



The Parish Beacon

Volume 44—No. 11

December 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.” Isaiah 40:8.

A time of preparation,
A time of reflection,
A time of waiting.

Advent encompasses all of these.

We are preparing for Christmas, looking at the prophecies of Isaiah foretelling Jesus’ birth.
We are reflecting on our sins and role in God’s Story of Everything, looking to the birth of our Savior who offers forgiveness.
We are waiting on our Lord to return again, looking forward to that Last Day when we will be with Jesus in paradise.

Waiting might just be the hardest part, though.

The world continues to fall apart around us,
We continue to live lives full of sorrow and struggle,
Death continues to reign here on Earth,
As all things are steeped in sin.

Yet we receive this promise:

Yes – the grass withers.
Yes – the flower fades.
Yes – we continue to live in a fallen world.
But – The Word of our God endures forever.

God’s Word will not fade away or wither,

God’s Word will not leave us without hope.
As it is through the hearing of God’s Word that the Holy Spirit works faith.

The promises of God,

Forgiveness of sins,
Salvation,
Life everlasting,
These promises are certain and will not go away.

As we wait for Christmas – the first coming of Jesus Christ to us as a child born of a virgin,

We also wait for the Last Day – the second coming of Jesus Christ to us as the Lord of all.

The grass will wither,

The flower will fade,

The world will continue in sin.

But the Word of the Lord endures forever.

God’s enduring Word, The Story of Everything – From Genesis to the Last Day. Vicar Boester



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

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

Almighty God, You gather Your people from all nations and bring them into Your one, holy Christian and apostolic flock. Strengthen them by Your grace, that they may gladly feast upon Your riches in Your Means of Grace and declare Your praises to all who will hear. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You judge between Your sheep, and You shepherd Your people with Your Holy Word. Encourage Your pastors. Through their faithful service, continue to seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured and strengthen the weak. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You have subjected all things under Your Son, who gladly subjects Himself to You. Bless the homes of Your people, that parents may train and catechize their children with wisdom and love, and that children may gladly submit and honor their father and mother. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You sustain every rule, authority and power as You see fit, until this world's powers should pass away. Bless all in civil authority, that they would not provoke Your wrath but maintain order and justice for the peace of Your people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness, while now we contend with a multitude of afflictions under the curse of sin. Remember those in need of help and healing [especially **Dorothy Blume** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **David Caplin** (Lillian Moyer's son-in-law), **Loren Deetz**, **Clint Fult** (nephew of Robert Siems), **Titus Hanneman** (nephew of Kate Ramsey), **Beth Hargens**, **Emma Haugen** (Friend of Gwen Enokian), **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' son), **Marcia Osborn**, **Dolores McNatt** (Gwen Enokian's mother), **Norma Miller** (Twyla Freeman's aunt), **Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp** (Cousin of Ruth Varney), **Aaron Raschke** (brother of Ruth Varney), **John Robinson**, **Eunice Scheer**, **Reece Ullerich**, **Karen Warner**, **Mark Wilson**, and **Beth Wu** (Schuldt's relative)]. Preserve them, deliver them from their transgressions and hold not Your peace at their tears. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, as death came by a man, so by Your Son has come the resurrection of the dead. Endow Your people with penitent hearts and gracious living. Bless the efforts of Our Redeemer and our Thanksgiving, Thanksliving pledges. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. We give thanks to You for those You have gathered into Your kingdom and who are asleep in Him. Strengthen our conviction that death is defeated as we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[We pause for a moment of silent prayer.]

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for You have written THE STORY OF EVERYTHING – from Genesis to the Last Day that we may know Your Son, who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun 11/26 Worship Service 8:00am
 Worship Service 10:30am
 Deck the Halls 11:45am

Mon 11/27 Staff Meeting 1:00pm
 Chamber Singers 6:00pm
 Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm

Tues 11/28 Women's Bible Study 10:00am
 SM-Small Group/Marlene 6:00pm
 Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm
 LLL Meeting 7:00pm
 Al-Anon 7:00pm

Wed 11/29 TOPS 8:00am
 COOKIE Midweek Classes 6:45pm
 WALK Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm
 SETUP Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm
 Adult Midweek 7:00pm

Thurs 11/30 Dianna Fuhrmesiter Funeral 10:30
 Christ in Film 6:00pm
 Al-Anon 7:30pm

Fri 12/1 Cookie Walk Setup

Sat 12/2 Cookie Walk 9:00am
 Worship Service 5:30pm—Christmas & Carols

Sun 12/3 Worship Service 8:00am—Christmas & Carols
 Adult Bible Class 9:20am
 Sunday School 9:20am
 Worship Service 10:30am—Christmas & Carols
 SM—Informational 11:45am
 "Do you want to be a Stephen Minister



Building Healthy Families: Building Healthy Families:

Lutheran Family Service supports the work and members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in Iowa and beyond to care for those in need of grief, mental health or marriage counseling, unplanned pregnancy support, and adoption services. No government dollars means they maintain a Christ-centered focus in all they do! Your partnership gift before year's end will make it possible for someone to receive help at a difficult time regardless of their ability to cover the cost. November 28 is Giving Tuesday, and our Lutheran Family Service is included! Your gift – matched on this one day by Thrivent and an anonymous LFS partner - can be made securely online at www.tiny.cc/GiveLFS. On behalf of those your gift will help, thank you! **Lutheran Family Service** www.LutheranFamilyService.org

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: December 2, 3, 16, 17, 24, 25, 30, 31
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



LWML Cookie Walk
December 2
9:00am
Fellowship Hall



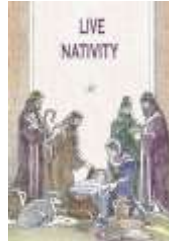
Christmas & Carols
December 2, 3
All three services



December 6
Bible Class 11:00am
Lunch 12:00pm
Fellowship Hall



Children's Christmas Service
December 10
8:00am & 10:30am



Live Nativity
December 10
400pm



Christmas Lunch
December 10
12:00pm
Fellowship Hall



December 20
Bible Class 11:00am
Lunch 12:00pm
Fellowship Hall



December 21, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall
Die Hard (R)



Christmas & Cookies
December 17
12:00pm
Fellowship Hall

ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 3
PLEASE GO TO PAGE 5 FOR
ADVENT SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE NEEDED AGAIN!!!

Because we had such a great response last year, the Outreach Committee is again going to collect Christmas (not holiday) cards to share the Good News of Jesus' birth for residents of local senior and assisted living residences. You can help by preparing Christmas cards. All you need to do is sign your first name and include "from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church" and place the card in the envelope. You can also add a short encouraging message if you desire. Please don't seal the envelope as we will be adding a Church stamp to the inside of the card. There will be a collection box on the Welcome Counter in the Narthex for your finished cards. This is a perfect way to use up those remaining Christmas cards you might have at home or you can purchase a few from the LWML Card racks downstairs by the Fellowship Hall. We prefer Christmas cards and not holiday cards. Based on the most recent resident counts from the facilities, we will need approximately 550 cards!

This year we would like to personally hand out the cards to the residents as well which will take some additional volunteers. If you are interested in helping with distributing cards, please sign up on the sheet by the collection box.

Please have your signed cards to the church by **Sunday, December 10th**. If you have questions, please contact Donna Saehler at 319-321-3207, Marlene Thompson at 319-338-2938, or Marilyn Kempnich at 319-351-5297.

2023 Advent/Christmas/ New Year Schedule

December 2	9:00am 5:30pm	LWML Cookie Walk Service of Christmas & Carols
December 3	8:00am & 10:30am	Service of Christmas & Carols
December 6	1:00pm 5:10pm	Advent Service Advent Meal
December 10	6:00pm/6:10pm 8:00am & 10:30am 12:00pm 4:00-6:00pm	Sing-a-long/Advent Service Children's Christmas Service Christmas Lunch Live Nativity
December 11	6:00pm	Christmas Meeting LWML
December 13	1:00pm 5:10pm	Advent Service Advent Meal
December 16	6:00pm/6:10pm 5:30pm	Sing-a-long/Advent Service Communion Service
December 17	8:00am & 10:30am 12:00pm	Communion Services Christmas & Cookies
December 20	1:00pm 5:10pm	Advent Service Advent Meal
December 24**	6:00pm/6:10pm 9:30am 4:30pm	Sing-a-long/Advent Service Worship Service Christmas Eve Family Worship
December 25	6:30pm & 11:30pm	Christmas Eve Communion Worship
December 30	9:30am	Christmas Day Comm Worship
December 31**	5:30pm 9:30am 7:00pm	Communion Service Worship Service New Year's Eve Communion Worship

**No Midweek Classes December 27 or January 3*

***No Sunday School or Adult Bible Class December 24 & 31*

Birthdays

Sun. 11/26	***
Mon. 11/27	Nancy Doehrmann, Christa Sexton
Tues. 11/28	Rob Gabel, Geneva Hein, Max Obermueller, Donna Reddel, Gary Yoder
Wed. 11/29	Brice Bernhard, Marek Gabel, Anne Hinkle, Seth Penney, Sandra Sanders, Maureen Schultz, Harold Warner
Thurs. 11/30	James Siems, Jay Wefel
Fri. 12/1	Christopher Bower, Henry Diggelmann, Annika Kopf, Mallory Martens, Derrick Robe
Sat. 12/2	Paula Caylor, Lisa Kleinmeyer, Jordyn Kucera, Rhett Marks, Alexander McKee, Merri Mullane, Thomas Schultz, Kelsey Yoder

Stewardship—November 18/19, 2023

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Recorded Service 11/18	0	Contributions	\$18,789.00
Sat. 11/18 In Person/LIVE STREAM 5:30pm	34	Monthly needs for budget	\$66,114.00
Sun. 11/19 In Person/LIVE STREAM 8:00am	105		
Sun. 11/19 In Person/LIVE STREAM 10:30am	183		
TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	322	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	68/46



Membership Changes and Official Acts

MISSION	November
Iowa District East	\$3,333.33
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	\$250.00
TOTAL	\$3,583.33
Panama Rickman	\$500.00
Peace officer Ministry	\$125.00
Housing Fellowship	\$500.00
MONTH TOTAL	\$4,708.33
CommUnity Crisis Center	***
Lutherans For Life	***
Concordia Seminary Food Bank	***
TOTAL	\$4,708.33

<u>Transferred Out</u>	
Tom & Trudy Heren	11-02-2023
<u>Received by Affirmation of Faith</u>	
Melinda Lord	10-31-2023
<u>Baptisms</u>	
Harper Sage Koch	11-05-2023
Eden Quinn Koch	11-05-2023
Eli Jack Casteel	11-11-2023
Lena Dorothy Woods	11-12-2023

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for 11/9/2023

Attendance: Arlan, Ben, Chad, Dave, Steve, Pastor, Vicar

1. Call to Order, Welcome
2. Opening Service—Pastor
3. Review Minutes from last meeting—Ben asked for confirmed BOD changes for 2024
4. Treasurer's Report—Pastor
 - a. Negative YTD but tracking to PY
 - b. Income is up but expenses are up more. Normal for this time of year
5. Elders Report—Chad Pence
 - a. Security cameras continue to be discussed
 - b. Communion equipment polished
 - c. Pastor nominated for LCMS Foundation BOD
 - d. Fall 2024 Panama Eye Glass Clinic a possible opportunity
6. At Large Reports
 - a. Jeff—N/A
 - b. Marilyn—N/A
 - c. Steve
 - i. Preschool almost full, doing very well
 - ii. New cubbies a possibility
 - iii. Christmas program fully underway
 - iv. Trunk or Treat was a success
7. Church Properties
 - a. Slight roof/gutter leak repaired
 - b. Cabinets repaired in kitchen
 - c. Carbon Monoxide detectors installed where necessary
 - d. Replaced storage shed in Pre-K playground
8. Budget 2024
 - a. Benefits expenditure up
 - b. LCEF Vision Fund payment lowered
 - c. Panama mission budget increased
 - d. Other missions reduced for Panama
 - e. Budget approved unanimously
9. Staff Reports
 - a. Pastor—focused on budget work
 - b. Vicar—appreciated exposure to the budget work, did two commendation of the dying services
 - c. Kaja—Preschool—N/A
 - d. Denise—Adult—N/A
 - e. Kara—Youth—N/A
 - f. Kaja/Kara—Children—N/A
10. Discussion Items
 - a. Annual financial review done, approved
11. Kudos
 - a. Dave Fruendt and Rob Bowman for mulching
 - b. Micah Hartwig for helping build the playground storage unit
12. Voter's Meeting 11/19 for the budget
13. Next meeting 12/14 Christmas Reception

VOTERS MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2023

The November voters meeting was called to order by Chairman Arlan Thompson at 11:55 AM.

Vicar Boester led us in prayer.

Treasurer's Report:

YTD Income/Expenses has a negative balance of approximately \$12,000.

Review of proposed budget for 2024 (*)

Raised projected income by 3%.

Missions budget remains the same, but the line items have been adjusted to meet the needs of the newer mission projects.

Salaries raised by 3% (consistent with IDE guidelines)

MOTION: The Voters unanimously passed the proposed budget for 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Schanbacher, Secretary

(*) Copies of the proposed budget for 2024 are available in the church office.

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:

- **Snow Pants**
- **Hats**
- **Boots**
- **Mittens**
- **Scarves**



Any donations can be left at the Mitten Tree which will be 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!



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

Stephen Minister Training Is an Enjoyable, Transformative Experience

Stephen Minister training is an enriching, enjoyable, spiritual experience, possibly unlike any other training you've participated in before. The purpose of the training is to equip individuals to become Stephen Ministers with essential caring and relating skills to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christian care to individuals who are hurting. But most Stephen Ministers say that, in addition to becoming better caregivers, everything they learn in Stephen Minister training has enhanced all their relationships with family, friends, coworkers, and others they meet in their everyday lives.

The training features a wide variety of teaching methods—presentations, discussions, videos, hands-on activities, and more—that engage trainees in applying, practicing, and using a range of principles and skills. Trainees also grow in their individual Christian knowledge and are dedicated to serving the Lord by caring for others.

If you have thought about becoming a Stephen Minister and would like to know more, you might want to attend an informational session **“Do You Want To Be A Stephen Minister” on Sunday, December 3, immediately following the 10:30 Divine Service in Room 208/210.**

We are currently recruiting for our 2024 session starting in mid-January. Taking the class does not commit you to becoming a commissioned Stephen Minister, but it will help you decide if God is leading you to take the challenge. Even if you don't become a commissioned Stephen Minister you will be a blessing to others by what you have learned.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comfort us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS	
Pastor Hartwig	338-5626
Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Marcia Hulse	351-7059
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.



LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICE

Please help to provide HOPE for those experiencing difficult times.

<https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/>

LFS Provides



Pregnancy Help



Adoption Services



Marriage Counseling



Mental Health Counseling



Outreach

Mission Committee Members: Denise Holida / Anita Nicholson / Val Penney / Bob Powers (Chairman Pro Tem)

The angels are coming!!



Dear Lord,
Bless the
children.
Amen.

This year you will again have the opportunity to be a blessing to those less fortunate through Angel Tree, a program offered through Prison Fellowship in which children of prisoners are given Christmas gifts on behalf of the parent who is unable to do so while incarcerated.

Angels will be available for selection before and after services beginning with **Thanksgiving Eve and each Advent and weekend service through Wednesday December 6**. When you select an angel (or angels), you will be asked to sign out the angel with your name and phone number. **All gifts need to be wrapped and returned to church by Sunday, December 10** in order to process and deliver them before Christmas. You will receive written instructions when you select an angel. Thank you for helping create a pathway to reconciliation between incarcerated parents and their children at this special time of the year.



Time to make those COOKIES!

The **30th Annual LWML Guild Cookie Walk** will be **Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00.**

Are you thinking COOKIES yet?

The **30th Annual LWML Guild Cookie Walk** will be **Saturday, December 2rd, 9:00 am to 11:00.** Please start pulling out your cookbooks or visiting your favorite recipe websites for the cookies you will bake. We would appreciate donations of as many cookies as possible! Workers will be needed on Friday, December 1nd and/or Saturday, December 2rd. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. During the week the sign-up sheets will be in the church office. Posters are available for your office bulletin board or where you shop.

Proceeds from the Cookie Walk will be given to missions. Thank you for your help!

Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 29, 2023
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
42 Trunks
About 125 people attended



Youth Pie Sale

Sold over 225 pies and 60 jars of peach jam

Thank you to youth and their families for helping make pies!



Youth Worship
November 11th & 12th
The Jesse Tree



Youth Worship

November 11th & 12th

Confirmation Youth served as greeters and ushers.

High School Youth sang in the Youth Praise Team and acted in a skit.



Thank you to Skip Kempnich, Marilyn Kempnich and Chris Schwarz for leading the youth praise team! Thank you to Laurel Sellers for making the Jess Tree ornaments! Thank you to Kevin and Laurel for their help with the skit!

Children's Lunch & Matinee

November 12th

55 people attended

10 Confirmation & High School Youth helped serve the meal



The menu for the meal...mmm mac & cheese, chicken nuggets, veggies, and dessert!

Preschool Beacon

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!





Children's Ministry



Birth—5th Grade



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
November 26	No Sunday School—Thanksgiving	
December 3	Acts 8:26-40	A Deacon Delivers—Philip and an Ethiopian
December 10	Acts 9:1-31	An Enemy Converts—Saul
December 17	Acts 16:16-40	A Soldier Believes—A Philippian Jailer
December 24	No Sunday School—Christmas Eve	
December 31	No Sunday School—New Years Eve	

Children's Christmas Worship 2023

Practices on Sundays at 9:15 am

The name of the Christmas musical the children will share is called "The Joy of Christmas."

All Kindergarten through 8th grade students will be learning the music for our Children's Christmas Worship Service from 9:15am—9:30am on Sunday mornings in the Music Room.

Preschool age students will have their own short program of songs. They will practice during their Sunday School class with Mrs. Haack.

Listen to the songs & practice at home using this link for the YouTube playlist.

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL42LOQVutXip6-g3sHFgKXn3meg8S9TCd&si=BCQT3EZe_7zF-OVd



Kids Club

Wednesday, November 29th

6:45 pm—8:00 pm

4 year olds—5th graders

Friends are always welcome!



Upcoming Lessons

November 29—James the Greater

December 6—John (Advent meal at 5:10pm)

December 13—Philip (Advent meal at 5:10pm)

December 20—Jesus' Birthday Party & Gingerbread Craft (Advent meal at 5:10pm)

December 27 & January 3—No meeting/Christmas Break



Youth



6th - 12th Graders

DECEMBER

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

DATE	EVENT	TIME
2	Children's Christmas Practice	9:00am
3	Christmas & Carols	All services
6	Advent Meal Advent Worship Midweek Classes	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
9	Children's Christmas Practice	9:00am
10	Children's Christmas Service Christmas Lunch Live Nativity	10:30am 12:00pm 4:00pm
13	 Advent Meal Advent Worship Midweek Classes <i>High School Christmas Party</i>	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm 6:45pm
17	Christmas & Cookies	12:00pm
20	 Advent Meal Advent Worship Midweek Classes <i>Jesus' Birthday Party</i>	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm 6:45pm
24	Worship Service Christmas Eve family Worship Christmas Eve Communion Christmas Eve Communion	9:30am 4:30pm 6:30pm 11:30pm
12/25	Christmas Day Communion  MERRY CHRISTMAS	9:30am
12/31	Worship Service New Years Eve Worship	9:30am 6:30pm

Live Nativity

All High School Youth
Sunday, December 10th
3:00 pm until 6:30 pm

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

High School Youth Christmas Party



Wednesday, December 13th
6:45 — 8:00 pm

Wear something red, green or all-out Christmas-y. Bring a \$5 gift for our gift exchange. Friends are welcome!



You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

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)
Ethan Boester Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator reddeemer@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.



The First Christmas

Matthew 1:17-2:12

*God's own Son
Mary's Babe
Came to earth
To save us from our sin*

*At His birth
Angels sang
Shepherds came
News of Christ's birth to begin*

*Magi saw
The bright Star
Follow them
To kneel and worship Him*

*Sing we all
Thank Him too
His Love saves
Renews our soul within*

Alleluia!

Carol Schuldt

