

Reflections



Phone: 319-338-5626 Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org www.ourredeemer.org

Iowa City, IA 52245

Weekly Newsletter - December 3/4, 2022

~The Second Sunday in Advent/Service of Christmas and Carols~

Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson	
December 4	Acts 23:12-24	Paul's Prison Protection—The Plot to Kill Paul	
December 11	Acts 27:9-44	All Overboard—Paul's Shipwreck	
December 18	2 Timothy 1; 3:14-17	To a New Generation—Paul Writes to Timothy	
December 25	Christmas Weekend & New Year Weekend—No Classes		



December 4-18

Behold the Child

January 8-February 5

Jeremiah: Overcoming Life's Sorrows

FLOWERS TODAY



Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Lynn Smith in reflecting on the peace of God in this Advent Season.



BAPTISM



ADDISON ANNE SPIEKERMEIRER DAUGHTER OF EVA & JACOB SPIEKERMEIRER

SPONSORS ARE GRACE & ETHAN COBLENTZ STACIE & JONAS COBLENTZ JOSIAH COBLENTZ December 4, 2022







This Sunday's coffee and snacks are being provided between the early service and Sunday School by Kelsey Benson and the ORLC Preschool. Donations will go towards the Preschool.

Come join us for a little fellowship before heading off to Bible Class and Sunday School.

Prayer of the Church / The Second Sunday in Advent / December 4, 2022

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the Holy Church, that God would continually feed her with His Word and Sacraments as she looks for Christ's Advent, for our return to Bethlehem and the second coming of Christ, the Lord of lords and the King of kings, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the musical groups in this service, that they would be blessed as they were able to proclaim the saving message of Jesus Christ through their music. We give you all praise, glory, and honor for their talent, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For families, that they would faithfully fulfill their vocations to love and forgive one another, even as they grow in the fear, love and trust of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the baptized children of God, especially *Addison Spiekermeier*, that God would give the assurance that all sins have been washed away, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and suffering, [especially Tim Adkins, Dorothy Blume (Carol Schuldt's sister), David Caplin (Lillian Moyer's son-in-law), Emee Elkeurti, Leslie Frost (friend of Sarah Ghabel), Debra Fuhrmeister, Debbie Hartwig, Emma Haugen (Friend of Gwen Enokian), Gabe Hundley (grandson of Karen Abernathy), Dora Jacobson(granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), Mark Jacobs, David Jones (Lonne Loney's uncle), Harry Karnes, Joanne Leeper (mother of Cathleen Loney), Cathleen Loney, Norma Miller (Twyla Freeman's aunt), Aaron Mueller, Barb Nace (Doris Siemer's niece), Bob Nace, Deloris Nace, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp (Cousin of Ruth Varney), Pat Sexton, Rozie Siems (Daughter of Mary Siems), Ronna Sojka, Reece Ullerich, Karen Warner, Lynne Westphal, Mark Wilson, Beth Wu (Schuldt's relative),] that as the day draws near when the wolf will lay with the lamb and pain and destruction will be no more, God would grant them patience, comfort and healing according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For You join man and woman together so that they are no longer two but one flesh. Bless the engaged, the newly married and those who have shared many years together, especially **Pastor and Donna Bailey** (Lorrie Bailey's parents) celebrating their 60th anniversary, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

Preserve us, O Lord, from all temptation and *DOUBT*. Grant us faith, that we may rest all our prayers and the desires of our hearts in Your merciful arms, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BIRTHDAYS

Sun. 12/4 Levi Saterfield, Jadyn Waring, Randy Weyer

Mon. 12/5 Noah, Hartwig, Eric Kooker, Demi Lambert, Chelsea Zeman

Tues. 12/6 Parker Johnston, Valerie Sexton

Wed. 12/7 ***

Thurs. 12/8 Mallory Fesler, Karen Long, Greyson Naraine, Quinn Price, John Robinson

Fri. 12/9 Allison Haack, Ben Lothamer, Sandra Maher, Shirley Sheets

Sat. 12/10 Max Krogh, Dan Schwartz, Adam Weppler

STEWARDSHIP November 26/27, 2022

TIME TREASURES			
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 11/26—5:30pm	38	Contributions	\$11,628.53
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 11/27—8:00am	93	A Little Farther	\$1,625.00
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 11/27—10:30am	164	Monthly needs for budget	\$66,114.00
Recorded Services 11/26	22	Thanksgiving Eve Worship	153
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	317	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	**/40



Extra Advent, and Christmas worship services require many ushers. Please sign up on the welcome counter or contact consultant@ourredeemer.org to sign up for those services where you can be of assistance. Everyone is needed to help cover services.

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, December 4-11, 2022

Sunday, 12/4-Christmas and Carols		Wednesday continued	
Worship-In Person/Live Stream	8:00am	Midweek	6:45pm
Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:20am	Adult Midweek	7:00pm
Worship-In Person/Live Stream	10:30am		
		Thursday, 12/8	
Monday, 12/5		Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Staff Meeting	1:00pm	Lantern Park	10:00am
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	Briarwood	4:00pm
Chamber Singers Rehearsal	6:00pm	Book Club	7:00pm
Youth Committee	6:00pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
LWML Board Meeting	7:00pm		
Mission Committee	7:00pm	<u>Friday, 12/9</u>	

<u>Tuesday, 12/6</u>			
Human Care	6:30pm	<u>Saturday, 12/10</u>	
Al-Anon	7:00pm	Men's Bible Class	8:00am
		Children's Christmas Service Rehearsal	9:00am
Wednesday, 12/7		Worship-In Person/Live Stream	5:30pm
TOPS	8:00am		
Bible Study	11:00am	<u>Sunday, 12/11</u>	
Lunch Bunch	12:00pm	Worship-In Person/Live Stream	8:00am
Advent Worship Service	1:00pm	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:20am
Advent Midweek Meal	5:10pm	Worship-In Person/Live Stream	10:30am
Sing-a-long	6:00pm	Christmas Luncheon	12:00pm
Advent Worship Service	6:10pm	Live Nativity	4:00pm
Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm		

LWML CARD SHOP



Advent is here and Christmas is on the way. LWML has stocked the card shop with Christmas cards. Please stop by and check out the assortment of Christian focused Yuletide messages to share with others. There are some sold individually and some in boxes of 12. Prices are the same, \$.50 a card and \$5.50 a box. The shop is located in the hallway by the fellowship hall. As always thank you for supporting this LWML mission. Merry Christmas!



The 29th Annual LWML Guild Cookie Walk Saturday, December 3rd 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

The Cookie Walk is this weekend and the rows are lined with sweet tasty delights. Come one and all to buy your tasty treats. Proceeds from the Cookie Walk will be given to missions. Thank you buyers! Thank you for your help!



LWML need to know details:

There is an LWML Board meeting on December 5 at 7 pm in Room 208 to decide how to disperse the Cookie Walk Funds. The recommendations will be taken to the LWML Christmas meeting on December 12 to be voted on at that meeting.

The LWML Christmas meeting is December 12 beginning at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the congregation are invited to join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship. Each woman attending is asked to bring an appetizer or Christmas goodie to share and a \$1-\$2 gift to for the Right/Left game. Be ready to have a great time and laughter with each other. Hostesses for the evening are Cynthia Fruendt and Marge Lemke. Devotions by Marge Lemke.

Also a reminder that the **LWML** is serving the Advent meal on Wednesday, December 14. If you signed up to bring chili, you can bring on Monday night or by noon on Wednesday. Help is also still needed on Wednesday for serving and cleanup.

2022 Advent/Christmas/ **New Year Schedule** December 3 9:00am **LWML Cookie Walk** 9:00-12:00pm Children's Service Practice 5:30pm Service of Christmas & Carols 6:30pm Cookies & Cocoa December 4 8:00am & 10:30am Service of Christmas & Carols 12:00pm **Christmas & Cookies** December 7 Advent Service 1:00pm 5:10pm **Advent Meal** 6:00pm/6:10pm Sing a-long/Advent Service December 10 9:00-12:00pm **Children's Service Practice** December 11 8:00am & 10:30am Children's Christmas Service Live Nativity 4:00-6:00pm December 12 6:00pm **Christmas Meeting LWML** December 14 1:00pm **Advent Service** 5:10pm **Advent Meal** Sing a-long/Advent Service 6:00pm/6:10pm December 17 **Communion Service** 5:30pm December 18 8:00am & 10:30am **Communion Services** December 21 1:00pm **Advent Service** 5:10pm Advent Meal 6:00pm/6:10pm Sing a-long/Advent Service December 24 3:30pm & 5:00pm **Christmas Eve Family Worship** 6:30pm & 11:30pm **Christmas Eve Communion** Worship December 25** 9:30am **Christmas Day Comm Worship** December 31 7:00pm **New Year's Eve Communion** Worship January 1** 9:30am **Communion Service** *No Midweek Classes December 28 or January 4 **No Sunday School or Adult Bible Class December 25 or January 1



The first snowfall of the year - welcomed or not - always makes a significant impact on the landscape. The brightest of white color covers all and everything is – for a brief time until the plows and cows come through – clean and beautiful. Notice the new fallen snow when it comes, and let it remind you to reflect on the amazing gift that is yours through Jesus: "...though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool." Isaiah 1:18

Lutheran Family Service -

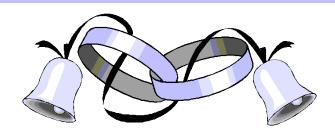
www.LutheranFamilyService.org.



Children's Christmas Worship December 11, 2022

The congregation is invited to join the children for a lunch immediately following the late service to celebrate.

Come one, come all for fellowship and good food.



Abby Saehler/Casey Hall Wedding

As much as we would like to invite you to join us in person we are not able to do this. Please join us virtually as we livestream the wedding ceremony of Abby Saehler and Casey Hall. The ceremony will be Saturday, December 17th at 2:00 pm.

The livestream link will be sent out on Friday, December 16th in the email with the weekly service information.



2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2023 flower calendar is on the bulletin board between the upper level restrooms and the nursery. Sign up to provide altar flowers in celebration of an event, in memory of a loved one, or just because.



See you there!

Lunch Bunch will be meeting again on **December**7. Don't' forget Bible Class at 11:00 am, taught by Pastor or Vicar in the Fellowship Hall followed by potluck lunch. Bring your favorite dish to share. All are welcome.

Here is the final meeting date for the year 2022:

December 21

HEY EVERYONE!!!!!



Christmas & Cookies

Friday, December 18, 2022 12:00 pm

Members of Our Redeemer and friends gather together for food, fun, and fellowship. We will enjoy pizza and a short devotion. The main activity will be decorating Christmas cookies to give away as well as take some home. A short Christmas move will be shown during lunch. God's Word will be shared before the evening is done. Please invite your friends to join us!

Please sign up at the Welcome Counter!



BRING ON THE POINSETTIAS!

Help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. Purchase poinsettias of your choice—all sizes and colors are welcome. Bring them to church by December 22 (it is best not to bring them too early as care may not be consistent) so that they can be placed in the sanctuary after the Advent service. After the Christmas Day service, please take them home. Poinsettias can be placed in the board room.

Christmas Service Gift Bag Donation



We are seeking donation of items to fill the gift bags for the Sunday School children. Donations of cutie oranges and apples would be appreciated. The sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Counter in the Narthex or call the office during regular business hours. Donations need to arrive to church by December 11.

Tis the Season for Giving!

The children of our community need our help! Many of the local children are missing a basic comfort that we often take for granted, warmth. So many students walk to school and/or are unable to participate in daily outdoor recess at school with parents that cannot provide mittens, boots, or gear to keep them warm. Many of these children are the same families serviced by the area shelters and very much in need. The Human Care Committee is currently collecting the following items beginning December 1st until January 2nd and would really appreciate your help with a donation.

They are seeking new or gently used:

- Snow Pants
- Hats
- Boots
- Mittens
- Scarves



We're hoping in absence of the Angel Tree this year you would possibly consider redirecting your kind donations to our mitten tree. The items can be left at the Mitten Tree located near the Welcome Counter.

On January 3rd the Human Care Committee will gather the items for delivery to the Iowa City School District Administration Office for distribution to children in need when classes resume.

Please feel free to direct any questions to Tracy Nelson, Human Care Committee Chair, at tracy-nelson@uiowa.edu. Thank you in advance for your kindness!







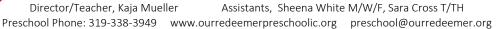
SUNDAY COFFEE SIGN-UP FOR 2023

For those of you wishing to sign-up to do Sunday coffee and treats for the upcoming year of 2023 the sign-up sheet has been placed out in the gathering Place counter. Please sign-up there are many openings to choose from.



Preschool Newsletter

Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2022



Our Redeemer Preschool where children play, learn, and grow in Jesus!



This Week

Christmas math question Bible: Gideon wins the battle Subtraction Christmas shape matching Letter Qa Christmas books Advent worship songs Hot coco mua craft Ornament craft Tuesday Librarian visit Thursday & Friday Conservationist visit



Big C curve Keep going

 $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}$ (To the tune of Old MacDonald) Quentin's duck went "Quack! Quack! Quack!" Q-U-A-C-K. Though Quentin tried to teach him more, "Quack!" was all he'd say.



CONGREGATION Members: Scholastic Book Order

Reading and sharing a good story is always fun. Each month there will be an opportunity to purchase books through Scholastic Book Clubs. You can shop and submit your order online. Every purchase you make earns FREE books and educational supplies for our classroom. Happy reading! Ordering online is fast and



DON'T FORGET! easy: scholastic.com/ readingclub— ENTER Class Activation Code MQWNQ. All book orders will be shipped to our classroom unless you designate them to be shipped to your house. Mrs. Kaja Mueller

Home Question

What is your favorite Christmas song? Why?

December Book

The December book was donated by Lorrie Bailey. She is the office manager for the church. It is an Advent devotional book as well as a Christmas count down.

Preschool Christmas Songs

Preschool has started practicing some Christmas songs to sing for the church's worship on Wednesday night, December 14th at 6:10 pm. Please arrive at 5:50 pm and bring your child upstairs to our entryway. We will practice our songs together. Mrs. Kaja, Mrs. Sheena, and Mrs. Sara will lead your children as a class to sing and then escort them to you when we are done. You are welcome to join us for worship that night. We will be asking to see who will be able to come.

Our Redeemer Church members loves to see the preschoolers. There is a free will offering dinner starting at 5:10pm that same night that you are welcome to attend in our basement Fellowship Hall.



Consign through Stuff; this is a fundraiser for our preschool. You can donate items by dropping them off yourselves or placing them in a box outside the preschool. Preschool will receive 50% of the profit from the donated items that are sold at Stuff.

Consigner Number: lowa City #43522



Preschool Christmas Wish List

Can you help us with a few items for the preschool? You can purchase them or donate money towards them. All contributions will help. Thank you!





GAMENOTE Magnetic Alphabet Maze Board with 4 Activity Cards, Wooden Matching...

★★★★ 1,530

\$24.99 \(\text{prime} \)









Panda Brothers
Montessori Screwdriver
Board Set - Wooden
Montessori Toys for 3...

1,209
\$23.95 \(\text{prime} \)







KIDS CLUB

For children ages: 4 year olds—5th grade



Wednesday, December 7th
Lesson: Advent
Teachers: Jonie & Vicar
Craft: Tracy Nelson

Sunday School

9:20 am—10:15 am
For children ages: Birth—5th grade
in their designated classes

<u>December 4th</u>
Paul's Prison Protection:
The Plot to Kill Paul
Acts23:12-24



Toddlin' to Jesus

Room 215 (Toddlin' Room) **Join us at 9:20 am on Sunday mornings.**



Parents and their children ages birth to age 2 are invited to participate. You will meet with other parents and children for a toddler-friendly Bible lesson, music and prayer.

It's a casual and relaxed environment balanced with activities and playtime.

Children's Christmas Worship 2022



December 11, 2022—during worship

The name of the Christmas story the children will share is called "That's What Angels Say."

All Kindergarten through 8th grade students will learn the music for our Children's Christmas Worship Service. Allison Haack will teach them the songs at 9:20 am for all students. Saturday practices will start at 9:00 am on December 3rd and 10th.

Preschool age students will have their own short program of songs they will practice during their Sunday School class with Mrs. Haack. They do not need to attend any Saturday practices.

LUNCH: The congregation is invited to a meal immediately following the late service on December 11th to celebrate the birth of Christ together.







6th —12th Grade

Youth Coordinator Kara Hartwig youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org (319) 855-2728

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Confirmation

(6th—8th Grade)

Wednesday, December 8th at 7 pm

6th Grade—Small Group

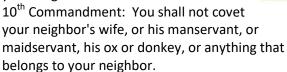
<u>Unit 2: God's Grace to His People Israel</u> From the Division of the Kingdom to the Captivity in Babylon (ca. 930—586 B.C.)

When Rehoboam, Solomon's son, succeeded Solomon on the throne of Israel, 10 of the 12 tribes revolted against him and elected their own king. Elijah, Elisha, and Jonah lived during this period.

MEMORY DUE: Isaiah 41:10

7th Grade—Small Group

The Ten Commandments: 9th and 10th 9th Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house.



MEMORY DUE (recite in small groups): Commandments 9 & 10; Close of Commandments & Meaning

8th Grade—Lecture

Unit 2: Apostle's Creed

The Apostle's Creed consists of three Articles (or parts). We will be looking at the 3rd Article which talks about the Holy Spirit. God gives us everything we need for life.

Midweek Schedule

High School Youth meet every Wednesday night from 6:45 pm—8 pm in the Youth Room.

Friends are always welcome!

Here's the upcoming schedule...

December 7th

Advent Meal @ 5:10 pm

ADVENT MEAL CREW: 8th Grade

Advent Worship Service @ 6:10 pm

Midweek @ 6:45 pm

Live Nativity & Christmas Party

All High School Youth Sunday, December 11th 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm

Help share the Good News of Jesus' birth with our community

Please come and help us share the Good News of Jesus' birth!

- High School students meet at church @ 3pm on Sunday, December 11th to setup and get into costume for the Live Nativity.
- There will be live animals at the Live Nativity scene again this year.
- Friends are welcome!

IMPORTANT

ATTIRE: Wear a warm coat, dress in layers and bring gloves/mittens, hat, earmuffs, hand warmers, feet warmers, snowpants, etc. to keep you warm under your costume.

8th Grade Youth have the Advent Midweek Meal Wednesday, December 7th.

It will be tacos.



Children's Christmas Worship Important Dates

<u>REMINDER</u>, Confirmation students **must attend practices** to participate in the Children's Christmas services to get Confirmation points.

- Sunday practice are during Sunday School on December 4.
- <u>Saturday rehearsals</u> are on December 3 and 10.

The Christmas Program is during both the 8 am and 10:30 am services on December 11th. Students are expected to participate in **both** services.

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

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

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

2022 Board of Elders			2022 Board of Directors		
Bill Benson	517-881-9848	President	Arlan Thompson	319-338-2938	
Dave Bohnsack	319-430-2054	Vice President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850	
Tim Eick	248-514-2881	Secretary	Barb Schanbacher	319-351-3998	
Rick Gienapp	319-331-7425	Treasurer	Kari Kibby	319-573-4127	
Ryan Haack	319-325-7915	Board of Elders	Chad Pence	319-321-5686	
Skip Kempnich	319-351-5297	Properties	Dave Yansky	319-621-7694	
Eric Kooker	319-339-0175	At Large	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088	
Chad Pence (Cha	air) 319-321-5686		Marilyn Albright	319-430-8129	
Art Schwarting	319-325-6152		Steve Scott	563-889-0990	

DEADLINES

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

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

RADIO

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

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND SCREENING

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