email her at: [specialmusic@ourredeemer.org](mailto:specialmusic@ourredeemer.org).



## TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANTS



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

Our sound, projection and camera systems help us hear the Word, message, and music more clearly during the service and also allows us to live stream most services each week. These can then be accessed via YouTube 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.

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](mailto:technology@ourredeemer.org).

## USHERS

Ushers are an important part of our Sunday services.

Ushers volunteer to serve regularly at one service per month. Contact Dave Fruendt (319-338-5546) about early service and Dave Hintze (319-351-5873) about late service.

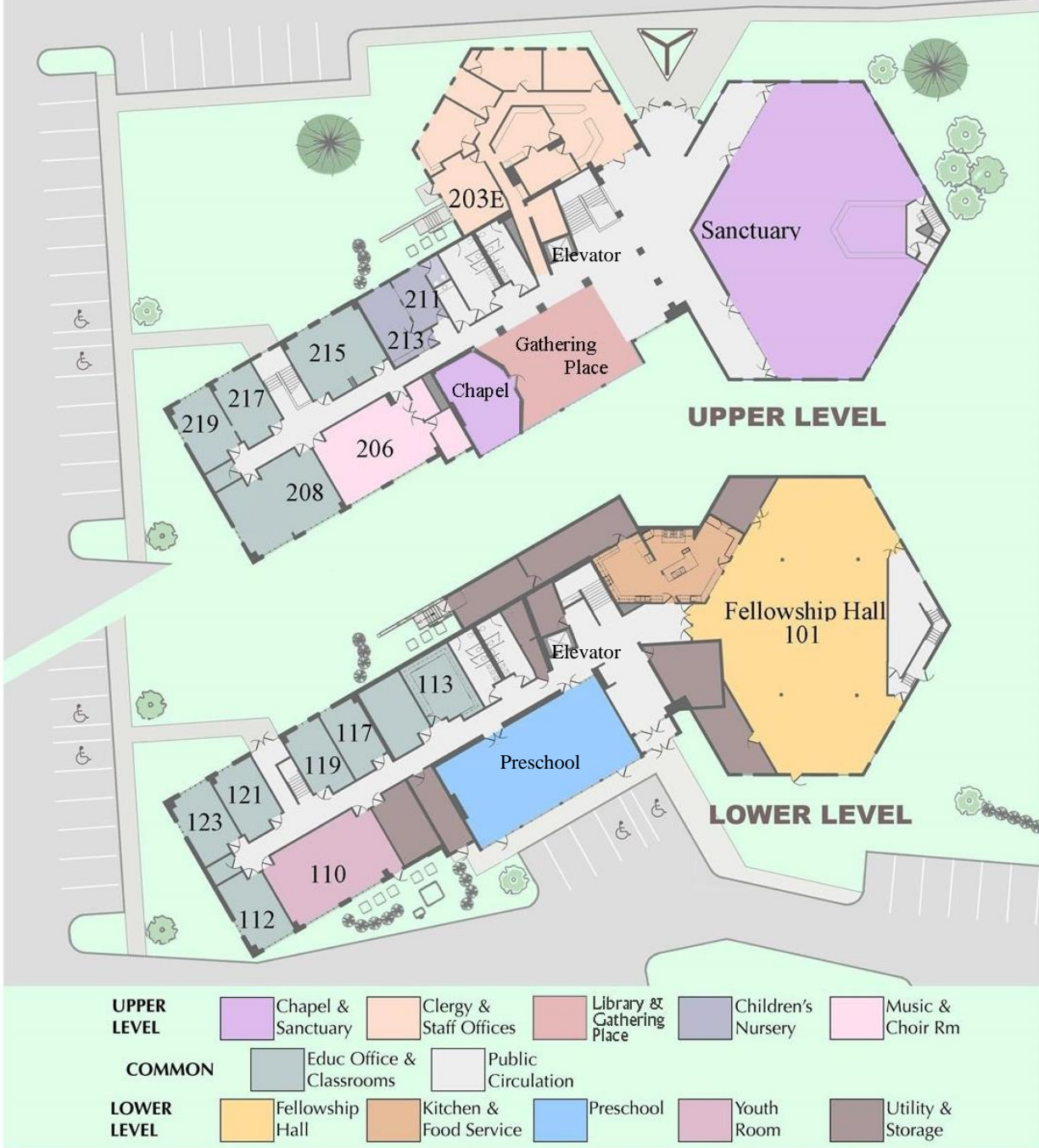
### **An up-to-date 2022-2023 Calendar**

Available at [www.ourredeemer.org](http://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 [technology@ourredeemer.org](mailto:technology@ourredeemer.org).

# Directory



### Sunday Morning Classrooms:

Age/Grade	Room Number
Toddlin' to Jesus (0-2 Year Olds)	215-Classroom (Toddlin')
Pre-K3 & Pre-K4	219-Classroom
Kindergarten & 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	217-Classroom
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades	117-Classroom
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades	121-Classroom
6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grades	208-Classroom (Adult Ed)
High School	110-Youth Room
Adult	101-Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday Night Classrooms:

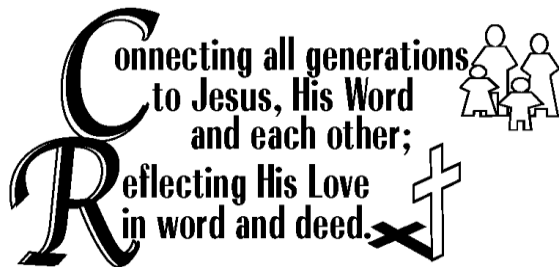
Age/Grade	Room Number
4 years – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade – Kids Club	215-Classroom (Toddlin')
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Girls 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Girls	117-Classroom
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Boys 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Boys	119-Classroom
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Boys	121-Classroom
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lecture 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Girls	123-Classroom
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lecture 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lecture	112-Classroom
High School	110-Youth Room or outdoors
Adult	208-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**

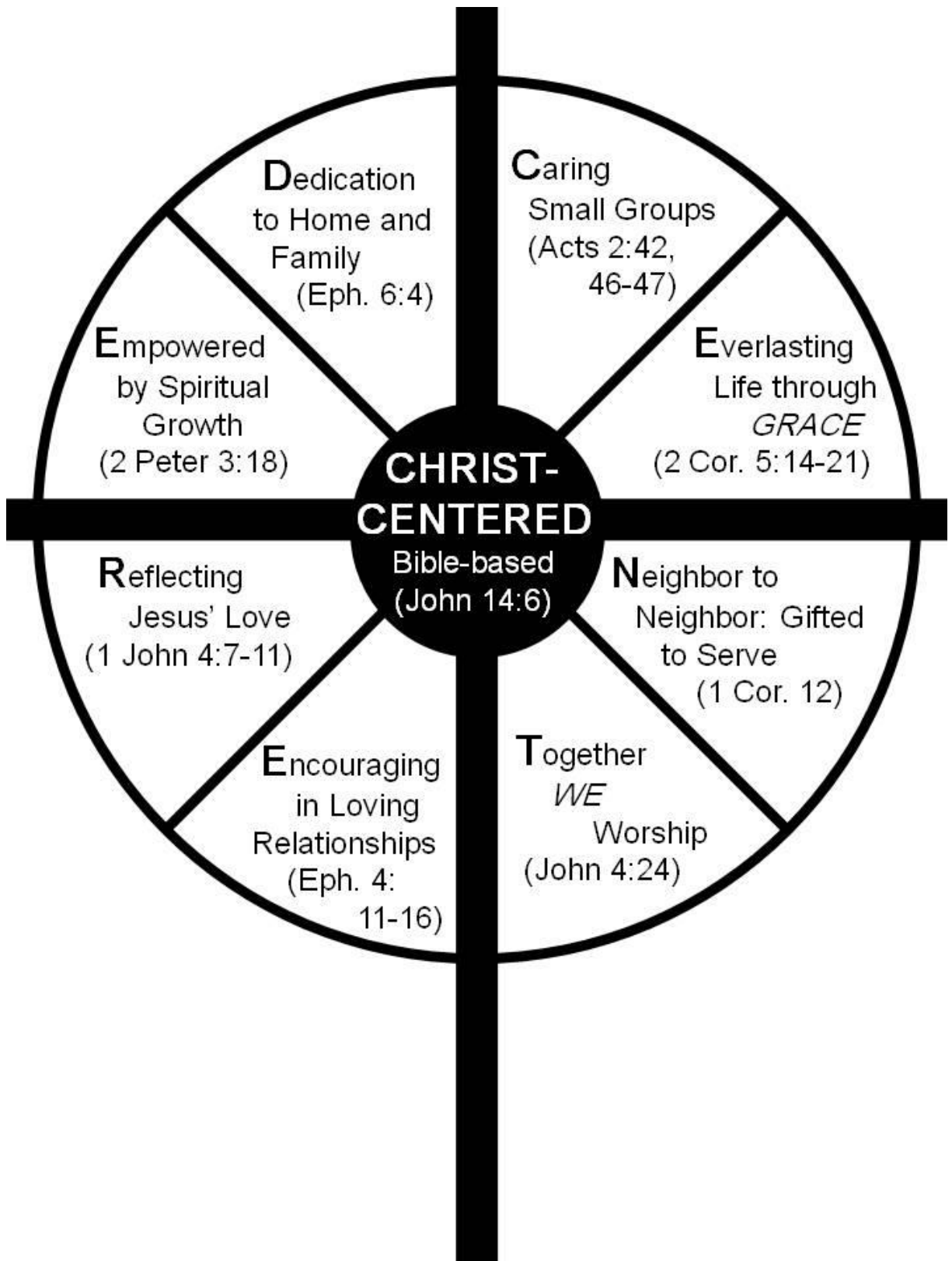
We believe that all of us—individually and corporately—are to reflect Jesus' unconditional love in word and deed, living the Christian life as followers (disciples) of Christ. (1 John 4:7-11)

### **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, according to Ephesians 5:19. Receiving the keynote 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 pm & 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.

**Live Streamed Services are available on YouTube:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZqA0kuhQeyMn48\\_giM2jw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZqA0kuhQeyMn48_giM2jw)

Watch [www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org) for changes.