

Reflections

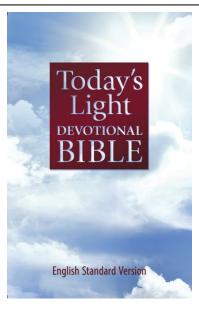


Iowa City, IA 52245 Phone: 319-338-5626 Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

Weekly Newsletter - January 6/7, 2024

~Epiphany/The Baptism of Our Lord~



ADULT BIBLE CLASS Read through the Bible in two years

Begins January 7, 9:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Week 2: Date	Scripture
1-8-2024	Genesis 12:10-13:18
1-9-2024	Genesis 14:1-15:21
1-10-2024	Genesis 16:1-14:27
1-11-2024	Genesis 18:1-19:38
1-12-2024	Genesis 20:1-24:34
1-13-2024	Genesis 22:1-24

Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
January 7	Revelation 21:1-22:5	A Returning Truth—Christ Returns
January 14	Genesis 1:26—2:25	Handmade—Adam and Eve
January 21	Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-21	A Sign and a Promise—God's Covenant with Abram
January 28	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	A Laughable Promise—Isaac is Born



2024 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2024 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.



On January 14 immediately following the late service we will be undecking the halls. We need many hands to complete the task quickly. Thank you to those who helped decorate and in advance to those who come to take down and put the decorations away.

Prayer of the Church/Epiphany-The Baptism of Our Lord, January 7, 2024

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

Heavenly Father, You revealed Your Son in the wondrous Epiphany in the Jordan. So also You have revealed Your name and blessing to us in Holy Baptism, declaring us Your beloved heirs. Grant that we may daily die to sin and rise to newness of life, living with joy as Your baptized children. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, bless all places where Your people teach and learn. Guide teachers and students, that together we would marvel at Your creation and appreciate the depth of Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, grant that all those baptized into Christ would receive the boldness of Your servant John to lead faithful and pure lives in this world, ever mindful of our promised heavenly inheritance. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus, is the Christ and the true King of this world. Grant great humility to the rulers of the nations, that they would submit to the preaching of His Holy Word for the sake of their own souls and for the good of Your holy people. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, Your Word warns that there will be wars and rumor of wars in the end times, and we see war happening in our world. Please bring peace and a ceasefire to all wars. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, uphold, [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), 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), Timothy Lyon, 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), Reece Ullerich, Karen Warner, Mark Wilson, Beth Wu (Schuldt's relative)] and all who suffer in mind or body. Give them the knowledge of Christ, their Immanuel, who is with them in their trials. Grant them health and healing in accord with Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, You give and You take away, Blessed be the name of the Lord. Comfort the mourning, especially those mourning the death of *Jane Liescheidt* (*Kara Hartwig's aunt*). Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in Holy Baptism You have opened the heavens to Your children. Grant that all those baptized into Your Son would worthily receive the heavenly feast of His body and blood for their salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our 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.**

BIRTHDAYS

Sun. 1/7 Jordan Ellison, LaRae Rudin

Mon. 1/8 Cathleen Loney, Maddox Nemitz, Kenneth Yoder

Tues. 1/9 Kevin Kaufman, Dwain Knock

Wed. 1/10 Tiffany Arthur, Samantha Davis, Roxanne Kasal Thurs. 1/11 Bill Eckhardt Jr, Ryson Stuart, Lynne Thomas

Fri. 1/12 Cole Jackson

Sat. 1/13 Esmaralda Davis, Molly Krogh, Jill Nemitz, Ryan Young

STEWARDSHIP December 30/31 2023

TIME TREASURES			
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/30—5:30pm	62	Contributions	\$8,393.56
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/31—9:30am	146	Monthly needs for budget	\$67,240.58
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/31—6:30pm	87		
Recorded Services 12/30	9		
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	304	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School (6 th -8 th N/A)	***

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, January 7—13, 2024

<u>Sunday, 1/7</u>		Wednesday continued	
Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream	8:00am	Adult Midweek	7:00pm
Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:20am	Confirmation Winter Retreat Parent Meeting	8:00pm
Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream	10:30am		
		<u>Thursday, 1/11</u>	
<u>Monday, 1/8</u>		Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Staff Meeting	1:00pm	Lantern Park	10:00pm
Chamber Singers	6:00pm	Kitchen Cleaning	1:00pm
Old Capitol Quilters	6:00pm	Briarwood	4:00pm
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	Board of Directors	7:00pm
Preschool Board	6:30pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
Outreach Committee	6:30pm		
		<u>Friday, 1/12</u>	
<u>Tuesday, 1/9</u>		***	
Women's Bible Study	10:00am		
Assimilation Committee	6:30pm	<u>Saturday, 1/13</u>	
Al-Anon	7:00pm	Men's bible Study	8:00am
Women's Bible Study	7:00pm	Al-Anon District Meeting	10:00am
Board of Elders	7:00pm	Worship-In Person/Live Stream	5:30pm
Wednesday, 1/10		<u>Sunday, 1/14</u>	
TOPS	8:00am	Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream	8:00am
Properties Committee	5:30pm	Sunday School/Adult bible Class	9:20pm
Midweek Meal	6:00pm	Worship Service-In Person/Live Stream	10:30pm
Midweek Classes	6:45pm	Undeck the Halls	11:45am
Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm		



MIDWEEK MEAL

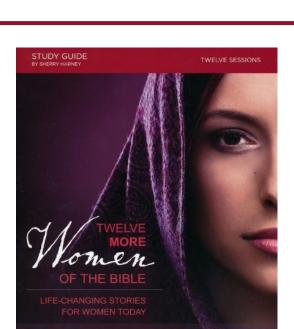
Come join us for a Midweek Meal and fellowship on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Building Healthy Families: What do the "Mona Lisa," "Starry Night," and "You," have in common? Yep - all three are masterpieces! Da Vinci and Van Gogh created famous works of art, but an even greater Master Craftsman created you. God formed you in your mother's womb and knew you before you were born. You may see clumsy big feet with ingrown toenails, expanding thighs, or a receding hairline. He sees and loves what He has created...a one-of-a-kind, unique you! Be careful not to paint over what He has designed with your own brush of negativity, inferiority, or shame. Thank God for and take care of the body He gave you! "For we are God's handiwork..." Ephesians 2:10 Lutheran Family Service www.LutheranFamilyService.org

WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER WEARING MY NAME TAG?

Because wearing your name tag helps -

- others to call you by name
- you to be known by others
- the Vicar & Krista Boester to match a name with a face
- encourage new members to wear their name tags
- those who have a hard time remembering names
- start conversations
- everyone to get to know each other better
- to identify those who are members and those who are visiting
- those who think they know your name, but because you're wearing your name tag, they can be sure of it



BIANCA JUAREZ OLTHOFF

MARGARET FEINBERG COURTNEY JOSEPH



WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS 12 MORE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE:

New session starting Tuesday, January 9 at 10:00 AM. This fresh look at these women in the Bible will help you discover new insights into God's character, persevere through difficult times, and find joy in the hope that Jesus provides. This study guide includes background information on each woman, group discussion questions, Bible exploration, and personal study and reflection materials for in-between sessions. Registration forms available in the narthex.

Any questions, please contact Diana Bowman at bowman@mail2lowa.com or Shana Stuart at shanastuart21@gmail.com.



Preschool Newsletter

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

January 1-5, 2024

Assistants: Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH Director/Teacher: Kaja Mueller M-F

Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 Fax: 319-338--9171



42 years



How did you celebrate the New Year?

Happy New Year preschool families!

As we start the new year classes will resume on January 8&9, 2024. There will be no preschool on January 15th.

We are looking forward to a lot of learning in January. We will start the month off with night week as exploring animals that are nocturnal. We get to have the Iowa Children's Museum direct us in exploring during Science week. Then we will fly right into Space week and finish up the month with Jobs.

Parents, If you are interested in sharing about a job let me know! We will have quests come in from January 29th-February 2nd.

Next Week

Monday—Celebrate Krish's Birthday M/T-Scholastic Book Orders are due W-Stories with Suzie & Bill Th/F— Fire Drill & Pajama Days—wear your favorite pajamas and even slippers if you want!



2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

Preschool Christmas Wish List



Thank you to all who have gifted or given money to our preschool Christmas Wish List! I am thankful to God everyday that we have such wonderful support for our

preschool students. I cannot express my thanks enough! Merry Christmas and God bless us all in the New Year.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

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.

Consigner Number: Iowa City #43522





Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade



Children's Sunday School

PreK3—5th grade

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
January 7	Revelation 21:1-22:5	A Returning Truth—Christ Returns
January 14	Genesis 1:26—2:25	Handmade—Adam and Eve
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January 28	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	A Laughable Promise—Isaac is Born



Toddlin' to Jesus

Room 215 (Toddlin' Room)

Join us at 9:20 am on Sunday mornings.

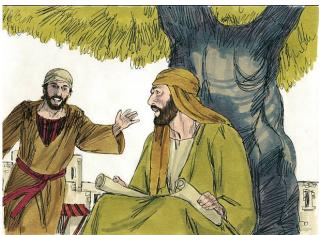
Parents and their children ages birth to age 2 are invited to participate. You will meet with other parents and children for a toddler-friendly Bible lesson, music and prayer.

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



Lesson: Nathanael/ Bartholomew

Kid's Club January 10th, 6:45pm 4 years old—5th Grade







6th —12th Grade

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

Confirmation (6th-8th Grade)

Wednesday, January 10th at 6:45 pm

6th Grade—Lecture

Unit 2: God's Grace to His People Israel **The Divided Kinadom**—the united kinadom of Israel divides into 2 separate kingdoms after Solomon's death.

- North / South
- Israel 10 tribes/ Judah 2 tribes
- 19 Kings of Israel / 20 Kings of Judah
- 0 Good Kings in Israel / 8 Good Kings in Judah



7th Grade—Lecture Third, Fourth, and Fifth Petitions of the Lord's Prayer

8th Grade—Small Group

Unit 2: Apostle's Creed Article 3: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.







Confirmation Winter Retreat

Friday, February 9—Saturday, February 10, 2024 Location will be a local area hotel For all 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Confirmation students

PARENTS: We need several parents to chaperone this overnight event. Parents attend free. Email Kara at youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org to register as a chaperone.

> Registration form & payment DUE: Wednesday, January 24th

Winter Calendar Date for Confirmation Classes & **High School Midweek**

Wednesday, January 10th

RESUME NORMAL SCHEDULE

6:00 pm Midweek Meal (6th Grade helps) Confirmation Classes & Midweek 6:45 pm 8:00 pm Parents Meeting Winter Retreat



Amen.

High School Midweek

All high school youth & their friends are welcome

College Care Packages "Packing Night"

January 31 @ 6:45 pm in the 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.

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.
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 redeemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Christie Cherian, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)	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 <u>choirdirector@ourredeemer.org</u>	338-5626 (church)
Marilyn Paetz, Organist organist@ourredeemer.org	351-4262 (home)	Kevin Sellers Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 ext. 18 631-8924 (cell)
Laurel Sellers, Consultant consultant@ourredeemer.org	319-331-3242 (cell) 338-5626 ext. 21		

	2024 Board of Elders		2024 Board of Director	<u>s</u>
Bill Benson	517-881-9848	President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850
Dave Bohnsack	319-430-2054	Vice President	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
Tim Eick	248-514-2881	Secretary	Barb Pronk	641-425-4880
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
Brad Mullane	319-936-5826	At Large	Mary Robinson	319-400-5572
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.