



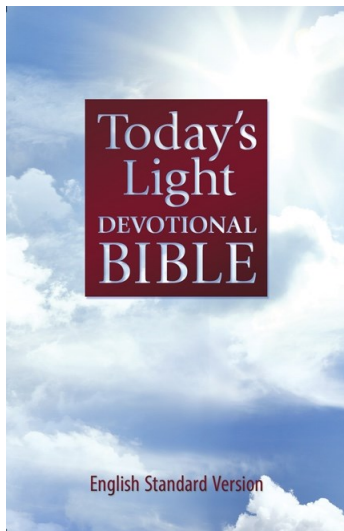
First Avenue and Court Street  
 Iowa City, IA 52245  
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# Reflections



Weekly Newsletter - January 20/21, 2024

~Third Sunday after the Epiphany~



## ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Read through the Bible in two years

| Week 4: Date | Scripture          |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1-22-2024    | Genesis 36:1-37:36 |
| 1-23-2024    | Genesis 38:1-39:23 |
| 1-24-2024    | Genesis 40:1-23    |
| 1-25-2024    | Genesis 41:1-40    |
| 1-26-2024    | Genesis 41:41-57   |
| 1-27-2024    | Genesis 42:1-44:35 |

## Sunday School Lessons

| Date       | Scripture               | Bible Lesson                                   |
|------------|-------------------------|--|
| 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              |

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

2024

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.



### BAPTISM

Sadie Noël Clack  
 Daughter of  
 Emma & Nathan Clack  
 January 21 at 10:30am

Sponsors:  
 Claire Hartwig  
 Chelsea Clack



### ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Bruce & Grace Maurer for their 54th wedding anniversary.



### Sunday Coffee & Treats

This Sunday's coffee and treats are being provided by the LWML. Come join us for a little refreshment and fellowship before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class. Free will offering goes toward continued missions.

## Prayer of the Church/Third Sunday after the Epiphany/January 21, 2024

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

Lord God, heavenly Father, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and believe the Gospel. In the epiphany of Your Son, Your time of salvation and Your kingdom have come near. As this world passes away, give faithfulness and urgency to Your Church to proclaim the Gospel of our God to all people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, in view of every current distress as the present form of this world passes away, give constancy and contentment to Your people in their God-given stations. Give comfort and faithfulness to the married, and strengthen them to pass on the faith to the next generation. Show kindness also to the unmarried and assure them of the holiness of their place in life, that they would be freed from anxiety and attend to holiness in body and spirit, undividedly devoted to You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, 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), 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.**

Lord God, You instituted marriage between one man and one woman. We give you thanks for the 54 years of marriage you have granted **Bruce and Grace Maurer**. 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.**

Lord God, we rejoice that You have written our names in the Lamb's Book of Life and given us the new birth of water and the Word. We are especially grateful for the baptism of **Sadie Noël Clack** this weekend. Strengthen him and all baptized in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, in Your Holy Sacrament You deliver the Gospel proclaimed by Your Son and won by His death in His true body and blood. Work repentance and faith in all who commune, and unite them in a sincere confession of Your divine truth at this altar. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, 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. 1/21   | Henry Diggelmann, Jackson Rosenberg, Kaela Stuart-Parrigon   |
| Mon. 1/22   | Vicki Fobain, Stacey Miller                                  |
| Tues. 1/23  | Michel Kopf  |
| Wed. 1/24   | Jean Graves, Shari Sorensen                                  |
| Thurs. 1/25 | Cynthia Fruendt, Andrew Huedepohl, Robyn Rasmussen           |
| Fri. 1/26   | Norvin Coblentz, Jane DuVall, Michelle Johnston, Sharon Lake |
| Sat. 1/27   | Rebecca Bell, Denise Johnson                                 |

## STEWARDSHIP January 13/14, 2024

| TIME                                       | TREASURES |                                 |             |
|--|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/13—5:30pm  | **        | Contributions                   | \$21,606.00 |
| Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/14—8:00am  | **        | Monthly needs for budget        | N/A         |
| Worship-In Person/Live Stream 1/14—10:30am | **        |                                 |             |
| Recorded Services 1/13                     | 273       |                                 |             |
| Total Saturday/Sunday Worship              | 273       | Adult Bible Class/Sunday School | ***         |

## This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, January 21—28

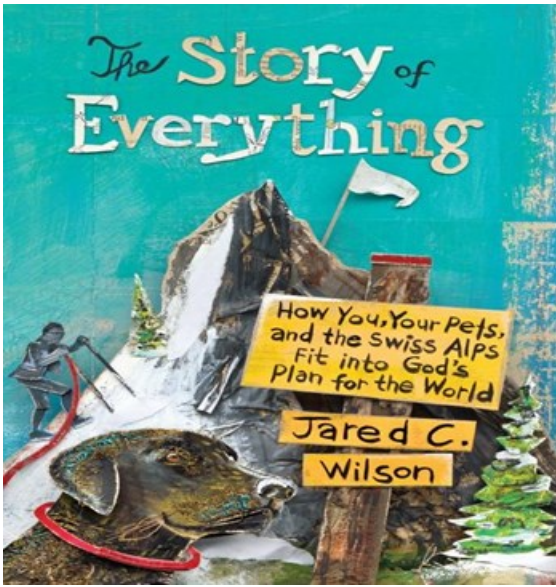
| <u>Sunday, 1/21—Installation New Officers</u> |         | <i>Wednesday continued...</i>   |         |
|---|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Worship Service                               | 8:00am  | Choir Rehearsal                 | 6:45pm  |
| Sunday School/Adult bible Class               | 9:20am  | Midweek Classes                 | 6:45pm  |
| Worship Service                               | 10:30am | Adult Midweek                   | 7:00pm  |
| Un-deck the Halls                             | 11:45am | Mission Committee               | 8:00pm  |
| <b><u>Monday, 1/22</u></b>                    |         | <b><u>Thursday, 1/25</u></b>    |         |
| Staff Meeting                                 | 1:00pm  | Comfort Tiers                   | 9:00am  |
| Chamber Singers                               | 6:00pm  | Christ in Film                  | 6:00pm  |
| Sunlight AA Group                             | 6:00pm  | Al-Anon                         | 7:30pm  |
| Children's Committee                          | 6:00pm  |                                 |         |
| Assimilation Committee                        | 6:30pm  | <b><u>Friday, 1/26</u></b>      |         |
|   |         | ***                             |         |
| <b><u>Tuesday, 1/23</u></b>                   |         | <b><u>Saturday, 1/27</u></b>    |         |
| Women's Bible Class                           | 10:00am | Men's Bible Class               | 8:00am  |
| SM-Small Group-Marlene                        | 6:00pm  | Worship-In Person/Live Stream   | 5:30pm  |
| SM-Large Group-Marcia                         | 6:45pm  |                                 |         |
| Al-Anon                                       | 7:00pm  |                                 |         |
| Women's Bible Study                           | 7:00pm  |                                 |         |
| LLL Meeting                                   | 7:30pm  | <b><u>Sunday, 1/28</u></b>      |         |
|   |         | Worship Service                 | 8:00am  |
| <b><u>Wednesday, 1/24</u></b>                 |         | Sunday School/Adult Bible Class | 9:20am  |
| TOPS  | 8:00am  | Worship Service                 | 10:30am |
| Emerson Point                                 | 2:00pm  |                                 |         |



Due to the bad weather we were not able to take down the Christmas decorations on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We will take them down the January 21<sup>st</sup> immediately after late service.

## 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.

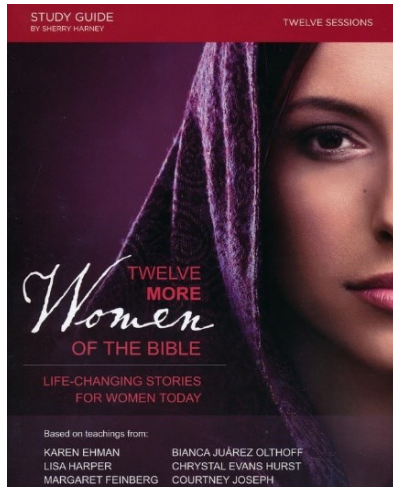
## THE NOT SO NEWLYWED GAME

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. **It's not too late to join as the lessons do not build upon one another.** Registration forms available in the Narthex. Any questions, please contact Diana Bowman at [bowman@mail2lowa.com](mailto:bowman@mail2lowa.com) or Shana Stuart at [shanastuart21@gmail.com](mailto:shanastuart21@gmail.com)



**APPEARING AT OUR REDEEMER  
February 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary**

Concordia University's A Cappella Choir has been performing concerts and joining congregations in worship for over 86 years. One of the United States' oldest touring Lutheran collegiate choirs, the University A Cappella Choir has performed throughout the U.S., and internationally in Greece, Italy, France, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, India, Thailand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, the Philippines, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Austria, Spain, Mexico, South Africa, and Australia.

The 72-voice choir is chosen by audition and is comprised of majors from most academic disciplines, representing many states and some foreign countries. Over 180 students audition each fall for the internationally renowned concert choir.

The choir has been invited to perform for NMEA and ACDA conferences, and international competitions. They received the Gold Medal for performance at the 12th Australian International Music Festival in Sydney and earned a spot in the winner's circle at the 42nd International Choral Competition in Spittal, Austria.

**NEEDED: HOST FAMILIES**

Families are needed to host 72 students in groups of two. They will need a place to stay overnight and breakfast the following morning. Please let Laurel Sellers at [consultant@ourredeemer.org](mailto:consultant@ourredeemer.org) or phone 319-331-3242 if you can help.

**VOLUNTEER**  
to usher  
during Lent



## **LENT IS FAST APPROACHING**

Wednesday, February 14 will be Ash Wednesday and ushers will be needed for extra services during the season of Lent—Ash Wednesday, Wednesday Lenten services, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. Ushers, please sign up at the Welcome Center for services for which you are able to assist.



## **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.

## **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

**OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
PANCAKE DAY  
SATURDAY MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>**



It's that time of year again! Time to get ready for Our Redeemer's annual Pancake Day.

This year, on **Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, we will be hosting Our Redeemer's annual Pancake Day with the proceeds from this event going to support missions locally and abroad.

Look out for Pancake Day flyers and volunteer sign-up sheets that will be placed in the church narthex.



Volunteers will be needed for set up, serving, and clean up. This is a wonderful opportunity for Our Redeemer to support and serve our community, so please consider donating a few hours of your time to help with this event!



**Building Healthy Families:** Trauma, emotional distress, or mental illness negatively impact many people, including those within our church fellowship today. When it does, we are often left searching for answers without knowing where to find help, especially help that will share and incorporate the important tenants of our Lutheran Christian faith. Lutheran Family Service offers professional mental health counseling with master's prepared and licensed therapists who share your faith and world view, now available to all regardless of location through telehealth. Call us...it's why we're here! **Lutheran Family Service** [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)



## 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.

## Our Redeemer BOWLING Day Sunday, February 18, 2024 1:00 pm at Colonial Lanes



**Cost: \$3/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! Pizza will start at 1:30pm. Then, bowling on your lane will take place for 1 hour. There can be 6-8 players on your team. Sign up by Friday, February 16, 2024 using the link below:

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



**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**





# Preschool Newsletter

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

January 15—19, 2024

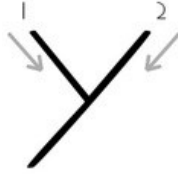
Director/Teacher: Kaja Mueller M-F  
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 Fax: 319-338-9171

Assistants: Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH  
www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org

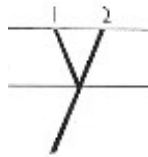


## Science Week

- Welcome question
- Math equation
- Science experiments
- Number 5 five
- White
- Letter Y—recognize, write, and make the sound
- Classroom rules—what we expect each student to show us they are trying to do.
- Bible Lesson—Jesus as a young boy
- Star activities
- Snowman monthly board craft—wrapping up with those we did not get to last week
- Star craft—we are working with every preschooler cutting a star shape, writing their name, and gluing items on in order
- Josie Birthday celebration
- Children's Museum visit
- Sleep time book
- Science books
- Fire drill on Wednesday
- Igloo imagination station



Little line  
Big line



## Question for Kids

What do you think stars are made of?

Answer: A star is a luminous ball of gas, mostly hydrogen and helium, held together by its own gravity.

## Next Week's Snack

You get to bring snacks and be our line leader! M/W/F = 18 kids; T/TH = 13 kids

- Monday: Cohen
- Tuesday: Matthew
- Wednesday: Judah
- Thursday: Vinley
- Friday: Arielli



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.



Happy 4 1/2 th Birthday, Josie!



Fat old five goes down and around, put a flag on the top and see what you've found.

## WHITE (To the tune of Little Brown Jug)

W-H-I-T-E  
That spells white, sing with me.  
Milk is white, and so is glue.  
Ghosts are white  
And they say bo!



W-H-I-T-E  
That spells white, sing with me.  
The clouds above, the snow below,  
Santa's beard, ho, ho, ho!

## Snow Science Activity

For some of the kids this week it was Great fun mixing 4 cups baking soda and 1 cup hair conditioner. It was fun molding it and mixing it. Some of the kids are still learning how to control their excitement and play and others were washing their hands every few minutes. It smelt clean in the room and clean up was easy, all we had to do was add water!





# Children's Ministry

Birth—5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Children's  
Sunday School**  
PreK3—5<sup>th</sup> grade



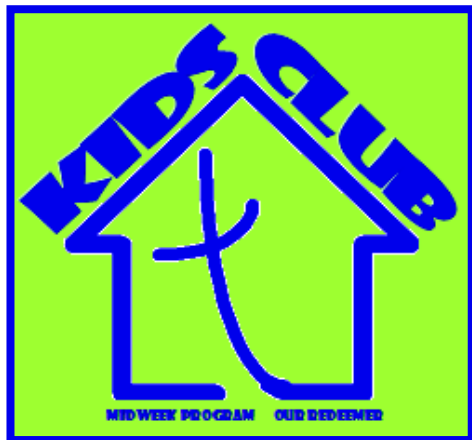
**This weeks lesson:**  
A Sign and a Promise—  
God's Covenant with Abram  
Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-21



**Our Redeemer BOWLING Day**  
**Sunday, February 18, 2024**  
**1:00 pm at Colonial Lanes**

**Cost: \$3/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! Pizza will start at 1:30pm. Then, bowling on your lane will take place for 1 hour. There can be 6-8 players on your team. Sign up by Friday, February 16, 2024 using the link below:

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



**Kid's Club**  
**January 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:45pm**  
**4 years old—5<sup>th</sup> Grade**



**Lesson:**  
**Matthew**

# Youth

6<sup>th</sup> —12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Youth Coordinator Kara Hartwig [youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org) (319) 855-2728

## Confirmation (6<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 pm

6<sup>th</sup> Grade—Lecture  
Unit 2: Exile



7<sup>th</sup> Grade—Lecture  
Sixth and Seventh Petitions, and conclusion of the Lord's Prayer



8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Small Group  
Unit 2: Exam 2



## WINTER Retreat Confirmation Winter Retreat

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

Please use the link below to register a student or be a chaperone:  
<https://forms.gle/ZaTAnin4wPYJLdeYA>

**Registration form & payment DUE:**  
Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>



### Save the Dates

Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>—  
**College Care Packages**  
*Highschool 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.



Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>—  
**Confirmation Winter Retreat**  
6<sup>th</sup> grade to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.  
Starts at 5:30pm



Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>—  
**Bowling**  
At 1:00pm/See page 8 for details



## 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](mailto:prayerchain@ourredeemer.org) Special Announcements Line: 338-3505

| <u>STAFF &amp; EMAIL</u>  | <u>PHONE NO.</u>                        | <u>STAFF &amp; EMAIL</u>   | <u>PHONE NO.</u>                          |
|---|---|--|---|
| Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor<br><a href="mailto:bhartwig@ourredeemer.org">bhartwig@ourredeemer.org</a>                     | 338-5626 (church)<br>337-2403 (home)    | Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director<br><a href="mailto:preschool@ourredeemer.org">preschool@ourredeemer.org</a>                     | 338-3949 (preschool)<br>338-5626 (church) |
| Ethan Boester, Vicar<br><a href="mailto:vicar@ourredeemer.org">vicar@ourredeemer.org</a>  | 338-5626 (church)                       | Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator<br><a href="mailto:redemer@ourredeemer.org">redeemer@ourredeemer.org</a>                       | 338-5626 (church)                         |
| Christie Cherian, Preschool Assistant<br><a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a> | 338-3949 (preschool)                    | Sara Cross, Preschool Assistant<br><a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a>    | 338-3949 (preschool)                      |
| Sarah Gabel, Bookkeeper<br><a href="mailto:bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org">bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org</a>                               | 338-5626 (church)                       | Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator<br><a href="mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org">youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org</a>        | 338-5626 (church)                         |
| Denise Holida, Adult Coordinator<br><a href="mailto:smallgroups@ourredeemer.org">smallgroups@ourredeemer.org</a>                    | 338-5626 (church)<br>930-0165 (cell)    | Louise Klopp, Director Choirs/<br>Properties<br><a href="mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org">choirdirector@ourredeemer.org</a> | 338-5626 (church)                         |
| Marilyn Paetz, Organist<br><a href="mailto:organist@ourredeemer.org">organist@ourredeemer.org</a>                                   | 351-4262 (home)                         | Kevin Sellers<br>Director of Technology<br><a href="mailto:technology@ourredeemer.org">technology@ourredeemer.org</a>            | 338-5626 ext. 18<br>631-8924 (cell)       |
| Laurel Sellers, Consultant<br><a href="mailto:consultant@ourredeemer.org">consultant@ourredeemer.org</a>                            | 319-331-3242 (cell)<br>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 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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.