

First Avenue and Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245 Phone: 319-338-5626

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# Reflections

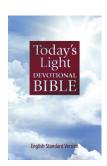


Weekly Newsletter—December 22, 2024

# ~Fourth Sunday of Advent~

### **ADULT BIBLE CLASS**

Read through the Bible in two years



Week 52 Date	Scripture
12/23/2024	Ecclesiastes 3:1-4:16
12/24/2024	Ecclesiastes 5:1-6:12
12/25/2024	Ecclesiastes 7:1-8:17
12/26/2024	Ecclesiastes 9:1-10:20
12/27/2024	Ecclesiastes 11:1-12:14
12/28/2024	Song Solomon 1:1-3:11

NO ADULT
BIBLE
CLASS ON
DECEMBER
22 & 29

# **Sunday School Lessons**

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson		
December 22 & 29	Christmas Weekend & N	Christmas Weekend & New Years Weekend—No Classes		

### **CELEBRATE JESUS BIRTHDAY WITH POINSETTIAS!!**



Help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. Purchase poinsettias of your choice—all sizes and colors are welcome. Bring them to church by Sunday, **December 22** (it is best not to bring them too early as care may not be consistent) so that they can be placed in the sanctuary after the late service on that day (Sunday before Christmas). **Poinsettias can be placed on the tables in the Board Room with your name on them.** 



# **Sunday Coffee & Treats**

This Sunday's coffee and treats are being provided by the Youth. Free will offering will go towards missions for current and new projects. Come join us for a little refreshment and fellowship before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class.



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Mark and Pam Wilson for being blessed with 56 years of marriage

### Prayer of the Church/Fourth Sunday of Advent/December 22, 2024

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

O Lord, there is none like You in holiness, constancy and might; yet, You exercise Your power for the salvation of sinners. As we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' birth, fill our hearts with gratitude that Your Son humbled Himself and became flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Mighty God, Your Son from of old was born of Mary in time to be our peace. Grant us repentant hearts, that for His sake we would be at peace with You. Grant also that, forgiven of our sins, we may forgive and be at peace with those around us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Mighty God, You are the Creator of all life. Have mercy on those women who are unable to conceive or who suffer the heartbreak of miscarriage. Be their rock against despair, provide them consolation and purpose in Your Son, and restore them to exult in Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Mighty God, our God, uphold [especially Arlene Boots, Dorothy Blume (Carol Schuldt's sister), Loren Deetz, Linda Diggelmann, Kathy Eick, Chuck Enokian, John Enokian (brother of Chuck Enokian), Gabe Hundley (grandson of Karen Abernathy), Dora Jacobson (granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), Sonja Jacobson (daughter of George and Carol Schuldt), Todd Jones (Barb & Ron Jones' son), Ben Malcom (father of Tiffany Roiseland), Norma Miller (Twyla Freeman's aunt), Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp (Cousin of Ruth Varney), Delores Nace (sister of Doris Siemer), Erin Nielsen (cousin of Crissy Pence), Marcia Osborn, Lucas Schildknecht (friend of the Hartwigs), Lee Schwarting (Art Schwarting's mother), Brian Soldner (friend of Carol Holman), Carol Schuldt, Marlene Thompson, Connie Ullrich (Jeff Kucera's aunt), Natalie Ullrich (Jeff Kucera's cousin), Reece Ullerich, Karen Warner, Mark Wilson, and Beth Wu] 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.

Mighty God, raise up among us those who will continue to serve as pastors. We especially pray for the seminarians we are supporting: **Seminarian Nathaniel Pekari** (1<sup>st</sup> Year), **Seminarian Josiah Coblentz** (2<sup>nd</sup> Year), **Vicar Tyler Simmons** (3<sup>rd</sup> Year), and **Seminarian Ethan Boester** (4<sup>th</sup> Year),

Mighty God, You instituted marriage between one man and one woman. We give you thanks for the 49 years of marriage you have granted *Kevin and Laurel Sellers* and for the 56 years of marriage you have granted *Mark and Pam Wilson*. 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.

Mighty God, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ on the cross. Prepare the hearts of all who commune this day with penitence and trust in Your promises, and so make us holy with Your Son's body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Mighty God, hear our silent prayers as we cry out to You.

[silent prayers]

All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us, Father, for you have made us your chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation belonging to you, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen, Amen!** 

### **BIRTHDAYS**

December 22 Tony Faudel, Amy O'Shea, Wesley Obermueller, Jennifer Reynolds

December 23 Kolby Kucera, Ronald Sexton, Mark Stimmel

December 24 James Haack

December 25 Zettie Jones, Duane Miller, Alvin Wagner

December 26 Sadie Clack, Garrett Sexton

December 27 La Shelle Morrison

December 28 Cheryll Davisson, Justin Ellyson, Rachel Matel, Peter Mickelson, Megan Miller,

Eunice Scheer, Marnie Schrader, Jerry Wear, Beau Zeman

# STEWARDSHIP December 14/15, 2024

TIME TREASURES			
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/14—5:30pm	8	Contributions	\$15,202.32
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/15—8:00am	170	Monthly needs for budget	\$66,114.00
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/15—10:30am	177	Advent Service (December 11)	141
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	355	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	56/58

## This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, December 22—29, 2024

<u>Sunday, 12/22</u>		Wednesday, 12/25-Christmas Day	
Worship Service	8:00am	Christmas Day Worship Service	9:30am
Worship Service	10:30am	Office Closed	
District 13 Meeting	2:30pm		
		Thursday, 12/26	
Monday, 12/23		Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Chamber Singers	6:00pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm		
		Friday, 12/27	
Tuesday, 12/24-Christmas Eve/Office Closed		***	
Family Worship Service	4:30pm	<u>Saturday, 12/28</u>	
Communion Worship Service	6:30pm	Worship Service	5:30pm
Al-Anon	7:00pm		
Christmas Eve Worship Service	11:30am	<u>Sunday, 12/29</u>	
		Worship Service	8:00am
		Worship Service	10:30am

Building Healthy Families: What do you do in your home to keep your family focused on the true meaning of Christmas? Time spent together without technology, taking turns reading aloud the "original" Christmas story from Luke 2 is one great idea. Praying together is another. Perhaps at Christmas dinner, invite your family to read a Christmas song as a prayer before the meal, with each member given a verse to share. The text from Martin Luther's "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" (Lutheran Service Book #358) would be a beautiful family prayer. A blessed, peaceful and joyful celebration of Jesus' this Christmas to you and yours -------from your friends at Lutheran Family Service! Lutheran Family Service www.LutheranFamilyService.org

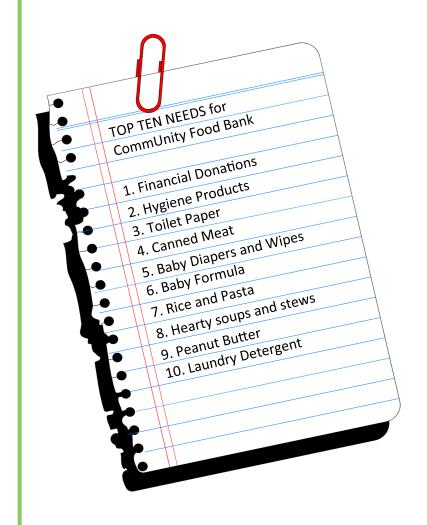


# **LWML CARD SHOP NEWS**

Christmas cards are ready for your shopping. Look for them in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall. Boxes are \$5.50 each, cards on the turning rack are \$.50 each. Please put your payment in the black box on the wall. While you are there check out the other cards. We offer birthday, anniversary, sympathy and many more. They all have a Bible verse appropriate for the occasion. Prices are the same as above. Thank you for sharing the Good News and aiding us in our mission goals. Amen, Amen, Amen.



Extra Advent and Christmas worship services require many ushers. Please sign up on the Welcome Counter or contactconsultant@ourredeemer.org to sign up for those services where you can be of assistance. Everyone is needed to help cover services.



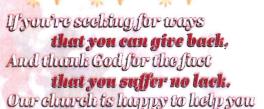


# Donation bin located in Narthex by the Welcome Counter

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

Twas the season for giving and all through the church,
Every funtly was shaffing and purchasing merch.
When what to my wondering intuding should appear,
But the thought to give thanks

for my blessings this year.



this year,

With suggestions on how you can spread Christmas cheer.
Please consider these options with prayer,
And trust that the Spirit
will direct what you share.



# Missions

Our congregation is driven to support both local and worldwide missions. Giving to our mission fund will help fund future mission trips as well as ongoing local efforts to equip disciples to make disciples for Jesus.





# Worship Instruments

We have been abundantly blessed with beautiful instruments to worship our Lord with. Giving to this fund will contribute to paying off instruments we have purchased and maintenance of our current instruments.





# Cross and Butry

God has provided us with an awesome opportunity to update our entrances and iconic cross. Giving to this fund would help us prepare for the expenses that this endeavor will incur in the coming years.



# Thank you to all who purchased gifts!!





Dear Lord,
Thank you for
blessing the
children.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ to hurting families in our community who have a loved one in prison. Through your gift, children feel connected with their parent who cannot physically be there with them at Christmas. They are reminded they are never forgotten. These children receive not only a present, but also the Gospel message, and a personal message of love from their incarcerated parent.

Thank you!!
The Outreach Committee



You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9

We are chosen! Amen! Amen! Amen!

Wait, there is more to the verse - Chosen for what exactly? Chosen to declare the praise of Him who willingly for our sake left the glory of heaven to be born in a manger, to live a human life, and to die and rise again in order that we might never die.

Are YOU interested in sharing the Christmas message with those in prison, the message that although our lives may seem dark, Jesus loves us, was born for us, and is calling us <u>all</u> out of darkness into His wonderful light?

Prison Fellowship Academy brings volunteers from churches in the community together with those in prison to engage with each other on a journey to change lives through the Gospel message. In this year long curriculum, participants explore their true identity, examine faulty thinking, form new goals, look at the factors that shaped them, and consider their new life as redeemed sons and daughters of God. PFA replaces criminal thinking and behaviors with renewed purpose and Biblically based life principles.

Volunteer opportunities are currently available:

Anamosa State Penitentiary (Wednesdays 5-7PM / Saturdays 9-11AM)
Iowa Medical Classification Center –Coralville (Wednesdays and Fridays 1-2:30PM)

Training and curriculum are provided...New volunteers are always welcome, even if you can only come occasionally!

Please contact Carol Holman for more information. carol-holman@uiowa.edu



# Tis the Season for Giving!

Warm hands = warm hearts. Living in lowa we all know bitter cold winter weather is right around the corner. 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 1<sup>st</sup> until January 2nd and would really appreciate your help with a donation.

They are seeking new or gently used:

- 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 2nd 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: <a href="mailto:tracy-nelson@uiowa.edu">tracy-nelson@uiowa.edu</a>.

Thank you in advance for your kindness!







Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig
319-855-2521
bhartwig@ourredeemer.org

# Walk in the FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

Hosted by Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig



Departures \$5,492 FROM CHICAGO, IL

# PRICE INCLUDES

US & Intl. departure taxes/fuel, gratuities, & port fees

Additional departure cities are available upon request.

# EARLY BIRD SAVINGS

off the total trip cost with your initial deposit of \$500.00!

\$100 off if your payment is received by 12/15/24

Register Online: RegisterNow.ittworld.com

Tour Code: HartwigG25

# The ITINERARY

Day 1 – Wednesday, September 3: Depart U.S.A. Embark upon your journey with an overnight flight to Athens. Prepare yourself for a life-changing experience and get some rest on the flight. Tomorrow you will be walking where the Apostle Paul walked.

# Day 2 — Thursday, September 4: Arrival Athens Airport, Athens

We arrive at Athens Airport and transfer to our hotel. Travel in time, exploring a city with a history dating over 5,000 years. Dinner and overnight are in Athens.

# Day 3 – Friday, September 5: Athens (Lavrion Port), Start Our 3-Night Mediterranean Cruise, Mykonos

Today, we sail from Athens (Lavrion Port) to the charming island of Mykonos, known for its windmills. Upon arrival, we disembark to explore the waterfront lined with shops and cafes. We wander through the charming, white-washed buildings before returning to the ship for dinner and evening activities. Today is free for personal exploration on the island.

(Mykonos excursion not included)

### Day 4 - Saturday, September 6: Kusadasi, Patmos

This morning, we arrive in Kusadasi, Turkey. An included excursion takes us to Ephesus, where Paul spent three years during his ministry. Ephesus boasts impressive remains such as the Agora, the Theater, the Stadium, the Library of Celsus, and the ruins of the Temple of Diana, one of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World." Later, we sail to Patmos where we visit the Monastery of St. John and the Grotto of the Apocalypse, where St. John wrote the Revelations.

### Day 5 — Sunday, September 7: Heraklion (Crete), Santorini

In the morning, we disembark at Heraklion, Crete. An included excursion takes us to the Knossos excavations, revealing a civilization dating back to 4000 B.C. Here, Paul left Titus to appoint church leaders in the towns (Titus1:5 & Tim. 3:1). In the afternoon, we cruise to Santorini, known for its breathtaking villages clinging to volcanic cliffs. Personal exploration is recommended.

### (Santorini excursion not included)

# Day 6 – Monday, September 8: Athens (Lavrion Port), Ancient Corinth, Athens

Concluding our cruise, we disembark in Lavrion Port and journey to Ancient Corinth, where Paul engaged in his missionary work for eighteen months, making significant contributions to early Christian communities (Acts 18:1-18). Our exploration includes visits to the Archaeological Museum, the Forum, the Temples, and the renowned Bema, where Paul stood trial before Gallio. Continuing to Cenchreae, where Paul departed for Asia.

We return to Athens for a comprehensive sightseeing tour encompassing the Acropolis, Mars Hill, the Agora, and other historical landmarks. Enjoy an afternoon of personal exploration before our dinner. Dinne and overnight stay are in Athens.

# Day 7 – Tuesday, September 9: Athens, Meteora, Thessaloniki

Departure for a journey to the mystical region of Meteora, renowned for its Byzantine monasteries perched atop towering rock formations. Dating back to the 14th century, these monasteries offer a glimpse into a history of spiritual refuge and survival against the backdrop of stunning natural landscapes. Following our exploration, we continue our trip to Thessaloniki, where Paul was received by Jason and preached until he was rushed out the city (Acts 17:1-9). We explore the city's landmarks: the White Tower, the Walls of the Byzantine Acropolis, the Roman Arch of Galerius, and the Rotonda. We visit two of the city's oldest Christian churches, the Basilicas of St. Demetrius and St. Sophia. We transfer to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

# Day 8 – Wednesday, September 10: Thessaloniki, Philippi, Kavala, Thessaloniki

In the morning, we depart for Philippi, visiting the Baptistery of Lydia near the river where Paul baptized her (Acts 16:11-15). Lydia was Paul's first European convert, followed by the jailer. We also explore the ruins of the Forum of Philippi, the Christian Basilicas, the "Prison of Paul," and the Theater. We continue to Kavala (Neapolis), Paul's first stop in Europe, where we see the Byzantine Castle and the Roman Aqueduct. Following the Via Egnatia, we visit the area of Amphipolis, where we see the famous funerary Lion of Amphipolis, just as Paul and his companions did. We return to Thessaloniki. Dinner and overnight.

# Day 9 — Thursday, September 11: Thessaloniki, Berea, Athens

We depart from Thessaloniki to Athens. On our way we will stop in we depart for the capital of Imathia, which name is Veria. It is built at the foot of Mount Vermio. We will have free time to visit the Step of Apostle Paul and the Synagogue. It is located next to the Barbouta area, which over time came to be known as the Jewish District. The stone-built Synagogue is the most ancient synagogue in the Northern Greece. Arrival in Athens. Dinner will be provided at the hotel in Athens.

# Day 10 – Friday, September 12: Athens, Athens Airport Departure

In the morning, we transfer to Athens Airport for our return flight to the U.S.A.



'hile we do our best to ensure that all items listed in your itinerary are included, nere are times when conditions beyond our control may affect your program or inerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political limate, time constraints, or changes made by your tour leader and tour guide.



### imagine Tours and Travel

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We recommend trip insurance through Travel Guard.

or visit our website, ittworld.com, and click on "Travel Insurance" on the homepage.

### THE FINE PRINT ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT OF YOUR DEPOSIT FOR THE TOUR, CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONDITIONS AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY.

### **INCLUDED IN PRICE:**

**Round-Trip Airfare** per brochure

**Breakfast & Dinner Daily** per brochure

**Select Excursions** Ephesus, Patmos, & Crete Gratuities of \$130

guides, drivers, cruise staff, etc.

Port fees of \$149

**Lunches Onboard Cruise** & drinks in dining room(s)

**Entrance Fees** to sites visited

First-Class Hotels & & XA/Cabin on Celestyal Cruise **Deluxe Motor Coaches** 

**Guided Sightseeing** 

Taxes and fuel charges totaling \$578 USD comprised of \$247.60 for fuel charges ((subject to airline increase up to 30-days before departure) and \$330.40 for taxes (including U.S. federal inspection fees, airport taxes international air transportation tax, agricultural tax, other government-imposed fees such as the September 11th Security fee up to \$10 per person, passenger facility charges up to \$18 per person, federal domestic flight segment fees up to \$3.50 per segment and U.S. and International arrival and departure, and other government imposed fees up to \$300 per person).

### NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

Passports, visas, vaccinations (if required), laundry, lunches not on the tour menu (food outside of the contracted menu will be billed prior to leaving the hotel or restaurant), excursions not listed, telephone/international data, mini-bar, alcohol, other beverages, airport transfers on non-qualifying flights, portage at airports, excess baggage fees, additional airline fees after registration, travel insurance, and all other items not explicitly mentioned.

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is due upon registration, with a second deposit of \$500 per person required within 21 days thereafter.

Credit cards are only accepted for the initial \$500 deposit; subsequent payments must be in check, ACH transfer, bill payment, or wire transfer;

payments must be in check, ACH transfer, bill payment, or wire transfer; all payments are required in US Funds.

Final payment is due no later than 120 days prior to departure.

Registrations after 120 days require full payment and may incur a \$300 late fee if received 119-90 days before departure. Failure to make final payment

by 90 days prior to departure results in automatic cancellation, forfeiture of the \$500 deposit, and potential additional fees.

imagine Tours and Travel, LLC (hereafter referred to as imagine) reserves the right to impose a surcharge if the dollar declines by more than 2% against the destination currency based on booking date (11/18/24).

### **GROUP SIZE & SUPPLEMENTS:**

Tour pricing assumes a minimum group size of 20 passengers. Smaller groups may incur supplements:
• \$150 per person (19-16 travelers)
• \$195 per person (15-12 travelers)

Tours with fewer than 12 travelers may be canceled due to insufficient participation.

Price is based on double occupancy (two people sharing a room). Single rooms may be smaller than double rooms and, when available, incur an additional supplemental charge of \$1,495 for the basic itinerary. Roommates are assigned if available; otherwise, single-room occupancy may apply. Roommates may be assigned as late as 120 days prior to departure when applicable.

### **ITINERARY & CHANGES:**

imagine reserves the right to adjust itineraries due to airline schedule changes. Changes requiring extra nights incur \$195 per person per night (\$295 for single rooms). You will be notified in writing of said changes when possible. Meals for additional overnights are not included. Changes and/or deviations from the program and/or departure city listed by the passenger must be provided in writing no later than 120 days prior to departure.

All deviations are subject to a \$250 administrative fee plus applicable airline fees. All tours are made final at 90 days prior to departure No changes (including additions) may be made after this time.

Land Only price is \$4,892 per person, excluding international flights. Land Only passengers may be responsible for transfers and/or additional overnights incurred by booking their own flights. Passengers changing from the regular tour (with group airfare) to Land Only after 120 days prior to departure will be charged a fee of \$195 per person.

### AIRLINE TICKETS & SEATING:

Flight routing is at the sole discretion of the airline, not imagine. imagine does not guarantee passengers will be on the most direct flight or flying together to the final destination (especially prior to 120 days of departure). Flights are economy class on IATA/ARC carriers with non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more. Due to group rates, *imagine* does not

participate or allow passengers to use points, miles, or other airline-related offerings on group contracted airfare. Seating requests are at the discretion of the applicable airline and cannot be guaranteed. All requests, including seating, dietary restrictions, and/or all other accommodations must be made in writing prior to 120 days of departure. Airline changes, if allowable, made by the passenger after 120 days prior to departure will incur additional fees. Individual ticketing fees/deposits may apply in certain situations. These fees can be up to \$2,000 per person and will be applied to your final balance.

### **FLIGHT TIMES:**

All flight times are subject to change without notice. imagine is not liable for expenses resulting from flight delays or changes. If making your own flight arrangements to a departure city or any other portion of your trip, we recommend obtaining a ticket which can be changed without large penalties. All passengers are responsible for reconfirming their flights with the airline 24 hours prior to departure.

### PASSPORTS & VISAS:

Passengers must ensure their passports are valid for at least six months beyond the return date of their trip and submit a valid passport copy to our office no later than 120 days prior to departure. Visa requirements vary by country, and it is each passenger's responsibility to obtain necessary visas prior to travel. imagine is not liable for obtaining any required travel visas.

### TRIP RESCHEDULING:

imagine and/or the group leader/organization reserves the right to reschedule the trip to future dates and/or a different destination to governmental action, pandemics, wars, or other circumstances beyond their control. Travelers unable to travel on the new dates or to the updated destination may transfer to another tour within one year of the original travel dates, subject to fees of up to \$300 per person, plus any applicable fees imposed by ground operators, airlines, or other vendors.

### CANCELLATION FEES:

Passengers cancelling from the day of registration up to 121 days prior to departure will be charged a \$500 administrative fee plus any airline penalties, if applicable. If passenger cancellation forces a roommate into a single room, the canceled passenger may be charged their single room fee. (see Accommodations)

The following charges also apply: (plus airline fees, when applicable)

• \$1,500 (120 – 91 days)

• \$2,750 (90 – 75 days)

• 85% of total tour cost (74 – 60 days)

100% of total tour cost (59 days to day of departure)

All cancellations must be submitted in writing. No refunds will be provided for unused services on or after the day of departure. We advise purchasing travel insurance. In the event imagine cancels the tour due to insufficient participation, a \$200 administrative fee per passenger will be deducted from any applicable refund, plus any airline penalties.

Changes to the tour cannot be made within 90 days of departure, as the tour is considered closed at that time.

### STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY:

imagine and its associated companies agree to provide the itinerary as described in this brochure. This agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the passenger, their travel agent, the tour host, and the tour operator. All prices, itineraries, and schedules are subject to government regulations, international agreements, and airline tariff adjustments. imagine reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who, in the sole judgment of *imagine*, is unable to participate in group travel. Except for willful negligence by its direct employees, the tour operator assumes no liability for injuries, inconveniences, illness, irregularities, or incidental damages caused by circumstances beyond its control, including but not limited to strikes, revolts, wars, natural disasters, pandemics, force majeure, airport or hotel closures, carrier defaults, negligence of third-party service providers, travel agents, or tour leaders/organizations. These conditions become a binding contract upon receipt and acceptance of your enrollment and payment to *imagine*. Any disputes regarding this brochure or your tour will be governed by Florida law.

### RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

By participating in this tour, you affirm your fitness to travel and acknowledge all associated risks to your safety and health. Travel inherently involves risks, especially in certain countries like Israel, where risks include terrorism, criminal acts, and health hazards. You voluntarily assume these risks and release imagine, its officers, agents, and employees from all liability for:

• Any physical, mental, emotional, or other injuries sustained during the tour;

- Loss of or damage to property, illness, injury, delay, or death, regardless of cause,
- Claims arising from strikes, armed conflicts, terrorism, acts of God, mechanical failures, diseases, local laws, governmental actions, criminal acts, weather conditions, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, visa refusals, or other events beyond

imagine Tours & Travel, LLC., is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST36635. Valid as of 11/18/24 AA/KM



# Preschool Newsletter

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



December 16—20, 2024

Director/Teacher: Kaja Mueller M-F Assistants: Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH Fax: 319-338--9171 school Phone: 319-338-3949

www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org

# This Week

Daily Christmas question

Math equation

Color song—line leader choice

Bible: The angels announce to the shep-

herds.

Five little Christmas trees chant

Our Christmas songs

Nativity books

Stained glass nativity craft

Mrs. Casey's Christmas sing-a-long

Christmas party with games, songs, and cookie decoratina

# Future Dates

Dec. 23-Jan. 3—No preschool Jan. 6/7—Preschool begins Jan. 20—No preschool January 29—No preschool

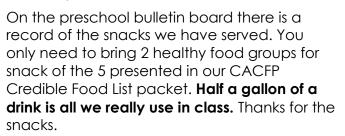
# Home Question

Tell someone why we celebrate Christmas

# Next Week's Snacks

You get to bring snacks and be our line leader. M/W/F = 14 students: T/TH = 14students

Monday: Mason Tuesday: Gwen Wednesday: Zion Thursday: Arielli Friday: Emma



All those **staying for lunch** remember to pack all 5 food groups. If a preschooler would like to join us for lunch, please let Mrs. Kaja know. All you need is \$5 and your lunch!



# Preschool Singing Christmas Songs

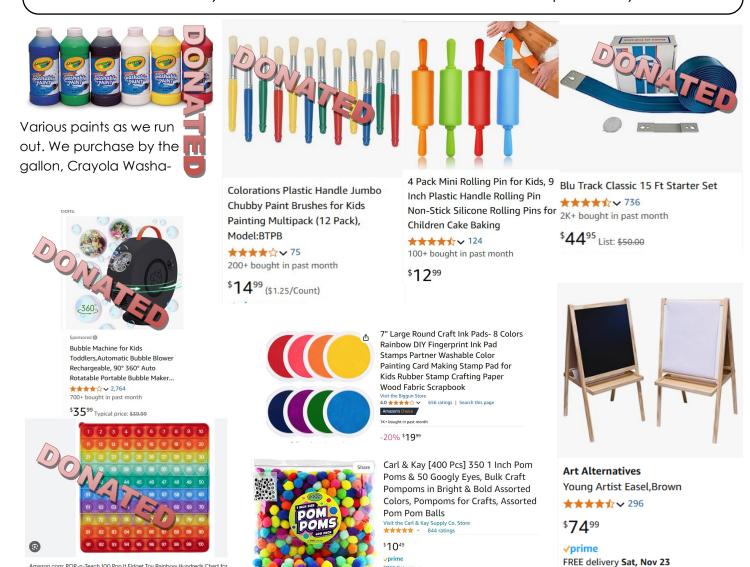
It was so wonderful to have the preschoolers sing for the church congregation last week! The preschoolers worked on singing and memorizing their songs and chants. Thank you parents for helping them!



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: lowa City #43522 Coralville #38168

# **Preschool Christmas Wish List**

Can you help us with a few items for the preschool? You can purchase them or donate money towards them. All contributions will help. Thank you!



# Scholastic Book Order

FREE Returns

Brand

Carl & Kay Supply Co.

Reading and sharing a good story is always fun. Each month there will be an opportunity to purchase books through Scholastic Book Clubs. You can shop and submit your order online. Every purchase you make earns FREE books and educational supplies for our classroom. The arrival of the book box is always a highlight. Thanks for making it happen! Happy reading!

### Ordering online is fast and easy:

### scholastic.com/readingclub

Amazon.com: POP-n-Teach 100 Pop It Fidget Toy Rainbow Hundreds Chart for

Kids - Counting Toys - Popits for Kids - Count to 100 Numbers - 1st Grade

- **ENTER** Class Activation Code MQWNQ.
- **SHOP** and add to your cart.
- **SUBMIT** your order online and earn FREE Books for our classroom.
- All book orders will be shipped to our classroom unless you designate them to be shipped to your house.



Only 9 left in stock - order soon.



# Children's Ministry

Birth—5<sup>th</sup> Grade

NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL CLASSES
ON THESE
WEEKENDS
December 22 & 29



## **NOT MEETING DECEMBER 22 & 29**



# 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.



# Kids Club

4 years old—5<sup>th</sup> Grade **Wednesdays 6:45pm** 



Activities will resume on January 8, 2025 Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



6<sup>th</sup> —12<sup>th</sup> Grade

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



# **No Confirmation Classes**

Wednesday, December 25th & January 1st

Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Classes will resume January 8, 2025

Sunday School, December 22 & 29





# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



Wednesday, January 1st OFFICE CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR'S

Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>
6:45pm Fellowship Hall
HIGH SCHOOL EPIPHANY PARTY



Monday,
January 20<sup>th</sup>
OFFICE CLOSED
MARTIN LUTHER
KING Jr. DAY

Friday/Saturday,
January 31st

82 February 1st
CONFIRMATION
RETREAT
Ask Kara for
details



### **OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY**

Office: 338-5626 Fax: 338-9171 Website: <a href="http://www.ourredeemer.org">http://www.ourredeemer.org</a> 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)
Tyler Simmons, 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 Directo	ors
Bill Benson (chair)	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	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 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.

## 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.