

The Parish Beacon

Volume 45—No. 2

February 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is love?

I know there are some of you that read that and immediately responded “Baby don’t hurt me,” but the question remains: What is love?

The world says there is love for your family, love for your friends, love for your spouse, love for aesthetics. All different types of love based on who or what it is pointed at. Some languages even have multiple words for “different” types of love.

But this way of thinking looks at the bond more than at what love involves. Love is more than the person it is directed at; love takes form in the action. Love is not just the feeling towards another, but the actual serving you are doing towards another. Love forms when the person you love becomes more important than yourself and you act in response to that. Their needs outweigh yours, their struggles are yours, their success is yours. Love is acting in the best interests of another.

How fitting that during this “month of love,” on Valentine’s Day no less, when the world tries to paint love as transactional, or as simply emotional, or as something earthly and apart from God, that Ash Wednesday occurs. The start of Lent.

Lent is a season of repentance, of reflection. We reflect on the earthly pain that Jesus took on Himself. We reflect on true love; not a love that requires something, that needs to be earned, but love that seeks out and serves the other, even at the expense of the self. Jesus gave everything – He became human, He went through temptations, He was punished, beaten, and killed – not for any of His own benefit, but solely for another, for the world, for you, all because He loved you.

We have one image of a true and perfect love – the love of God. There is no other type of love than this. Selfish love? Love that comes at a cost? Love that lets someone destroy himself? This isn’t God’s love for His creation, but something that sin has twisted.

There is one type of love – the love of God. And that love is seen on the cross. That love puts others before yourself. That is the love that we should seek to uphold during February, and during every month. Love one another as God has loved you.

In Christ,

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.

O Holy Trinity, You are God of gods and Lord of lords. Truly, there is no God but You alone. From You and from Your Son, Jesus Christ, are all things. Reveal the saving knowledge of Christ's truth to us and all the world, that loving You and one another, together we may be known by God. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Trinity, guard and keep all who face the temptations of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, and preserve the faith of those troubled by doubts. Through the daily remembrance of our Baptism, enable us to win the victory over all that threatens our faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Trinity, behold in mercy all for whom we pray [*especially Dorothy Blume (Carol Schuldt's sister), David Caplin (Lillian Moyer's son-in-law), Susan Carlson, Loren Deetz, Chuck Enokian, Clint Fult (nephew of Robert Siems), Emma Haugen (Friend of Gwen Enokian), 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), Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp (Cousin of Ruth Varney), Aaron Raschke (brother of Ruth Varney), Reece Ullerich, Karen Warner, Mark Wilson, Beth Wu (Schuldt's relative),*] and all who suffer in mind or body. Bring healing, comfort, strength, patience and certainty to all in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Trinity, You instituted marriage between one man and one woman. We give you thanks for the 58 years (January 29) of marriage you have granted **Dave and Sharon Hintze**. Bless them and all husbands and wives as you strengthen the love between them and their love for you. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Trinity, as you have promised to hear us, we come to you with our silent prayers...

[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.**



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

The High School Youth and Kids Club will be preparing College Care Packages again this year. If you know or have a student in college who would like to receive a package, please email their name and college mailing address to Kara at:

youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org

Please submit names by:
February 1st

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun 1/28 Worship Service 8:00am
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am
 Worship Service 10:30am

Mon 1/29 Staff Meeting 1:00pm
 Chamber Singers 6:00pm
 Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm

Tues 1/30 Al-Anon 7:00pm

Wed 1/31 TOPS 8:00am
 Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm
 Midweek Classes 6:45pm
 Adult Midweek 7:00pm

Thurs 2/1 Comfort Tiers 9:00am
 Visitation Meeting 6:30pm
 Board of Elders 7:00pm
 Al-Anon 7:30pm

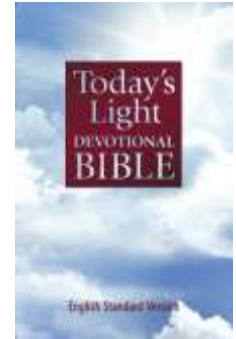
Fri 2/2 ***

Sat 2/3 Worship Service 5:30pm

Sun 2/4 Worship Service 8:00am
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am
 Worship Service 10:30am

Week 5

1/29/24 Genesis 45:1-46:34
 1/30/24 Genesis 47:1-48:22
 1/31/24 Genesis 49:1-50:26
 2/01/24 Exodus 1:1-22
 2/02/24 Exodus 2:1-25
 2/03/24 Exodus 3:1-4:31



BIBLICAL HOSPITALITY PRESENTATION

Pastor Hartwig is presenting a seminar on Saturday and leading Bible study on Sunday about Biblical Hospitality at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Federal Way, WA. May God bless St. Luke's as they endeavor to share Biblical hospitality!

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: February 3, 4, 17, 18
 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**



FLOWERS TODAY

Today's flowers (January 27/28) for the altar are provided by Dave and Sharon Hintze in celebration of their 58th wedding anniversary (January 29).

UPCOMING EVENTS



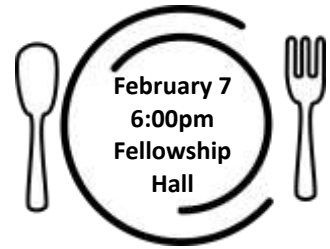
DONATE HERE!

Human Care Committee
will be collecting
peanut butter & jelly
February 1 - February 29



Tasting Bee
Sign-up Begins
February 3/4

Midweek Meal



February 7
6:00pm
Fellowship
Hall



Confirmation Winter Retreat
February 9, 5:30pm

No IC School
February 9-12



Not So Newlywed Game
February 11, 12:00pm
Fellowship Hall



Book Club Begins
February 15, 7:00pm
Room 208/210



Ash Wednesday
SERVICES
FEBRUARY 14
1:00pm & 7:00pm



Basics of the Faith
Friday, February 16, 7:00pm
Saturday, February 17, 8:30am



Voters Meeting
February 18
Immediately after
late service



ORLC Bowling
February 18, 1:00pm
Colonial Lanes



Building Healthy Families: Our culture encourages us to see the world and our relationships through a lens of individualism in which we make decisions based on the question, "How will this effect ME?" How would our world be different if we returned to a faith, family, and community-centered lens, in which decisions are instead based on this question: "How will my actions effect my children, my spouse, my parents, my congregational family, my community?" Give it a try this week and see what a difference it makes!

Lutheran Family Service www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Birthdays

Sun. 1/28	Kelly Baker, James Brachtel, Marge Lemke, Julie Piegors
Mon. 1/29	Erica McDowell-Sexton, Miranda Moore, Andrae Naraine, Arlan Thompson, Brodie Woods
Tues. 1/30	Austin Bell, Katherine Kelly, Jeffrey Kucera, Frank Ogilvie
Wed. 1/31	Cade Dyson, Susan Scott, Jeff Segar, Logan Stuart
Thurs. 2/1	***
Fri. 2/2	Carrie Barnes, Steven Rudin, Kayla Sanders
Sat. 2/3	Robert Haima, Elizabeth Lothamer, Sophie Price, Paul Vollmers

Stewardship—January 20/21, 2024

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Recorded Service 1/20	12	Contributions	\$11,874.00
Sat. 1/20 In Person/LIVE STREAM 5:30pm	56	Monthly needs for budget	\$66,114.00
Sun. 1/21 In Person/LIVE STREAM 8:00am	101		
Sun. 1/21 In Person/LIVE STREAM 10:30am	196		
TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	365	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	96/46



MISSION	January
Iowa District East	\$3,333.33
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	\$208.33
TOTAL	\$3,583.33
Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca	\$250.00
Lutheran Family Services	\$125.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$125.00
MONTH TOTAL	\$4,041.66
CommUnity Crisis Center	***
Lutherans For Life	***
Concordia Seminary Food Bank	***
Lutheran World Relief	\$1,000.00
TOTAL	\$5041.66

Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Baptisms</u>	
Sadie Noël Clack	01-21-2024



Officers were installed on January 20/21, 2024

2024 Officer's Roster

2024 Board of Elders

Bill Benson
David Bohnsack
Tim Eick
Rick Gienapp
Ryan Haack
Skip Kempnich
Brad Mullane
Chad Pence (chair)
Art Schwarting

2024 Board of Directors

Ben Weis, President
Jeff Kucera, Vice President
Barb Pronk, Secretary
Kari Kibby, Treasurer
Chad Pence, Board of Elders Chair
David Yansky, Properties
Mary Robinson, At Large
Marilyn Albright, At Large
Steve Scott, At Large



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Mission Committee
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 Holda / Anita Nicholson / Val Penney / Bob Powers / Lynn Smith (Chair)



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Human Care Committee is so grateful for the generosity of Our Redeemer members and friends who blessed us with donations for this year's mitten tree.

We were able to contribute an amazing 57 individual hats, 2 headbands, 20 sets of gloves, 2 sets of mittens, 23 individual scarves, 3 pair of boots, 6 pair of snowpants, and 28 combo sets of hat/scarves or hat/gloves or mittens!

The endless talent of so many who were able to donate hand knit or crocheted items is an impressive and colorful sight to see. These items were so well-received by the school administration staff and arrived just in time as Iowa transitions into its harsh, cold winter conditions. Knowing so many of our local children are able to be wrapped in a little extra warmth warms our hearts!

Sincerely,
The Human Care Committee





UKANDU 2024

Registration is open now through
February 15th.

Summer Servant Event Dates: June 22—29, 2024



Youth participants and adult chaperones work together to serve Chicago-land communities through outreach projects.

Who Can Serve? Adults, high school youth and 8th graders; 6th & 7th graders can attend with a parent/guardian

Service projects: VBS, sports camps, painting, landscaping, construction, and outreach

See Kara for registration link and more details.



Our Redeemer BOWLING Day
Sunday, February 18th
1:00 pm
Colonial Lanes
2253 Old Hwy 218 S, Iowa City



Cost: \$5/person --includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza and drink
This fun event is for all ages of our congregation and friends are welcome to join us!

NOTE: Children 5th grade and younger must attend with a parent.



Sign up using the link below:
<https://forms.gle/6zjgTBxjw9zsFpnL7>

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!



2024-2025 Enrollment Form



Child First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____

What year in school: Prek 3 OR Prek 4 Sex: Male OR Female

Birth Date _____ Age as of September 15, _____ years

DAILY SCHEDULE:

7:30am Extended Care Drop off
 9:00am Preschool Starts
 9:30am Learning Centers
 10:30am Snack/Bathroom
 11:00am Outside Recreation
 11:45am Story/Music
 12:00pm Preschool Ends/Pick Up/Lunch
 12:45pm Lunch Ends/Pick Up

OTHER INFORMATION:

- * Our Preschool starts after Labor Day and ends before Memorial Day.
- * Children may enroll throughout the school year as spaces allow.
- * Scholarship information is available upon request.
- * Morning extended care students may be dropped off any time after 7:30am.
- * Lunch extended care students will be picked up at 12:45 pm.
- * Morning snack will be provided by an assigned preschool student.
- * Students staying for lunch will provide their own bag lunch and ice pack to keep food cold.
- * No breakfast will be offered.
- * During winter weather you will be notified if: (We follow the Iowa City School District)
 - We are delayed, no preschool, no extended care.
 - We are cancelled, no preschool, no extended care.

CHECK DESIRED PROGRAM:

_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$244/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$320/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$356/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$434/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$179/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$229/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$256/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$307/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$403/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$530/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$593/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$720/month

Financial scholarships are available for Preschool, not for extended care or lunch expenses. Scholarships are considered at each of these deadlines and are available while scholarship funds remain: March 1, May 1, August 1.

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Best Phone Number _____

Best Email _____

Our Redeemer Preschool admits children of any race, color, nationality or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities of the Preschool. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality or ethnic origin in administration of the educational or admission policies. Our curriculum is Christian-based.

Please mail your completed form along with the **\$50 non-refundable** registration fee made payable to:

Our Redeemer Preschool
 2301 E. Court Street
 Iowa City, IA 52245

Upon receipt of the Enrollment Form and fee, your child's spot will be reserved. An enrollment packet will be sent to you containing all additional paperwork to be completed. Thank you for enrolling your child with Our Redeemer Preschool.

Updated: 1/2024

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
January 28	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	A Laughable Promise—Isaac is Born
February 4	Genesis 22:1-19	A Merciful Substitute—Abraham and Isaac
February 11	Genesis 24:1-4, 10-28, 50-67	A Servant's Mission—Isaac and Rebekah
February 18	Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-45	Twin Troubles—Esau and Jacob
February 25	Genesis 29:1-30	



Kids Club

4 year olds—5th graders
Friends are always welcome!

Wednesday, January 31st
6:45 pm—8:00 pm
LESSON: Thomas



Wednesday, February 7th
6:45 pm—8:00 pm
Packing College Care
Packages
with the High School Youth

Our Redeemer BOWLING Day



Sunday, February 18th
1:00 pm
Colonial Lanes
2253 Old Hwy 218 S, Iowa City

Cost: \$5/person --includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza and drink

This fun event is for all ages of our congregation and friends are welcome to join us!

NOTE: Children 5th grade and younger must attend with a parent.

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/6zjgTBxjw9zsFpnL7>

Youth

6th - 12th Graders



FEBRUARY 2024

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		

DATE	EVENT	TIME
7	Midweek Meal <i>(Meal Crew: 8th Graders)</i> College Care Package Night <i>High School & Kids Club</i>	6:00 pm 6:45 pm
14	 Ash Wednesday Services No Midweek/Confirmation Classes	1:00pm 7:00pm
16/17	Basics of the Faith Friday at 7:00pm Saturday at 8:30am	7:00 pm
18	 ORLC Bowling <i>Colonial Lanes</i>	1:00 pm
21	Lenten Meal Lenten Worship Confirmation & HS Midweek	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
28	Lenten Meal Lenten Worship Confirmation & HS Midweek	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
29	Concordia University Nebraska A Capella Choir Concert <i>Sanctuary</i>	7:00 pm

**Confirmation Classes
&
High School Midweek**
Wednesday, January 31st
 6:45 pm

Midweek Meal
Wednesday, February 7th
 6:00 pm
 MEAL CREW: 8th Grade Students & Families



Confirmation Winter Retreat

Friday, February 9th at 5:30 pm until
 Saturday, February 10th at 11am
 For 6th, 7th & 8th grade students



High School Midweek
Bring your friends to this fun service project!

College Care Packages "Packing Night"
 February 7th @ 6:45 pm
 Fellowship Hall

The high school youth will help the Kids Club children pack the boxes, make personalized cards for each of the college students and label the boxes. We'll pray for the college students and hear a story.

Email your college student's mailing address to Kara:
youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org

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 redemmer@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)

2024 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
Brad Mullane	319-936-5826
Chad Pence (Chair)	319-321-5686
Art Schwarting	319-325-6152

2024 Board of Directors

President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850
Vice President	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
Secretary	Barb Pronk	641-425-4880
Treasurer	Kari Kibby	319-573-4127
Board of Elders	Chad Pence	319-321-5686
Properties	Dave Yansky	319-621-7694
At Large	Mary Robinson	319-400-5572
	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.

Classic

1John 5:20

The modern composition to my ear
is discordant, brash and loud
with no way to know where the next note
will go—up, down, to a flat or sharp;
it is scrambled
while an older classical arrangement
soothes and calms with an oft heard
melody that blends together.

Life in this modern age
can be discordant and brash;
scrambled at times
with no way to know what the next day
may bring.

With Christ by one's side
there is a soothing calm
with oft heard words of love
from His lips and Life—
there is no need to know what the next day
may bring.

Carol Schuldt

