

The Parish Beacon

Volume 44—No. 7

August 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ —

The Preacher in Ecclesiastes 3:1 states, “For everything, there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” As we head into the final months of summer, Our Redeemer is heading into yet another busy season with several amazing events lined up. Vacation Bible School (VBS) is just around the corner. Fun Faith Fest is on the horizon and we have a new event, the Semisaurus, coming to Our Redeemer. All of this and more will be in the coming month of August. August also comes with the changing of Vicars here at Our Redeemer. As the psalmist writes,

"The Lord says, 'I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.'"
— Psalms 32:8

As I reflect on my year here at Our Redeemer I admit, I could not have asked for a better experience. My wife Carrie and I felt like a part of the Our Redeemer family almost as soon as we arrived. Through this year I have gotten to know the people here at Our Redeemer. I have gotten to grow and learn so much from you all and it has been an incredible blessing. Carrie and I are sad to leave but, through all the support and everything we've learned here at Our Redeemer, we are excited for the next step as well. There is a season for everything and God works through His people. Our Redeemer will always be in our hearts and prayers and we are incredibly grateful for the time we have spent here.

We look forward to what God has in store for Our Redeemer and for us as we go forth from this place of worship where we are about, “Equipping disciples to make disciples for Jesus”.

Blessings in Christ,
Vicar Garrett



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church throughout the world, that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may go forth unhindered and the Holy Spirit bring many into this fellowship of the redeemed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all God's people, redeemed by the cross and resurrection of Christ, that we may pursue His kingdom with all our hearts, souls, minds and bodies, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those troubled by the memory of past sins, that they may have confidence that Christ has died for their justification and still intercedes for them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For faithfulness in our vocations, that we would come to see the various offices God has given us as gifts through which we serve Him and our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty Father, we gather again at the table of Your Son to receive His body and blood in the blessed Sacrament. May we eat and drink in faith, receiving that which was given and shed for us for our benefit. Let what we receive here strengthen us in our trust in You and our service toward others. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those burdened by sickness and affliction,, [*especially **Connie Bailey** (Lorrie Bailey's aunt), **Dorothy Blume** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **David Caplin** (Lillian Moyer's son-in-law), **Jacob Cohen**, **Debra Fuhrmeister**, **Emma Haugen** (Friend of Gwen Enokian), **Bob Hansen**, **Patsy Heinitz**, **Gabe Hundley** (grandson of Karen Abernathy), **Dora Jacobson** (granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), **Hazel Jones** (Granddaughter of Danny Fuhrmeister), **Todd Jones** (Barb & Ron Jones's son), **Norma Miller** (Twyla Freeman's aunt), **Barb Nace** (Doris Siemer's niece), **Bob Nace**, **Deloris Nace**, **Carson Pence**, **Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp** (Cousin of Ruth Varney), **John Robinson**, **Patricia Schable** (friend of Lorrie Bailey), **Darran Sellers** (brother of Kevin Sellers), **Rozie Siems** (Daughter of Mary Siems), **Ronna Sojka**, **Reece Ullerich**, **Karen Warner**, **Lynne Westphal**, **Mark Wilson**, **Beth Wu** (Schuldt's relative),] that they may await healing and deliverance in the firm conviction that nothing can separate them from the love of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.***

Lord as you have promised to hear us, we come to you with our silent prayers...

[We pause for a moment of silent prayer.]

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.**

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

- Sun 7/30 Worship Service 8:00am
 Adult Bible Class 9:20am
 Summer Sunday School 9:20am
 Worship Service 10:30am
 Farewell Lunch for Vicar 12:00pm
 Help Vicar Load the Truck 1:30pm
- Mon 7/31 Staff Meeting & Lunch 12:00pm
 Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm
 Youth Committee 6:00pm
- Tues 8/1 Assimilation 6:30pm
 Al-Anon 7:00pm
- Wed 8/2 TOPS 8:00am
 Bible Study 11:00am
 Lunch Bunch 12:00pm
 Youth Event 6:00pm
- Thurs 8/3 Comfort Tiers 9:00am
 Visitation Meeting 6:30pm
 Al-Anon 7:30pm
- Fri 8/4 ***
- Sat 8/5 Worship Service 5:30pm
- Sun 6/4 Worship Service 8:00am
 Summer Sunday School (All ages) 9:20am
 Worship Service/VBS Commissioning 10:30am
 VBS Volunteer Lunch 12:00pm
 VBS Set-up and Prep 1:00pm
 VBS 5:00pm



**Farewell and
Godspeed**

to Vicar Morgan and
Carrie Garrett as they
head off to Concordia
Seminary for Vicar to
begin his 4th year of
seminary. May the Lord
bless them. Farewell
lunch immediately
following the late service.



FLOWERS TODAY

Today's flowers (July 30) for the
altar are provided by Brian and
Lynne Westphal in memory of
Norma Westphal.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

****WATCH YOUR FRIDAY EMAIL FOR LIVE
STREAM LINKS FOR WORSHIP****

Saturday 5:30pm In Person/LIVE STREAM
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am In Person/LIVE STREAM
Communion: August 5, 6, 19, 20
Sunday School 9:20am—In Person
Adult Bible Study 9:20am—Fellowship Hall/ZOOM

**Bible Study/Lunch Bunch meets on the 1st & 3rd
Wednesday of each month at 11:00am with lunch
following**

Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am

Choir practice Wednesdays at 6:45pm

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

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AUGUST



Vicar Farewell
Sunday, July, 30
 Last Weekend to Preach
 Farewell Lunch 12:00pm
 Fellowship Hall



August 2
 Bible Class 11:00am
 Lunch 12:00pm
 Fellowship Hall



Vacation Bible School
August 6—10
 5:00pm



Semisauros
 August 11, 9:00am—3:00pm
 August 12, 9:00am—3:00pm
 August 13, 12:00pm—2:00pm
 Church Parking Lot



Dinner with Brian Young
Friday, August 11, 6:00pm
 Fellowship Hall

Please sign-up at
 Welcome Counter



August 13
 Worship with VBS Singing 10:30am
 Sanctuary
 Hot Dog Lunch 11:30am
 Fellowship Hall
 Games 12:00pm
 Outdoors



August 16
 Bible Class 11:00am
 Lunch 12:00pm
 Fellowship Hall

LWML ROAD TRIP
 August 19
 Details in Reflections



First day of school
 Iowa City
 August 23



42 years

Preschool/Playground Cleanup
August 27, 12:00pm



42 years

Preschool Orientation
August 30, 5:30pm

Birthdays

Sun. 7/30	Andrew Bell, Kelly Carlson, Kristene Lake, Lonnie Loney, Alexander Rasmussen, Amanda Saterfield, Cade Sexton, Zoey Sexton
Mon. 7/31	Claire Siems, Ardith Stoner
Tues. 8/1	Cody Kreutz
Wed. 8/2	Dylan Carlson, Bob Carroll, Paul Jahnke, Brad Mullane, Emery Naraine
Thurs. 8/3	Douglas Kubit, Shirley Losby, Troy Stoll
Fri. 8/4	Dane Dermody, Kate Loney, Shannon Miller
Sat. 8/5	Sarah Juhl, Kaja Mueller, Craig Sexton, Nora Walters, Ben Weis

Stewardship—July 22-23, 2023

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Recorded Service 7/22	4	Contributions	\$6,037.18
Sat. 7/22 In Person/LIVE STREAM 5:30pm	56	Monthly needs for budget	\$66,114.00
Sun. 7/23 In Person/LIVE STREAM 8:00am	80		
Sun. 7/23 In Person/LIVE STREAM 10:30am	116		
TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	256	Sunday School Sunday Celebration	36/15

MISSION	June/July
Iowa District East	\$6,666.66
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$7,166.66
Common Fund	\$250.00
Lutheran Hour	\$250.00
St. Paul's Chapel	\$375.00
Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca	\$500.00
Lutheran family Services	\$250.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$125.00
MONTH TOTAL	\$8,916.66
CommUnity Crisis Center	\$100.00
Lutheran Family Service	\$500.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$1,012.50
TOTAL	\$10,529.16

Thank you for your continued support.



Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Transfer In</u>	
Eric & Hayley Heller & Family	7-5-2023
<u>Transfer Out</u>	
Daniel, Jamie & Natalie Heren	6-23-2023
Larry Gorman	7-21-2023
<u>Marriages</u>	
Zachary & Kelsey Westemeyer	6-3-2023



Building Healthy Families: Whether it's your growing awareness of the number of hours in your day tinged with anxiety or depression, or a gnawing feeling in your gut about the distance you're feeling from you spouse, know that you don't have to wait for a crisis to benefit from visiting with a Lutheran Family Service counselor! It's often easier to prevent a problem than to recover from one in full bloom. Pay attention to your mental, emotional, spiritual, and relational health. Talk to your pastor and trusted friends, read God's Word, but remember (as the tee shirt says): It's okay to have Jesus and a therapist, too! **Lutheran Family Service** www.LutheranFamilyService.org



Experience the Holy Land

Hosted by Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig

Traveling JUNE 5 - 14, 2024

Departures \$4,687 FROM CHICAGO, IL

PRICE INCLUDES

\$695 US & Intl. departure taxes/fuel & \$160 gratuities
Additional departure cities available upon request

EARLY BIRD SAVINGS




off the total trip cost with your initial deposit of \$500.00!

\$75 off if your payment is received by 08/05/23

\$50 off if your payment is received by 10/05/23

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Check – Payable to *Imagine Tours and Travel, LLC*

Credit Card (CIRCLE) **INITIAL DEPOSIT ONLY:**   

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date (month/year): _____ Security Code: _____

The security code is either the last 3 numbers listed separately on the back of the card or 4 numbers listed on the front, depending on your credit card company.

Cardholder Signature: _____

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig

☎ (319) 855-2521

@ bhartwig@ourredeemer.org

Register Online: **RegisterNow.ittworld.com**

Tour Code:

Hartwig24

DEPARTURE PREFERENCE:

Chicago, IL (ORD) Other: _____
 Land Only - I will be securing my own flights.

Legal Name: _____

First, middle and last as it appears on your passport!

Title: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Ex: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Rev. Dr. Fr. If different than above

Street Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Main Phone: Area Code () _____

(Select one) Home Cell Office

Alt Phone: Area Code () _____

(Select one) Home Cell Office

Email: _____

I prefer to have my correspondence sent to me via **email** OR **mail**

Birth Date: _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: M F Age: _____

Month Day Year

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: Area Code () _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Email: _____

Rooming Options:

I would like to room with: _____

We would prefer a shared bed separate beds

Please match me with a roommate (*Imagine* will choose one for me)

I want a single room (limited availability and at an additional cost)

FULL DEPOSIT OF \$500/PERSON REQUIRED

**COPY of PASSENGER'S PASSPORT (photo pg)
REQUIRED 100 DAYS PRIOR to TRAVEL**

SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW - Minors require parental or guardian signature.

Enrollment in and payment of deposit constitutes your acceptance of the "Fine Print". I understand that I am responsible for and agree to pay any post-booking increases in fuel surcharges, taxes, and fees as provided in the Fine Print. *Imagine Tours and Travel, LLC* is the tour operator and is solely responsible for the travel program. *Imagine Tours & Travel, LLC* is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration no. ST36635.

Signature: _____

Imagine Tours and Travel

509 W County Rd. 540A, Lakeland, FL 33813

863.709.9208

info@ittworld.com

866.262.9507

www.ittworld.com

We strongly recommend trip insurance through Travel Guard.

Please contact Travel Guard directly to purchase it at either

1-800-826-5248 and reference agent code **127152**

or visit our website @ ittworld.com and click on their direct link on our home page.

THE FINE PRINT ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT OF YOUR DEPOSIT FOR THE TOUR, CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONDITIONS AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY.

INCLUDED IN PRICE:

1) Round trip airfare per brochure — deluxe motor coaches — First Class / Superior Class hotels — guided sightseeing — entrance fees to sites visited — breakfast & dinner daily per brochure

2) Taxes and fuel charges totaling **\$695 USD** comprised of **\$364.60** for fuel charges (subject to increase by airline up to 30 days prior to departure) and **\$330.40** for taxes (including federal inspection fees for the U.S. Customs and Immigrations; international air transportation tax; agricultural tax; other per person taxes imposed by government entities; airport taxes and fees including the September 11th Security fee up to \$10 per person, passenger facility charges up to \$18 per person, federal domestic flight segment fees up to \$3.50 per segment and U.S. and International arrival and departure, and other government imposed fees up to \$300 per person).

3) Gratuities of **\$160** for tour guide or cruise director, local host, driver, local guides, and/or ships' crew; gratuities on ferries, and cruise ships.

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

Not included in your package are passports, visas, COVID-19 tests, vaccinations, laundry, lunches, telephone, mini-bar, alcohol, other beverages, and food outside of the contracted tour operator menu as presented at a hotel or restaurant (these extra items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel, or restaurant), airport transfers on non-qualifying flights, portage at airports, travel insurance, excess baggage fees, any fees or fuel surcharges imposed by the airlines after the date you register for your trip, and all other items not specifically mentioned.

PAYMENT:

A full deposit of \$500 per person is required at time of registration. Credit cards are only accepted for the initial deposit. All other remaining payments must be made in the form of a check, including final payment. Final payment is due no later than 100-days prior to departure.

Registrations received after 100-days prior to departure must be accompanied by full payment. Registrations received between 90-75 days prior to departure are subject to a \$300 late fee.

Tour pricing is based on a minimum group size of 20 passengers to be valid. The following supplements may apply for smaller groups: 19-15 travelers, \$150 per person; 14-10 travelers, \$195 per person. If group size is less than 10 travelers, the tour may be canceled due to lack of participation.

If final (full) payment is not received by Imagine Tours and Travel, LLC (hereafter referred to as *Imagine*) 75-days prior to departure, you will be automatically cancelled from the tour and your initial deposit of \$500 will be forfeited and additional fees may apply. *Imagine* reserves the right to add a surcharge if the dollar declines by more than 2% against the shekel or euro based on foreign exchange rates in effect on date (06/15/23) when your tour was booked by your tour leader/church. All payments are required in US Funds

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is based on double occupancy (two persons sharing a room). When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. While *Imagine* will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee one will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 75 days prior to departure. If one is not available or if you request a single room, there will be a single room supplement charge of \$995 for the basic itinerary.

ITINERARY & CHANGES:

Because airlines often change flight schedules after brochures are printed, *Imagine* reserves the right to shorten or lengthen the itinerary accordingly. You will be notified in writing when possible. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$195 per night/per person (single rooms \$225/night). Meals for extra nights are not included. Any changes and/or deviations from the program and/or departure city listed, by the passenger, must be provided in writing to *Imagine* no later than 100-days prior to departure and any extra costs incurred will be billed to the passenger. All deviations are subject to a standard fee of \$150 plus any applicable airline fees. All tours are final at 70-days prior to departure. No changes and/or additions may be made to the tour after that time.

LAND ONLY:

Land Only price is \$4,137 per person. Price does not include international flights. Land Only passengers may be responsible for transfers and/or additional overnights incurred by booking their own flights. We recommend you purchase a ticket which can be changed without large penalties, as the group's flights may change. Passengers changing from the regular tour to Land Only after 120 days prior to departure will be charged a fee of \$150 per person.

AIRLINE TICKETS:

In order to keep prices low, *Imagine* does not guarantee you will be on the most direct flights to your final destination. *Imagine* also does not guarantee the group will be on the same flights, particularly if registering 100 days prior to departure. Flight routings are chosen by the airlines and not *Imagine*. Airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded once issued. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together for entire itinerary. *Imagine* is unable to use individual frequent flyer points to upgrade or accept them as partial payment for air transportation. Deviations by the passenger, from the group's scheduled flights, could result in different routings/air carriers. Airline changes, if allowable, made by the passenger after final payment has been made, may incur additional fees.

FLIGHT TIMES:

All flight times are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. *Imagine* is not responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If making your own flight arrangements to a departure city or any other portion of your trip, we recommend you purchase a ticket which can be changed without large penalties. All passengers are responsible for reconfirming their flights with the airline 24 hours prior to departure.

PASSPORT:

Each passenger is responsible for making sure that they have a valid passport that has an expiration date at least six months after the date of return from their trip. A copy of your valid passport must be submitted to our office by 100 days prior to departure.

VISAS:

Applicable visas will be obtained by *Imagine* for U.S. and Canadian Citizens only. All passengers who do not carry U.S. or Canadian Passports will be responsible for obtaining visas to the countries they are visiting. *Imagine* is not responsible for non-U.S. & Canadian Passport holders.

TRIP RESCHEDULING:

Imagine and/or Trip leader reserve the right to re-schedule the dates of the Trip to future dates TBD due to governmental action, pandemic, or other circumstances beyond their control. Should that occur, all travelers will be rebooked for the new dates. Travelers unable to travel on the new dates may cancel their participation and will be assessed a cancellation fee of up to \$300 per person, plus any additional penalties/fees imposed by ground operator(s), airlines, or other vendors. Travelers can transfer to another available tour up to one year from their original departure date.

CANCELLATION FEES:

Any passenger cancelling from the day of registration to 100 days prior to departure will be charged a \$300 non-refundable administrative fee per person plus any airline penalties, if applicable. You will also be charged a single room fee if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single room from 75 days prior until the date of departure.

The following charges also apply: 99-75 days = \$500; 74-55 days = \$1950; 54-41 days = 75% of total cost; 40 days to day of departure = 100% of total cost. All cancellations must be received in writing. On or after the day of departure there is no refund for any services not used. We strongly recommend you purchase travel insurance. If *Imagine* cancels the tour due to lack of participation, there will be a charge of \$200 deducted from the amount refunded to each passenger for administrative fees plus any airline penalties if applicable. No changes may be made to the tour within 70-days of departure, as the tour is officially closed.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Imagine and its associated companies agree to provide the itinerary described in this brochure. This represents the entire agreement between the passenger and his agent, the travel agent, the tour host, and the tour operator. All prices, itineraries and schedules are subject to regulations and changes by acts of government, international agreement, and airline tariff adjustments, rules, and regulations. *Imagine* reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of *Imagine*, incapable of group travel. Except for the willful negligence of its direct employees, the tour operator assumes no liability or responsibility for any injuries, inconveniences, illness, irregularity, or incidental damages caused by circumstances beyond the control of the tour operator or by any person or reason whatsoever, including but not limited to events such as strikes, revolts, wars, natural disasters, pandemic, closures of airports or hotel, default or omission of any common or private carrier, or the lack, negligence, or omission of and by any third party providing services or facilities related to or included in this tour or any part thereof, or in arranging for the same, or the acts or omissions of the travel agent or the tour host. The conditions become a binding contract when your enrollment and payment are received and accepted by *Imagine*. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns regarding this brochure or your tour.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

By traveling on this tour you affirm that you are fit to participate in this tour and accept all risks to your safety and health. All travel involves risks, and travel to some countries, including Israel, involves a heightened risk to your health and safety, including risks from terrorism, criminal acts, and illness. You understand and freely accept these risks, and you generally and specifically release and hold harmless *Imagine* and their officers, agents and employees from any liability and any claims for (i) any physical, mental, emotional or other injuries whatsoever that you may sustain related to this tour; (ii) delays, damages, illness, injuries or death, or for the loss of or damage to property, from any cause (including negligence) and however occurring; and (iii) any accident, illness, injury, damage, sickness, loss of personal property, delay, or other injury or claim of any kind related to or arising from strikes, armed conflicts, social or labor unrest or strikes/work stoppages, war or acts of war, terrorism or terrorist acts, acts of God, mechanical or construction failures or difficulties, diseases, local laws or acts of local or government authorities, criminal acts, weather or climatic conditions, volcanic eruption, earthquake, disruption of advertised schedules, refusal of visas, or any other causes beyond their direct control.

Imagine Tours & Travel, LLC., is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST36635. Valid as of 06/22/23 AA/ZR



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

Stephen Ministry is a distinctively Christian caring ministry in which clergy and laypeople work together to provide quality one-to-one care to meet the needs of people experiencing a wide range of life circumstance or difficulties.

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who have received special training in the theology of caring and in specific caring skills to help others who are hurting—but they discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways.

The Scriptures describe their service well: *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”* (Romans 8:28)

What Stephen Ministers Do?

Stephen Ministers provide quality one-to-one ministry as trained, caring church members reaching out to others in time of need. They engage in a caregiving relationship that focuses on the unique needs of one person and that last as long as needs exist. They use both words and deeds to express Christ’s care for others—listening, comforting and encouraging, calling on the training they have received and employing the tools of faith. Stephen Ministers maintain confidentiality in their caring relationships with God’s people. This is our congregation’s one-to-one caregiving ministry.

Participate in Life-Changing Ministry

If you or someone you know wants to do more as a Christian caregiver, consider Stephen Ministry. We are in the process of planning another Stephen Ministry training class to begin after the first of the year (2024). If you have the following qualities concerning Christian care God can use you to minister and care for His people. Christian caring is: genuine, patient, available, present, empathetic, dependable, accepting, unpretentious, selfless, and assertive. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Any Stephen Leaders will be happy to talk with you. Please keep our Stephen Ministry in your prayers.

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

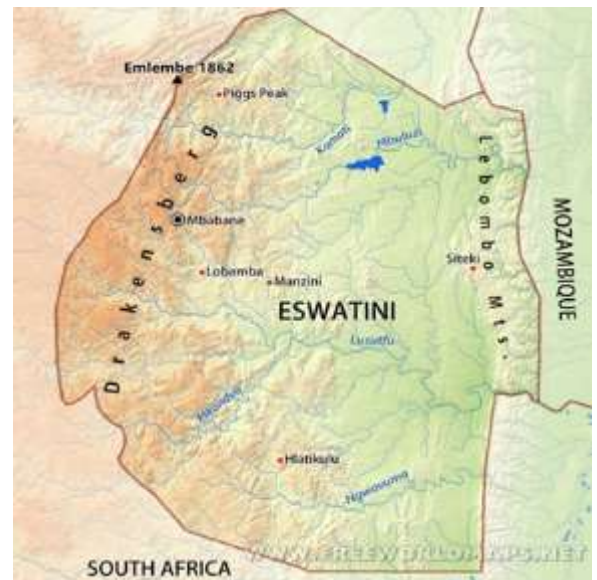
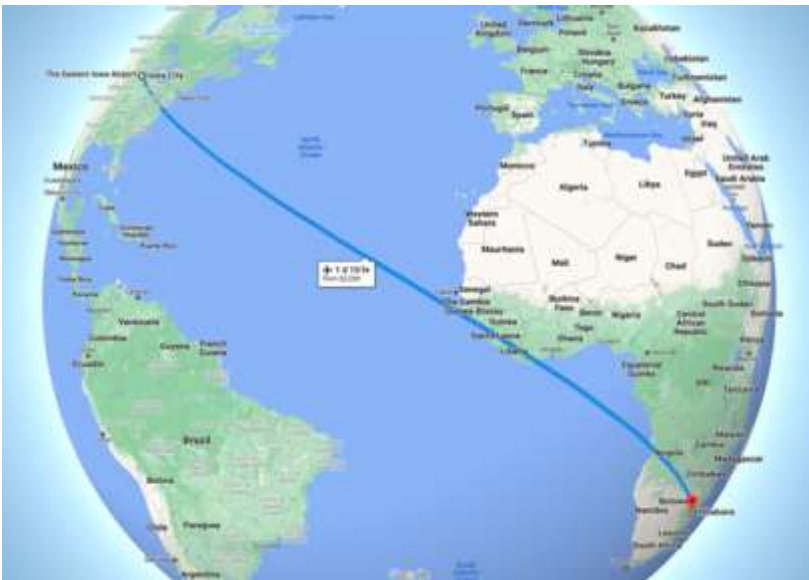
Pastor Hartwig	338-5626
Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Marcia Hulse	351-7059
Kathy Schweer	466-3084
Kevin Sellers	631-8924



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Mission Committee
Christ said, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.”*

Highlighting the Christian/humanitarian work of our congregation as a whole and as individuals. Here and around the world.

ESWATINI (SWAZILAND)



MORE ESWATINI UPDATES

Anita Nicholson traveled to Eswatini with University of Iowa College of Nursing students and faculty colleague (Kimberly Nuxoll) from March 10-26, 2023.

Faith community nursing in Eswatini is thriving. Our dear friends, Thandiwe Dlamini, and Jabulile Dlamini continue to regularly train nurses in faith community nursing. This training equips nurses to provide spiritual care in addition to their traditional nursing practice. These nurses focus on the intentional care of the spirit combined with improving the physical health of people living in rural areas that otherwise have limited access to health care.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is on the decline in Eswatini with a marked decrease in new incidence of HIV (1.79 Incidence: prevalence ratio, UNAIDS 2022). Nurses and faith community nurses

take the lead in educating and counseling people to test for HIV and comply with antiretroviral (ARV) medication which can decrease the virus to undetectable levels, helping to decrease the spread. Pregnant mothers with HIV are taking ARV medication to help prevent the mother-to-child transmission of the virus.

Faith community nurses play an important role in educating youth on HIV prevention by connecting with them through the school system and churches. Their health education focuses on decreasing risky behavior that can lead to contracting HIV. In addition, they support creating positive activities for youth involvement. The youth at greatest risk for contracting HIV are between the ages of 14 to 18 years old, as they are out of school because of not being able to afford the tuition fees to attend high school. Primary education is free through 7th grade.

Jabulile Dlamini provides a great example of a faith community nurse creating positive activities for youth out of school. She coordinates community people to assist youth in learning skills to keep busy and earn money such as gardening, sewing, catering, building, and more. Jabulile's recent entrepreneurial adventure is helping the youth start a "piggery" to raise and sell pigs at the market. The money youth raise helps to pay tuition to return to high school.

Jabulile is constructing a youth center to hold skill-learning activities in a central location. She collaborated with the local chief (like a mayor) to obtain land and is continuing to work on fundraising efforts. Since loans are difficult to obtain, she is building in stages. She is coordinating with local contractors to train youth out of school to assist in making cement bricks and building. When more money is raised, more supplies will be purchased to make more bricks.

Anita will continue to keep you updated on the wonderful work of faith community nurses. Their next travel with the University of Iowa nursing students will be in November 2023. Please keep the Eswatini people and faith community nurses in your thoughts and prayers.

Mission Committee Members

Denise Holida, Anita Nicholson, Val Penney, Bob Powers (Chairman Pro Tem)



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our Redeemer would like to take the time to welcome Blake and Jessie Johnson. Their current occupations are mental health therapist and cake decorator for HyVee. They do have a fur-baby named Otto (1 year old labradoodle).

Their hobbies and leisure time activities are board games and card games. Jessie likes also to paint and crochet, walking, watching movies and TV shows, and playing with Otto. They mentioned that they have a large collection of games and movies!

Jessie has an interest in helping in the kitchen and participating in women's groups.





IDE Business Manager Position

Current IDE Business Manager Sherry Brendes is retiring later this year. We thank God for her service and wish her a blessed time in retirement. We hope to secure someone for the position to have some overlap time with Sherry beginning in July 2023.

Business & Office Manager:

The Business & Office Manager of Iowa District East works directly with the District President, Treasurer, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Director and Treasurer, Office Committee, Board of Directors and other IDE Missions (campus ministries, mission congregations, deaf ministry and Eastside Mission) in the management of the District's finances and business. This position also supervises two employees (Administrative Assistant and Communications / Technology / Events Coordinator) in the District Office.

An applicant for this position should have the ability to operate basic business software and Microsoft applications, maintain accurate records, manage resources of the district, and have high attention to detail. This individual should also have a basic knowledge of Iowa District East, its congregations, circuits, and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, representing Iowa District East in a warm and friendly manner in all interactions.

Requirements for this position are a bachelors degree in accounting or business management or seven years of experience in bookkeeping and office management. It is preferred that this position be filled with a member in good standing of a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

- Preferred start date: July 2023.
- Primary work location: Iowa District East office in Marion, Iowa.
- Benefits include vacation, retirement savings plan and health insurance.
- Salary to be negotiated.

Submit applications to Iowa District East Administrative Assistant at pam@lcmiside.org



It was a big one, indeed!
The very, very tall soft maple in the backyard of the parsonage was cut down the past week. It was a big, old tree that was splitting at a fork between branches. This split could lead to breakage and damage on the Parsonage and neighboring home. It will be replaced with another tree.

This individual laid down on the stump to show just how large that tree was.







PARADE 2023



Special helpers assisting with loading water.



Beautiful float loaded with many bottles of water to be passed out along parade route



Old Glory is ready for a ride

Preschool Summer Newsletter



Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller Assistants, Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org

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

Things NOT to worry about when your child starts school:



Says she isn't going back to school

tomorrow or ever. Around the second month of school, reality sets in. It dawns on your child that you actually expect her to go to school each and every week. Even kids who love school sometimes raise objections at this time of year. Remain matter-of-fact and confident as you send her off. It may help to remind yourself that you aren't the only parent whose child has come down with the *please-let-me-stay-home-today* blues.

Questions to ask kids:



If you were a teacher, and the kids in your class would not listen to you, what would you do?

Where is your favorite place in the world?

Preschool Centers:

SCIENCE - *Enable children to...*

- *explore and experiment
- *develop skills in using the scientific method of problem solving: observing, predicting, testing predictions and generalizations
- *use source materials in problem solving
- *manipulate objects to move from concrete to abstract
- *find out about nature
- *classify relationships between objects



Enroll your child in preschool today!

Spaces are filling up! The enrollment link is also available on our website at www.ourredeemer.org



Consign through the 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. All items given to Stuff will be a donation if they cannot sell them.

Iowa City #43522

Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

"God Redeems His People"

Toddlin' age—12th Grade 9:20 a.m.—10:15 a.m.

Invite your friends and come learn about Jesus!

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
July 30	Matthew 6:25-34	Mountain Message—Jesus Preaches on the Mount
August 6	Mark 4:35-41	A Weather Wonder—Jesus Calms a Storm
August 13	No Class—Setup for Indoor Worship, Hot Dog Lunch (Fellowship Hall), Fun Faith Fest, and Semisaurus	
August 20	Mark 5:21-24, 35-43	A Life Restored—Jairus's Daughter
August 27	John 6:1-15	The Fish and Bread Sign—Jesus Feeds Five Thousand



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church VBS

Sunday, August 6, 2023 to Thursday, August 10, 2023
5:00 PM—8:15 PM

2301 East Court Street, Iowa City, IA

Sign up today for VBS! Throughout this program, we will emphasize the Living Water, Jesus, through exciting games, lively music, impressive science experiments, and more! Let's celebrate that we're covered in Jesus' grace.

Sign-up at:

<https://vbsmate.com/events/OurRedeemerVBS2023/26849>

Youth

6th - 12th Graders

AUGUST

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

DATE	EVENT	TIME
8/2	Youth Event	6:00pm
8/6	VBS (8/6 to 8/10) 	5:00pm
8/9	Youth Driving Simulator	11:30am
8/10	Dinner with Brian Young	6:00pm
8/11	Semisaurus	9:00am
8/12	Semisaurus	9:00am
8/13	Worship with VBS Singing	10:30am
8/13	Hotdog lunch followed by Fun Faith Fest 	11:30am
8/13	Semisaurus	12:00pm
8/16	Youth at Bohnsacks	6:00pm
8/23	First Day of School—Iowa City	

August Events

Sunday, August 6th, 10:30am service
VBS Commissioning

Sunday, August 6th—Thursday, August 10th
Vacation Bible School 5:00pm to 8:15pm

Wednesday, August 9th, 11:30am
Youth Driving Simulator
Watch for Reminder Text

Friday, August 11th
Semisaurus 9:00am to 3:00pm

Friday, August 11th, 6:00pm
Dinner with Brian Young
Sign-up on the Welcome Counter

Saturday, August 12th
Semisaurus 9:00am to 3:00pm

Sunday, August 13th
Worship with VBS Singing 10:30am
Sanctuary
Hot Dog Lunch 11:30am
Fellowship Hall
Fun Faith Fest 12:00pm to 2:00pm
Outdoors
Semisaurus 12:00pm to 2:00pm
Outdoors

Wednesday, August 16th, 6:00pm
Youth at Bohnsacks



Sunday School July 30th
Lesson: Mountain Message—
Jesus Preaches on the Mount
Reading: Matthew 6:25-34



SUMMER YOUTH Event

for 6th—12th graders

Wednesday, August 16th

6—10:30 pm at the Bohnsacks

Bring a friend!

Watch for text reminder!

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

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

<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>
Rev. Dr. 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 Gabel, 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)
		Christie Cherian, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)

2023 Board of Elders

Bill Benson	517-881-9848
David Bohnsack	319-430-2054
Tim Eick	248-514-2881
Rick Gienapp	319-331-7425
Ryan Haack	319-325-7915
Skip Kempnich	319-351-5297
Eric Kooker	319-339-0175
Chad Pence (Chair)	319-321-5686
Art Schwarting	319-325-6152

2023 Board of Directors

President	Arlan Thompson	319-338-2938
Vice President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850
Secretary	Barb Schanbacher	319-351-3998
Treasurer	Kari Kibby	319-573-4127
Board of Elders	Chad Pence	319-321-5686
Properties	Dave Yansky	319-621-7694
At Large	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
	Marilyn Albright	319-430-8129
	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.

Nurse's Cap

Matthew 5:6

I would insert dampened fabric
into a bowl of starch;
the liquid permeated each fiber
as I plastered it on
a round bowl
for forming and smoothing.

Later I'd carefully peel the cap off--
the dried starch
held its shape.

Permeate my life
with Your Word, Lord,
that it may be starched
into shape
with Your will.

Carol Schuldt

