



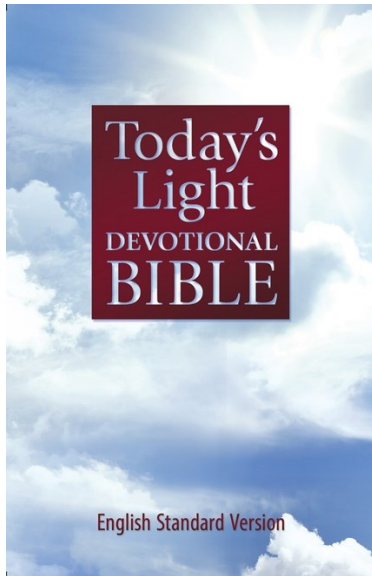
First Avenue and Court Street
 Iowa City, IA 52245
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 Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org
www.ourredeemer.org

Reflections



Weekly Newsletter - January 13/14, 2024

~Second Sunday after the Epiphany~




ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Read through the Bible in two years

Week 3: Date	Scripture
1-15-2024	Genesis 23:1-24:67
1-16-2024	Genesis 25:1-26:35
1-17-2024	Genesis 27:1-28:22
1-18-2024	Genesis 29:1-30:43
1-19-2024	Genesis 31:1-33:20
1-20-2024	Genesis 34:1-35:29


Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
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



SUNDAY COFFEE SIGN-UP FOR 2024

For those of you wishing to sign-up to do Sunday coffee and treats for the upcoming year of 2024 the sign-up sheet has been placed out on the Gathering Place counter. Please sign-up. There are many openings to choose from.



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.

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

O Lord, put a new song in our mouths. Lead us out of all deceit and into the confidence of Your truth. Let us proclaim Your wondrous deeds of faithfulness and salvation in Christ without fear or hesitancy. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, as You once called Samuel, Philip and Nathanael into Your service, be pleased now to call men into Your holy ministry. We especially pray for the seminarians we are supporting: **Deon Hull** (Vicarage Year), **Kyle Moellenhoff** (4th Year), **Josiah Schultz** (4th Year), **Morgan Garrett** (4th Year), and we ask a special blessing upon our **Vicar Ethan Boester**. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, You call fathers, mothers and children to serve in their households. Let them serve eagerly, each according to their station, trusting that such love honors You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, let all the nations and peoples of the earth ascribe to You the glory due Your name. Hear our prayers for all rulers and leaders around the world. Direct them by Your Word and Spirit, and establish them in saving faith. Lead them in their offices to govern wisely for the good of their people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, 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, 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), 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. Bring healing, comfort, strength, patience and certainty to all in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, receive our thanks for Your constant watch and merciful kindness. In every sorrow and every joy, do not let our eyes be drawn from the greater marvel of Your kindness in Christ Jesus, by whose grace and forgiveness alone we receive every blessing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, 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.**

BIRTHDAYS

Sun. 1/14	David Davis Jr., Ryan Freeman, Claire Hartwig, Gary Hotz, Makayla Reese, Joseph Robinson, Richard Sexton, Doris Siemer
Mon. 1/15	Carter Borntrager, Jessica Johnson
Tues. 1/16	Raymond Boyum, Jim Mickelson
Wed. 1/17	Nyle Kruse, Emily Robinson, Madeline Robinson, Myranda Robinson
Thurs. 1/18	Kameron Eldridge, Kahlan Eldridge, George Norenburg
Fri. 1/19	Warner Stoll, Kennedy Kruse, Paula Robinson, Ronald Westfall
Sat. 1/20	Audrey Peterson

STEWARDSHIP January 6/7, 2024

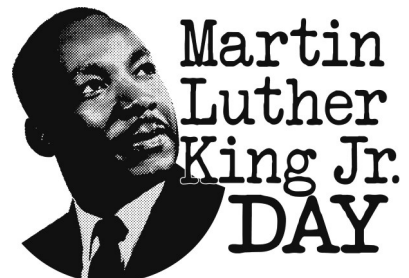
TIME	TREASURES		
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/6—5:30pm	47	Contributions	\$21,606.00
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/7—8:00am	66	Monthly needs for budget	\$69,403.08
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/7—10:30am	93		
Recorded Services 1/6	170		
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	376	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	98/41

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, January 14—21

<u>Sunday, 1/14</u>		<i>Wednesday continued...</i>	
Worship Service	8:00am	Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Sunday School/Adult bible Class	9:20am	Midweek Classes	6:45pm
Worship Service	10:30am	Adult Midweek	7:00pm
Un-deck the Halls	11:45am		
		<u>Thursday, 1/18</u>	
Monday, 1/15—M.L.K. Day/Office Closed		Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Chamber Singers	6:00pm	Cross and Entrance Committee	6:00pm
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
<u>Tuesday, 1/16</u>		<u>Friday, 1/19</u>	
Solon Nursing Home	9:30am	***	
SM-Small Group-Marcia	6:30pm		
Assimilation Committee	6:30pm	<u>Saturday, 1/20—Installation New Officers</u>	
Al-Anon	7:00pm	Worship-In Person/Live Stream	5:30pm
<u>Wednesday, 1/17</u>		<u>Sunday, 1/21—Installation New Officers</u>	
TOPS	8:00am	Worship Service	8:00am
Bible Study	11:00am	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:20am
Lunch Bunch	12:00pm	Worship Service	10:30am
Windmill Manor	2:00pm		

OFFICE CLOSED January 15, 2024

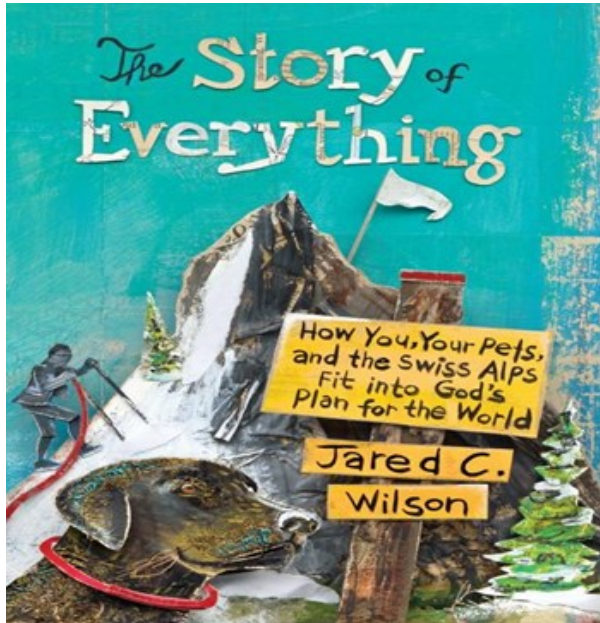
A reminder that the office will be closed on January 15 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.





See you there!

Lunch Bunch will be meeting again on **January 17**. It is a start for the new year of 2024. Don't forget Bible Class at 11:00 am, which is taught by Pastor or Vicar in the Fellowship Hall followed by potluck lunch. Bring your favorite dish to share. We meet every first and third Wednesdays of the month. All are welcome.



BOOK CLUB

Beginning Thursday, February 15
7:00pm—9:00pm

In *The Story of Everything*, Jared Wilson explores the redemptive story that God is telling in and through the world. Life often seems mundane. We go from work and school to home. We eat and watch TV. We sleep and repeat. It can be hard to see the point in our “normal” lives. What we tend to miss is that we are actually part of something huge: God’s story – the greatest story ever told! Looking at God’s redemptive plan for humanity, this book will help you understand what the Gospel means for your life, home, pets, hobbies, and more.

Sign-up sheets are on the counter. Please sign-up so that we know how many books to order.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

During worship services on January 20 and 21, the 2024 officers elected to represent Our Redeemer will be installed. We thank them for their willingness to take on leadership roles and we join in supporting them and encouraging them throughout their terms of service.



THE NOT SO NEWLYWED GAME

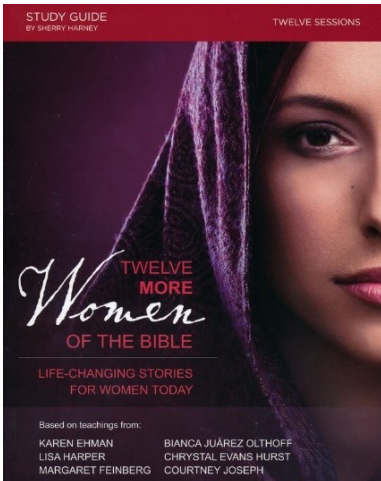
February 11, 2024

12:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to cheer on our three newlywed (or not-so-newlywed) couples. We need a studio audience to applaud their efforts to match answers.

Bring appetizers and goodies to share as our contestants compete. Come share the fun, fellowship, food, and laughter! Drinks and paper products will be provided.



12 MORE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE: The new session started for the new Tuesday class. 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.



Basics of the Faith

**Friday, February 16 at 7:00pm &
Saturday, February 17 at 8:30am**

Basics of the Faith will be happening February 16 and 17. It's a great way to refresh one's knowledge. For new members or those who want to become a member it is an excellent way to receive instruction. Signup sheet is on the counter.



Building Healthy Families: Christians who suffer from depression often experience guilt, mistakenly believing that "true Christians" should feel joy - not daily sadness. Here's important and good news: a weak faith is not a cause of depression. Martin Luther struggled with depression (melancholy) as have many other faithful church leaders over the years. If you feel depressed, you're not alone so don't suffer alone. Luther had the right idea when he wrote, "Solitude produces melancholy. When we are alone the worst and saddest things come to mind. We reflect in detail upon all sorts of evils. And if we have encountered adversity in our lives, we dwell upon it as much as possible, magnify it, think that no one is so unhappy as we are, and imagine the worse possible consequences." Don't retreat into solitude; talk to your pastor, friend, family member, or a trusted counselor at **Lutheran Family Service**.

www.LutheranFamilyService.org

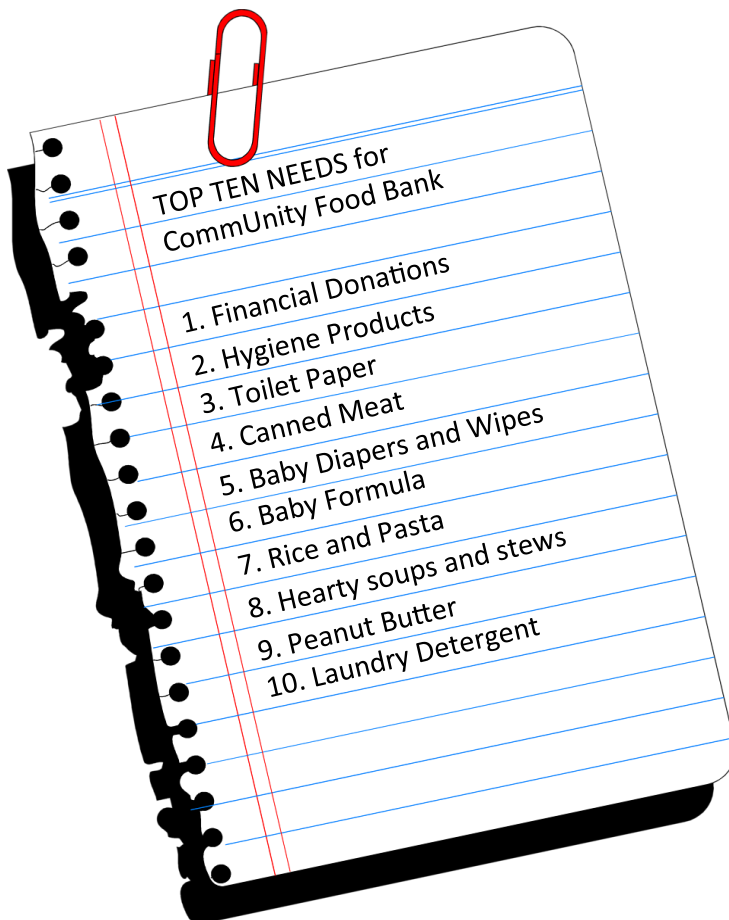
SPREAD THE LOVE PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY CAMPAIGN FOR CommUnity FOOD BANK IS BACK!!



The Human Care Committee will once again collect peanut butter and jelly for the annual “Spread The Love” campaign for the month of February. Please bring your donations and place them in the box provided in the Narthex.

Peanut butter is a great item to donate to the Food Bank—it’s relatively affordable and a good source of protein and other important nutrients to help those in need. Plus, peanut butter is a favorite for many families—especially if you throw in some jelly.

The campaign goes from February 1—through February 29, 2024



Donation bin located in Church Office

Please consider picking up extra items as you are shopping to donate to the CommUnity Crisis Center.



Preschool Newsletter

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

January 8—12, 2024

Director/Teacher: Kaja Mueller M-F Assistants: Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 Fax: 319-338-9171 www.ourredeemerpreschool.org preschool@ourredeemer.org



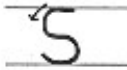
This Week



Welcome nighttime question
Math equation
What is a nocturnal animal?
Number recognition
Opposite song
Letter Ss—recognize, write, and make the sound
What is your house number and street you live on?
Bible Lesson—The wisemen following the star
Nocturnal animal painting
Snowman monthly board craft
Star craft
Line leader story
Sleep time book
Letter S book
Fire Drill



Little curve
Turn
Little curve



Learning Centers

Nocturnal animal puzzles
Nocturnal animal name recognition
Nocturnal animal coloring
Color letter S
Color pajamas
Sleep / night books
Sensory table magnetics



Dates

January 15—No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 9/12—No School
February 13/14—Valentines Party in class
March 4—No School
March 11-15—No School Spring Break
April 9/10—Parent Teacher Conferences
April 10—No School
April 17/18—Spring Program
May 23/24—Last Days of School Celebration and Graduation

Next Week's Snack

You get to bring snacks and be our line leader!

M/W/F = 18 kids; T/TH = 13 kids

Monday: No School

Tuesday: Josie

Wednesday: Arthur

Thursday: Matthias

Friday: Zion

You only need to bring 2 healthy food groups for snack from the five presented in our Credible Food List packet. **Half a gallon of a drink is all we really use in class.** If your child brings lunch, they need to have all five food groups present in their lunch.

Question for a Kid

What gift would you bring to Jesus if you were traveling like the Wisemen?

Thank you for your Scholastic book order!

Ordering books helps earn the preschool points to order books for our library as well as some room supplies. Ordering online is fast and easy: scholastic.com/readingclub. The Class Activation Code is **MQWNQ**.



Next due date is February 12 & 13, 2024.

Ss (To Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Sing, sing, sing a song, sing a silly song.
Singily, jingily, ringily, swingily, won't you sing a long?





Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade



**Children's
Sunday School**
PreK3—5th grade



This weeks lesson:
Handmade—Adam and Eve
Genesis 1:26-2:25

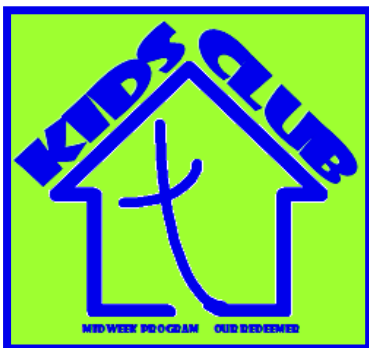
Toddlin' to Jesus

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.



Kid's Club
January 17th, 6:45pm
4 years old—5th Grade

Lesson:
Mid-year Review/
Epiphany



Youth

6th —12th Grade

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

Confirmation (6th—8th Grade)

Wednesday, January 17th at 6:45 pm

6th Grade—Small Group

Unit 2: Prophets

The Prophets



7th Grade—Small Group

Third, Fourth, and Fifth

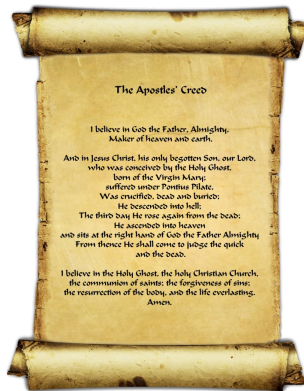
Petitions of the Lord's Prayer



8th Grade—Lecture

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. Amen.



Retreat

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

Look for an email and text message about registering your student and signing up to be a chaperone.

Registration form & payment DUE:
Wednesday, January 24th

Winter Calendar Date for Confirmation Classes & High School Midweek

Wednesday, January 17th
RESUME NORMAL SCHEDULE
6:45 pm Confirmation Classes & Midweek



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 Kid's 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

<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 redemer@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 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)	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

Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Dave 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 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	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.