



# The Parish Beacon

Volume 46—No. 4

April 2025

Dear Christian Friends:

Christ Is Risen! Are you excited to start hearing that? Me too! How exciting it is as we move into the month where we will celebrate Christ's victory over death and His resurrection, where He showed without a doubt that He truly is the Son of God. Still, there are a lot of different rumors floating around about how this holiday got its origin, and whether or not a "good Christian" can celebrate a holiday named after an "Anglo-Saxon goddess". If you have never heard of these rumors, consider yourselves lucky. Maybe you have and they have left you thinking "why does the church celebrate Easter? Did we re-appropriate an ancient pagan tradition for our own purposes?" I hope to help you navigate these questions in this article.

I would like to start by dispelling a rumor that Easter is just the Roman Catholic church's way of taking a pagan holiday named after the celebration of the Goddess of Spring named Ishtar and reforming it into a church celebration. You must understand that those who make this claim do so based on an assumption that does not have definitive evidence. People can be bold in making any statement they want when they are talking about "what if's" that cannot be proven false. What I mean by this is: they cannot prove this theory any more than you can disprove it. However, **even if** the modern name of the holiday comes from a pagan tradition and **even if** secular traditions surrounding the holiday also come from that, Resurrection Day was celebrated long before it was assigned the name "Easter" and egg hunts were started. The celebration of Christ's Resurrection is, in fact, the oldest known church tradition, far exceeding the establishment of the papacy or even Emperor Constantine's legalization of Christianity. We have records from the Second Century... 100's A.D. showing definitively that churches had already set aside one day out of the year to celebrate the Resurrection, long before "Easter" was designated to be the name of the celebration.

Another awesome thing to know about the celebration of Christ's Resurrection is that it is likely the reason we now worship on a Sunday rather than a Saturday (the traditional Jewish Sabbath). This celebration was done on the "eight day" according to second century documents, and was considered to be the "Lord's Day" as it was the day we celebrate His resurrection. Contrast this to the Christmas celebration, which there is no documented evidence for prior to the 4th century A.D. What does this mean for us? When we celebrate Easter we join with Christians from the earliest churches in acknowledging the Resurrection of Christ to be the greatest event in all of human history!

If you are tired of the commercialization of Easter and seeing all the bunnies and eggs around, that is perfectly understandable. I also understand if you prefer to refer to it as "Resurrection Day" rather than "Easter." We certainly like to strip holidays of Christ in our modern culture, and that can be frustrating for those of us who know what the holiday is really about. Still, be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater. Rather than allowing Easter to be a time when you find yourself upset, perhaps you can use the cultural traditions around easter as a means of sharing the Gospel of Christ with those you wouldn't otherwise be able to reach!

Regardless of what you choose to call it, or what traditions you choose to embrace during this season, my prayer is that you do not allow exterior factors to steal your joy at the celebration of what Christ has done for us. This is an excellent time where our voices join with all Christians who compose the Body of Christ past, present, and future, in triumphantly proclaiming He Is Risen Indeed, Hallelujah!

In the love of Christ, Vicar Simmons



**OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL**

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: [redeemer@ourredeemer.org](mailto:redeemer@ourredeemer.org)

[www.ourredeemer.org](http://www.ourredeemer.org)

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

Almighty God, You delight in truth in the inward being and teach us wisdom in the secret heart. Give to our pastors every good gift as Your ambassadors, that we may grow in faith and hope.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, remember Your baptized children who have left Your household and departed from the faith. Call them to repentance according to Your gracious will. Remember parents, grandparents, and all who mourn their departure. Sustain them in faithful patience, waiting and praying.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, in Christ You reconciled the world to Yourself. Watch over our nation and all whom You have placed in authority. Give them wisdom and prudence, that Your people might live in peace and freely make known the message of reconciliation.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, although this world is passing away due to sin, we pray that You would preserve Your creation for our provision until You usher in Your new creation.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, continue to draw us unto your word. Be with the confirmands as they travel to and from St. Louis, learning about God the Father on the *Spring Confirmation Trip*. Keep them safe, create lasting memories, and nurture their faith.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, hear our prayers for all who cry out to You for mercy, healing and help [*We especially remember **Becky Behrens, Arlene Boots, Dorothy Blume** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **Loren Deetz, Kathy Eick, Chuck Enokian, John Enokian** (brother of Chuck Enokian), **Mary Helen Gibson** (sister of Gwen McNatt Enokian), **Dennis Huedepohl** (friend of Bruce & Grace Maurer), **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), **Peter Klopp** (father of Louise Klopp), **Ruth Langehough, Ben Malcom** (father of Tiffany Roiseland), **Norma Miller** (Twyla Freeman's aunt), **Marvin Muhlenbruck, Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp** (Cousin of Ruth Varney), **Delores Nace** (sister of Doris Siemer), **Erin Nielsen** (cousin of Crissy Pence), **Lucas Schildknecht** (friend of the Hartwigs), **Lee Schwarting** (Art Schwarting's mother), **David Soldner** (friend of Carol Holman), **Carol Schuldt, Stanley Seese** (friend of Harold Warner), **Marlene Thompson, Connie Ullrich** (Jeff Kucera's aunt), **Natalie Ullrich** (Jeff Kucera's cousin), **Reece Ullerich, Elizabeth Warner** (Harold Warner's mother), **Karen Warner, Mark Wilson, Rod Wittich, Beth Wu, and Velma Zebuhr** (Bruce Maurer's aunt)]. Deliver them according to Your will and, as You have made them a new creation in Christ, keep them mindful of the day when sorrow and sickness will be no more.*

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, remember Your people who cry to You for mercy in a world where towers fall and sinners work evil. Deliver those in need of healing and comfort, and strengthen them to look to You for help in their time of affliction.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, be not far from us and 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, Amen!**

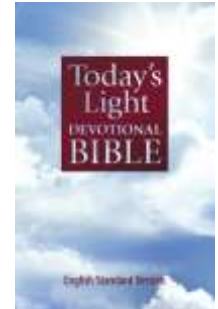
# THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun 03//30	Worship Service 8:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am Worship Service 10:30 The Chosen 6:00pm
Mon 03/31	Chamber Singers 6:00pm Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm
Tues 04/01	Solon Nursing Home 9:30am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Human Care Committee 6:30pm SM-Training 6:45pm Al-Anon 7:00pm
Wed 04/02	TOPS 8:00am Bible Study 11:00am Lunch Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Service 1:00pm Lenten Meal 5:10pm Lenten Service 6:10pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Midweek Classes 6:45pm Adult Midweek 7:00pm
Thurs 04/03	Comfort Tiers 9:00am Visitation 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Al-Anon 7:30pm
Fri 04/04	***
Sat 04/05	Worship Service 5:30pm
Sun 04/06	Worship Service 8:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am Worship Service 10:30 World Vision Participants Lunch 12:00pm The Chosen 6:00pm

## THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

### Week 66

3/31/25	Ezekiel 47:-48:35
4/1/25	Daniel 1:1-21
4/2/25	Daniel 2:1-49
4/3/25	Daniel 3:1-4:37
4/4/25	Daniel 5:1-31
4/5/25	Daniel 6:1-28



### Sunday Coffee & Treats



This Sunday's coffee and pastries are being provided by Connections Committee. Free will offering will go towards current and future missions projects. Come join us for pastries & fellowship before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class.



### FLOWERS TODAY

Today's flowers (March 30) for the altar are provided by Marilyn Albright in memory of loved ones.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**\*\*WATCH YOUR FRIDAY EMAIL FOR LIVE STREAM LINKS FOR WORSHIP\*\***

**Saturday 5:30pm In Person/LIVE STREAM  
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am In Person/LIVE STREAM  
April 5, 6, 17(Maundy Thursday), 19, 20**

**Sunday School 9:20am—In Person  
Adult Bible Study 9:20am—Fellowship Hall/ZOOM**

**Bible Study/Lunch Bunch meets on the 1st & 3rd  
Wednesday of each month at 11:00am with lunch  
following.**

**Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am**

**Choir practice Wednesdays at 6:45pm**

**Praise Team Practice schedule varies—  
Contact Myrl Holida: [myrl-holida@uiowa.edu](mailto:myrl-holida@uiowa.edu) or  
Louise Klopp: [choirdirector@ourredeemer.org](mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



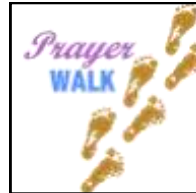
**SPRING  
CONFIRMATION  
RETREAT**  
March 29—31

**NO SCHOOL  
ICCSA  
March 31**



**April 2**  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall

**LUNCH FOR WORLD  
VISION PARTICIPANTS**  
April 6, 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall



Set up for Prayer Walk  
April 13—15

Prayer Walk  
Wednesday, April 16  
11:00am—7:00pm

**PALM SUNDAY**  
Sunday, April 13

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
April 17  
Services 1:00pm & 7:00pm

**GOOD FRIDAY—Office Closed**  
April 18  
Kiwaniis Prayer Breakfast  
6:00am Fellowship Hall  
  
Services 1:00pm & 7:00pm

**NO SCHOOL ICCSD**  
April 18

**LWR Spring pickup**  
April 19

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
April 20

**EASTER MONDAY**  
April 21  
OFFICE CLOSED



Saturday, April 26, 2025

Spiritual Growth Event  
7:00pm, Sanctuary  
Reception & Fellowship  
8:00pm, Fellowship Hall

**CONFIRMATION**  
Sunday, April 27  
10:30 service

**CALL DAY - FORT WAYNE**  
(Josiah Coblentz)  
Monday, April 28, 7:00pm

**CALL DAY - ST. LOUIS**  
Vicar for 2025/2026  
Wednesday, April 30, 3:00pm  
&  
Former vicar Ethan Boester  
Call as pastor is at 7:00pm



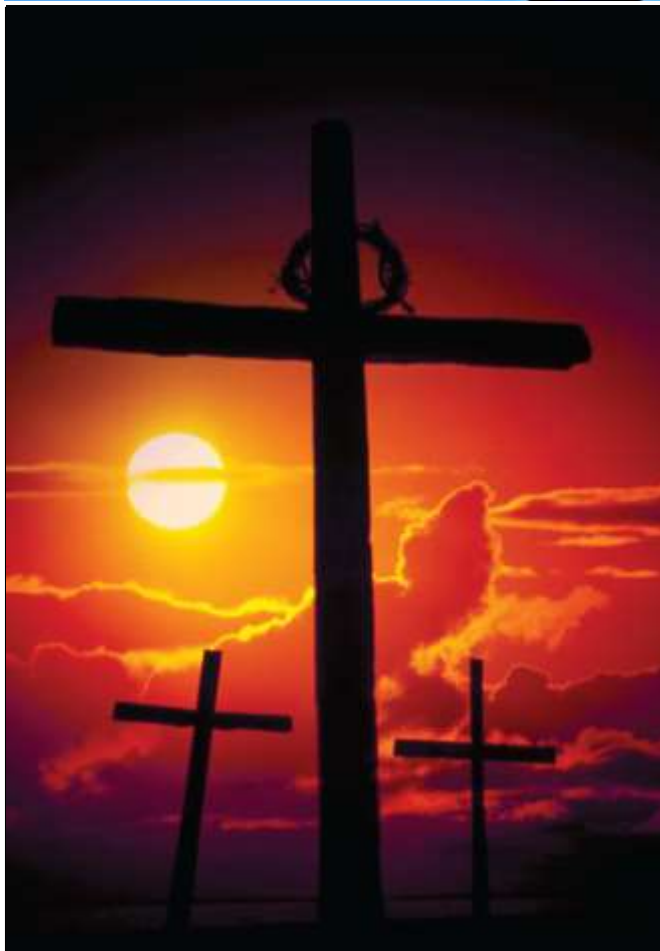
**SATURDAY  
APRIL 12**

Everyone is invited to attend the LWML Cedar Rapids Zone Spring Event at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1363 1st Ave SW. Richard Hoelz's discussion "Lutheran Hour Ministries – Something for Everyone" will share the resources they have available with us. Our theme comes from Psalm 22:30-32: *Future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!* Ingathering gifts will go to Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. The Camp needs paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, kleenex, stamps, and cleaning supplies. Cash donations are also helpful. Registration begins at 8:30 AM with the event beginning at 9:00 AM. Looking forward to seeing you on April 12. Please sign up by Monday, April 7. Sign up sheet is located on the LWML table, down in the lower level, near the door going into the Fellowship Hall.

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
2301 East Court Street  
Iowa City, IA 52245 319-338-5626

**HOLY WEEK 2025**

**Palm Sunday—April 12/13**  
Saturday Service 5:30pm  
Sunday Services 8:00am & 10:30am  
Sunday School &  
Adult Bible Class 9:20am  
**Prayer Walk—April 16**  
11:00am-7:00pm  
**Maundy Thursday—April 17**  
Services 1:00pm & 7:00pm  
**Good Friday—April 18**  
Kiwanis Prayer Breakfast 6:00am  
Services 1:00pm & 7:00pm  
**Saturday Worship—April 19**  
Service 5:30pm  
**Easter Sunday—April 20**  
Service 7:30am, 9:00am & 10:30am  
Easter Breakfast 8:30am  
Easter Egg Hunt 10:05am



**March 5—**  
**Ash Wednesday Services**  
**1:00pm & 7:00pm**

**March 12—April 9**  
**Wednesday Lenten Services**  
**1:00pm & 6:10pm**  
**Lenten Meal 5:10pm**

**Midweek Classes 6:45pm**  
**Adult Midweek 7:00pm**  
**(No Midweek Classes**  
**March 5 & 19)**

## Birthdays

March 30	Grant Anderson, Chris Norenberg, Melissa Wade, Lyle Wagner, Silas Weis
March 31	Brian Buelow, Robert Hammond, Brent Nelson, Lucy Robinson, Shannon Siems, Marty Wenck
April 1	Benjamin Kapple, Timothy Simmons
April 2	David Bohnsack, Rochelle Mullet, Nathaniel Stoll
April 3	Christopher Sexton, Olivia Warner
April 4	Barb Farnsworth, Angel Josten, Shane Rasmussen, Pam Wilson
April 5	Barbara Jones

## Stewardship—March 22/23, 2025

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Sat. 3/22 In Person 5:30pm	51	Contributions	\$5,516.15
Sun. 3/23 In Person 8:00am	70	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Sun. 3/23 In Person 10:30am	170	Lenten Services (March 19)	21/64
<b>TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>291</b>	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	<b>58/45</b>

Thank you for your support.



MISSION	March
Iowa District East	\$3,333.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,333.33</b>
Common Fund (CommUnity)	\$125.00
Lutheran Hour	\$125.00
St. Paul's Chapel	\$375.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,958.33</b>
Crisis Center	***
Lutherans for Life	***
Concordia Seminary Food Bank	\$150.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$1,000.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$1,107.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,215.33</b>



### Fellow Our Redeemer Members Need Rides

Two of our members are no longer able to drive, but are quite mobile and would very much like to attend worship and Bible study. If anyone could give one or both of them rides either consistently or occasionally, it would be very much appreciated. This is an opportunity to put Christian service and caring into action.

If this is a way you would be willing to assist your fellow members, please give Lorrie a call at: 319-338-5626 to let her know.

## Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Adult Confirmation</u>	
Jacob Dean Archer	03-23-2025
Julie Rose Chown	03-23-2025
Dana Lynn Chown	03-23-2025
<u>Baptisms</u>	
Jacob Dean Archer	03-23-2025



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

# Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

Spring may have arrived, but life can still seem cold and dreary for those who have had a recent loss through death, divorce, or relocation may leave them feeling lonely. A hospitalization, a cancer diagnosis, or ongoing medical problems may leave them feeling isolated. The loss of a job, the fear of layoffs, or a financial setback can devastate one's self-esteem. Family and personal struggles may leave them with nowhere to turn for support.

Our Stephen Ministers are trained to help people through the winters of life, providing emotional and spiritual support during tough times. If you or someone you know could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one Christian care of a Stephen Minister, contact one of our Stephen Leaders or Pastor Hartwig. **Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

Pastor Hartwig 319-338-5626

Bill Benson 517-881-9848

Marcia Hulse 319-541-4026

Kevin Sellers 319-631-8924

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR EASTER BREAKFAST

The youth will be hosting their annual Easter Breakfast on Easter morning, April 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:30 am.

This meal is offered as a freewill donation, and we would greatly appreciate your help in providing some of the necessary ingredients.

*Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.*

Thank you for your support!





## In the Spotlight



Our Redeemer would like to welcome the Holland Family—Dan, Anna and Charlie (2 years old) - with Baby Boy Holland due in July. Dan is a software engineer for BAE in Cedar Rapids and Anna is an archivist at University of Iowa specializing in women's history. They have been attending here since Christmas and enjoy taking Charlie to Toddlin' on Sunday mornings and are wanting to become more involved in activities with the church.

Hobby-wise Anna likes to cook and read. Dan likes to play boardgames and RPG's (role-playing games).



## In the Spotlight



Our Redeemer would like to welcome new member Jake Archer. Jake is from Des Moines, IA and move to Iowa City about a year ago. He is co-owner of J & K Midwest Property Development. The other owner is his aunt Karen Alderman (member of Our Redeemer). Before the company he was a realtor, home builder and flipped houses.

His hobbies are classic cars and motorcycle. His dad was a mechanic and he learned a lot from him. He likes to take road trips and loves dogs. He once traveled Chicago to Santa Monica on Route 66.

He was baptized and confirmed by Pastor Hartwig on March 23.



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
March 13, 2025—7:00pm

Present: Ben Weis, Kennedy Donovan, Mary Robinson, Barb Pronk, Dave Yansky, Steve Scott  
Absent: Jeff Kucera, Pastor Hartwig, Vicar Simmons

1. Call to Order, Welcome
2. Open Devotion – Ben Weis
3. Constitution Review
  - Article XI: Auxiliary Service Organizations
  - Article XII: Endowment and Memorial Fund
4. Reviewed minutes from last meeting-approved
5. Treasurer’s Report-Kennedy Donovan  
Income down 4%
6. Elder’s Report-Bill Benson
  - Discussed the Elders meeting with new members of our church
  - Connections Committee assigning new member to an Elder
7. At Large Reports:
  - A. Mary Robinson
    - Continued support for Our Redeemer Church in Panama
    - Discussed 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
  - B. Marilyn Albright
    - Human Care Committee-successful Peanut Butter and Jelly Project for Community Center
    - Connections Committee-assigning new members to an Elder
  - C. Steve Scott
    - Upcoming Vacation Bible School
    - Discussed cancellations of Preschool and church activities because of cold weather
    - Motion passed to have staff review the cancellations of all church activities when Iowa City Schools cancel because of cold weather
8. Church Properties-Dave Yansky
  - In talks with roofing contractors
  - Hot water heater was installed in the kitchen sink
  - Installed power converter for the church
  - Shay Electric will give us bids for fans in the Gathering Place
  - Approved \$3,800 to repair and improve the blocks around the church
  - New water heater will be installed
9. Staff Reports
  - A. Pastor—N/A
  - B. Vicar—N/A
  - C. Kaja—Preschool
    - Enrollment open for Preschool
  - D. Denise—Adult
    - “Trivia Challenge” and “Not So Newly Wed” went well
  - E. Kara—Youth
    - Discussed Care Packages and planning for the Easter Breakfast
10. Kudos:  
The Board of Directors thanks all the many volunteers who helped with the successful and delicious Pancake Day!
11. Prayer and Adjourn: Next meeting April 10, at 7:00pm



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Mission Committee

Highlighting the Christian/humanitarian work of our  
congregation as a whole and as individuals.  
Here and around the world.

# **UKANDU - CHICAGO**

**June 21, 2025 – June 28, 2025**



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church was well represented in Chicago for 2023 UKANDU.

A Short-Term Mission Trip opportunity to bring  
hope, encouragement, and the love of Jesus  
Christ to those in Chicago.

Watch future Beacon editions for Mission updates.

## **Mission Committee Members**

Denise Holidia, Anita Nicholson, Val Penney, Bob Powers, Lynn Smith (Chair)

# PANCAKE DAY



March 1



There were sausages and their grillers

Primary pancake grill



Beverage team



Seconds grill



Batter Mixing



Ticket takers



Time to socialize



Serving line

- 303 served
- \$4,053 raised in ticket sales and donations for Missions Local and Abroad
- Bake sale raised \$1,112 for Orphan Grain Train



Pastor Mons brings helpers from St. Paul Chapel

# Preschool Beacon

Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller    Assistants,    Christie Cherian M/W/F, Sara Cross T/TH  
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949    [www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org](http://www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org)    [preschool@ourredeemer.org](mailto:preschool@ourredeemer.org)  
*Our Redeemer Preschool where children play, learn, and grow in Jesus!*



# Children's Ministry

Birth—5<sup>th</sup> Grade



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

**"God Redeems His People"**

**Toddlin' age—12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

9:20 a.m. — 10:15 a.m.

*Invite your friends and come learn about Jesus!*

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
March 30	Matthew 16:13-23	A Confident Confession—Peter Confesses Christ
April 6	Luke 9:28-36	A Mountain Wonder—Jesus' Transfiguration
April 13	Luke 10:1-12, 17-20	Mission Wonder—Jesus Sends the Seventy-Two
April 20	<b>EASTER SUNDAY—NO CLASSES</b>	
April 27	Luke 10:38-42	A Welcome Truth—Mary and Martha

## EASTER EGG HUNT

**Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>  
10:05 am**

We will be holding the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday.

ALL children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger are invited to join us for the Easter Egg hunt.

Please meet outside on the grassy hill by the West door.

In case of rain, we will meet inside.



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church VBS**  
**Sunday, August 3, 2025 to**  
**Thursday, August 7, 2025**  
**5:00 PM—8:15 PM**

**2301 East Court Street, Iowa City, IA**

Sign up today for **Epic Australian Adventure VBS** this summer! Throughout this program, we will go on an epic adventure through Australia and along the way be guided by our Savior, Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life! Let's go on an unforgettable journey!

### NIGHTLY SCHEDULE

5:00 pm meal  
5:30-5:45 pm opening  
5:30-8:00 pm activities  
8:00-8:15 pm closing

### STUDENT AGES:

4 years old (who are potty-trained) through 8th grade students (for 2025-26)

**Sign up to attend or volunteer:**

<https://vbsmate.com/OurRedeemerVBS2025>

# Youth

6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Graders

## April

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DATE	EVENT	TIME
4/2	Lenten Meal (High School Youth) Lenten Service Midweek Classes	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
4/9	Lenten Meal Lenten Service Midweek Classes	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
4/16	Prayer Walk Midweek Classes	11:00am 6:45pm
4/17	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00pm
4/18	Good Friday Service	7:00pm
4/19	Easter Sunday Breakfast Set-up <i>Confirmation &amp; High School Youth</i>	8:00am
4/20	Easter Sunday Service	7:30am
	Easter Breakfast <i>(Hosted by Confirmation &amp; High School Youth)</i>	8:30am
	Easter Sunday Service	9:00am
	Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday Service	10:05am 10:30am
4/23	Pizza Dinner Last night of Midweek	6:00pm 6:45pm
4/26	Spiritual Growth Event Confirmation Reception <i>(Hosted by High School Youth)</i>	7:00pm 8:00pm
4/27	CONFIRMATION SUNDAY	10:30am

Save these dates...

Prayer Walk\*

**Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

**6:45 pm—9:00 pm**

*Meet in the Youth Room.*

*Please plan to stay afterward to help pack away the stations. \* Earn Silver Cord hours*



Set up for Easter Breakfast\*

**Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 am—11:00 am**

*All Confirmation & High School Youth plus their friends and family are needed to help prepare the food, set up the tables & decorate the Fellowship Hall for the next day. \* Earn Silver Cord hours*



Help with Easter Breakfast\*

**Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 am—11:00 am**

*All Confirmation & High School Youth and their families get to help with the Easter Breakfast. They cook, serve the food, bus tables, run the dishwasher, etc. \* Earn Silver Cord hours*



Last Night of Midweek

**Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**6:00 pm Pizza Dinner**

**6:45 pm Midweek Classes**

Spiritual Growth Night

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00pm Spiritual Growth**

**8:00 pm Reception (hosted by high school youth)**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands share what they have learned about the basics of the faith and reception to follow.*

Confirmation Sunday

**Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**10:30 am**

*We rejoice as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands will confirm their faith in our triune God during the 10:30 worship service.*

## 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 <a href="mailto:bhartwig@ourredeemer.org">bhartwig@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director <a href="mailto:preschool@ourredeemer.org">preschool@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Tyler Simmons, Vicar <a href="mailto:vicar@ourredeemer.org">vicar@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)	Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator <a href="mailto:reddeemer@ourredeemer.org">reddeemer@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)
Sara Cross, Preschool Assistant <a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool)	Sarah Gabel, Bookkeeper <a href="mailto:bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org">bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)
Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator <a href="mailto:youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org">youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)	Denise Holida, Adult Coordinator <a href="mailto:smallgroups@ourredeemer.org">smallgroups@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)
Louise Klopp, Director Choirs/Properties <a href="mailto:choirdirector@ourredeemer.org">choirdirector@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church)	Marilyn Paetz, Organist <a href="mailto:organist@ourredeemer.org">organist@ourredeemer.org</a>	351-4262 (home)
Laurel Sellers, Consultant <a href="mailto:consultant@ourredeemer.org">consultant@ourredeemer.org</a>	319-331-3242 (cell)	Kevin Sellers Director of Technology <a href="mailto:technology@ourredeemer.org">technology@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-5626 (church) 631-8924 (cell)
		Christie Cherian, Preschool Assistant <a href="mailto:preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org">preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org</a>	338-3949 (preschool)

### 2025 Board of Elders

Bill Benson (chair)	517-881-9848
Kevin Roiseland	319-230-5247
Tim Eick	248-514-2881
Rick Gienapp	319-331-7425
Chad Waring	319-331-8303
Skip Kempnich	319-351-5297
Brad Mullane	319-936-5826
Chad Pence	319-321-5686
Art Schwarting	319-325-6152

### 2025 Board of Directors

President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850
Vice President	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
Secretary	Barb Pronk	641-425-4880
Treasurer	Kennedy Donovan	515-230-2057
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.

# History Lessons

*Jeremiah 35:13b*

*Long ago God parted the waters  
and lived often in fire and cloud.  
People shook at the sound of His name,  
fearing to say His Name out loud.*

*He sent numerous plagues and famines;  
also rained down manna and quail.  
People complained it was not enough—  
against Him continued to rail.*

*Christ healed many sick, many ailments  
and the rulers feared to lose face.  
They were swayed by the mighty denarii  
while they loved their position, their 'place'.*

*They would not see He came to save them,  
not listening and closing their mind.  
They killed Him, leaving His disciples  
to spread His Word to all mankind.*

*And what now is it that we should do  
to continue His work on earth?  
Love, speak His Word, care for all we meet;  
and our faith—His Truth always assert.*

*Carol Schuldt*