

Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—April 20, 2025

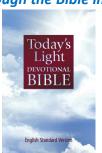
Irst Avenue and Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245 Phone: 319-338-5626 Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

~Easter Sunday~

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Read through the Bible in two years



Week 69 Date	Scripture
04/21/2025	Joel 2:1-32
04/22/2025	Joel 3:1-21
04/23/2025	Amos 1:1-2:16
04/24/2025	Amos 3:1-15
04/25/2025	Amos 4:1-5:27
04/26/2025	Amos 6:1-14

Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson		
April 20	Easter—No Classes/Easter Breakfast 8:30-10:00/Easter Egg Hunt 10:05			
April 27	Luke 10:38-42	A Welcome Truth—Mary and Martha		



JOIN US FOR EASTER BREAKFAST

Come on downstairs to the Fellowship Hall, Sunday, April 20, starting at 8:30am for the delicious Easter Breakfast hosted by the Youth.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Dan and Judy Schwartz to celebrate Easter and our loving families. Christ has Risen! He has Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

Prayer of the Church/Easter Sunday/April 20, 2025

Let us pray to our risen Lord and savior Jesus Christ who lives now and forevermore.

O risen Savior, set free our tongues to confess Your resurrection before a world still captive to sin and death. Give us courage to go to every place and to speak in every language the salvation won for us upon the cross and the hope granted to us of life that death cannot overcome.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

O risen Savior, let Your people hold fast to the Word that is preached to them, that receiving it with joy they may take their stand in it and be saved by it. Hinder all those who would sow doubt in their hearts about it, and grant Your people courage to confess its truth in their daily lives.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

O risen Savior, hear us on behalf of those who cry to You in any need, especially the sick, the suffering, the disabled, the wounded in spirit, those who suffer mental illness and those in their last days on earth. [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), Kiel Heck, 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), Ruth Langehough, Ben Malcom (father of Tiffany Roiseland), Norma Miller (Twyla Freeman's aunt), Jane Mills (aunt of Rob Ghabel), Marvin Muhlenbruck, Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp (Cousin of Ruth Varney), Delores Nace (sister of Doris Siemer), Erin Nielsen (cousin of Crissy Pence), Ed Pederson, 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, Natalie Ullrich (Jeff Kucera's cousin), Reece Ullerich, Don Warner (Harold Warner's brother), Harold Warner, Mark Wilson, Rod Wittich, Beth Wu, and Velma Zebuhr (Bruce Maurer's aunt)]. Give Your abiding comfort in every circumstance, that in Christ we shall not die, but live and declare His works. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

O risen Savior, hear 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 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

- April 20 Reece Caven, Dean Hargens, Wallen Jackson, Charles Trimpe
- April 21 Maddie Bell, Martha VanKirk, Bryce West, Drew West
- April 22 Barbara Greene, Dana Novotny, Mary Redlin
- April 23 Gregory Bell, Rebeckah Hosier, Rory James, Julia Kimball, Shirley Stutzman
- April 24 Rick Gienapp, James Roiseland, Corrie Sass, Jane Weppler, Jacob Willey
- April 25 Myra Forman, Adam Fuhrmeister, Bob Hansen, Cindy Kreutz, Caitlin Pinnell, Kyle Sexton, Brian Westphal
- April 26 Glorine Berry, Luke Young

STEWARDSHIP April 12/13, 2025

TIME TREASURES			
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 4/12—5:30pm	37	Contributions	\$14,626.13
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 4/13—8:00am	123	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 4/13—10:30am	150	Lenten Wednesday Services (April 9)	27/98
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	310	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	45/69

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, April 13—20, 2025

Sunday, 4/20—Easter Sunday		Wednesday continued	
Easter Service	7:30am	Adult Midweek	7:00pm
Easter Breakfast	8:30am		
Easter Service	9:00am	Thursday, 4/24—Tasting Bee Set up	
Easter Egg Hunt	10:05am	Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Easter Service	10:30pm	Staff Planning	1:00pm
		Book Club	7:00pm
Monday, 4/21—Easter Monday/Office Closed		Al-Anon	7:30pm
Chamber Singers	6:00pm		
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	Friday, 4/25—Tasting Bee Set up	
Children's Committee	6:00pm	***	
LWML	7:00pm		
		Saturday, 4/26—LWR Spring Pickup	
<u>Tuesday, 4/22</u>		Men's Bible Study	8:00am
SM-Small Group/Marlene	6:00pm	Tasting Bee	11:00am
SM-Small Group/Marcia	6:45pm	Worship Service	5:30pm
Stephen Ministry Training	6:45pm	Spiritual Growth Event	7:00pm
Al-Anon	7:00pm	Confirmation Reception	8:00pm
GriefShare	7:00pm		
		Sunday, 4/27—Confirmation Sunday	
_Vednesday, 4/23—Tasting Bee Set up		Worship Service	8:00am
TOPS	8:00am	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	9:20am
Emerson Point	2:00pm	Worship Service—Confirmation Service	10:30am
Pizza Meal	6:00pm	District 13 Meeting	2:30pm
Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm	Chamber Singers—Open Rehearsal	3:00pm
Midweek Classes	6:45pm	The Chosen	6:00pm

FLOWERS NEEDED FOR EASTER! Beautify the sanctuary on Easter by shopping for any type of beautiful, open-blossom, potted (spring) plants (Easter Lilies, Asters, Mums, Aztec Lilies, Daffodils, Tulips, Begonia, etc.). Drop them off at church in the Board Room during Holy Week. We will need them at church by the end of Good Friday, April 18. Any dropped off before April 16 will also be used for the Prayer Walk. Please mark your name on the bottom of the potted plant or place a labeled ice cream stick in the plant so you can take them back home after late service on Easter Sunday. The more plants, the more beauty. Thanks in advance for helping beautify the sanctuary in celebration of our risen Lord. Please try to pick up the flowers as soon after the 10:30 am Easter worship as possible.





subscriptions will need to be in by **Monday, April 21**. If you wish to continue your subscription or add a new one, stop by the office to check or add your address and drop off a check in the amount of **\$20.65** made out to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. In the memo line please put Lutheran Witness Subscription. If you are wanting to have a subscription to Lutheran Witness for the first time, call or see Lorrie in the office during regular hours Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm. If you are looking for an example to see what one is like there is an edition of the Lutheran Witness in the Library.

Mark your calendars...Our April LWML meeting is Monday, April 21.



We will start the evening at 6:00 p.m. with packing for World Relief. The meeting will then start at 7:00 p.m. Our guest speaker is our own Laura Stresow. She is going to speak on mental health in general and depression and anxiety specifically. She has been a nurse since 1993, and a nurse practitioner since 2000. She is double boarded in family medicine and psychiatry. She has worked in a variety of settings from public health to floor nursing to the emergency room. She has also taught nursing in the classroom and online. Currently, she works full time in psychiatry and has for the last 10 years.

Our mission ingathering this month is items for the baby care kits for World Relief...baby socks and baby sweaters and/or jackets (with hoods if possible). Hostesses for the evening are Brenda Johnson, Sandy Wagner, and Lynne Westphal. Devotions will be led by Lynne Westphal. We will also be having a signup for Ladies Night Out in May to the Miller Homestead for a fantastic Amish meal. See you all on April 21.

Pictorial Directory Update Reminder

Do you have your photo in the directory, or would you like to update your current photo? Any Saturday or Sunday before/after services, it can be done! Just ask a member of the <u>Connections Committee</u> to take your photo!

ASK: Aubry Lyons, Ruth Varney, Julie Neiland, Barb Gienapp, Denise Johnson, Pam Wilson

OR: email a photo of your own to the church office (redeemer@ourredeemer.org).

OR: bring or mail a printed photo to the office.

OR: arrange a photo time in advance by calling Pam Wilson (319-530-1920).





TASTING BEE TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

Saturday, April 26 11:00 am

See Laurel Sellers, call 319-331-3242 or email consultant@ourredeemer.org for tickets or more information. Ticket prices are \$10.



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church VBS

Sunday, August 3, 2025 to Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:00 PM—8:15 PM

2301 East Court Street lowa 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 year old (who are potty trained) through 8th grade students (for 2025-26)

Sign up to attend or volunteer:

https://vbsmate.com/OurRedeemerVBS2025



SPIRITUAL GROWTH EVENT

Saturday, April 26 at 7:00 pm Sanctuary

Join our confirmands as they:

- · Present their knowledge of the Christian faith
- Display and explain their confirmation banner/verse
- Share their confirmation paper

Following their presentations and questioning, there will be a cake & punch reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Madelyn Bell
Cyrus Ghabel-Lopez

Eloise Guhl Anna Klein

CALL DAYS 2025

Call Day at Concordia Seminary is fast approaching and this year it is going to be 2 different days at Fort Wayne and St. Louis! So take a look at the dates and times and for more information check both Concordia websites.

Monday, April 28, 7:00pm (Eastern Time), at Concordia Seminary—Fort Wayne, Josiah Coblentz receives his placement for his vicarage. https://ctsfw.regfox.com/2025-call-day

Wednesday, April 30, 3:00pm (Central Standard Time), at Concordia Seminary—St. Louis, we will see if we are blessed with another vicar for 2025/2026. https://www.csl.edu/academics/call-day-services/

Wednesday, April 30, 7:00pm (Central Standard Time), at Concordia Seminary—St. Louis, previous Ethan Boester will receive his call. https://www.csl.edu/academics/call-day-services/

Blessing Books Now through May 11th

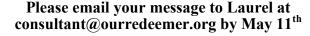
We will continue to do our senior books a page at time.

Messages of encouragement and congratulations to
the graduates can be sent via email or write them on a
quarter sheet of paper allowing half an inch on the left for binding.

WHO SHOULD "SIGN" THE BLESSING BOOKS? Everyone in the congregation can sign.

<u>WHAT SHOULD I WRITE?</u> Write a short note of Christian encouragement, share your favorite Bible verse or simply sign your name.

HOW DO I SHARE MY MESSAGE? You can either write your message on a quarter sheet of paper and email a picture of it <u>or</u> just email the text you want--you can use the same message or create one for each student. (Please make sure that you specify the recipient of individual messages)





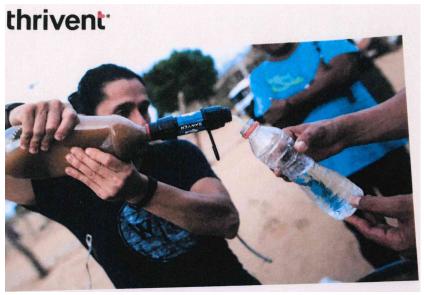
Tyler Bell Philip Bloesch
Connor Cross Karsten Ghab
Molly Krogh Rachel Matel
Adam Schaefer Grant Wilson

Philip Bloesch Nicholas Caylor Karsten Ghabel Claire Hartwig Rachel Matel Addyson McKillip



"EVERYBODY COME ON DOWN......YOU MAY BE THE NEXT CONTESTANT ON THE BIBLE IS RIGHT!!"

Come join us on Sunday, May 11, during the regular Sunday School time of 9:20am for "The Bible Is Right". All ages are welcome to come and it will be held in the Fellowship Hall. The contestants, whoever he or she is, will have their Bible trivia put to the challenge in front of an audience. Join us for fun and the contestants chance to win mission dollars for one of our missions.

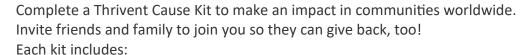


780 million people live without access to clean drinking water. And the number of people in need of purified water is increasing daily. Each enclosed Wine to Water filter is designed to make a sustainable impact by providing 10-12 people with drinkable water for at least 10 years.



If you are a Thrivent member, log into your account and go to request a Thrivent Cause kit. Information below. We did one and picture is included. Give it a try for a great cause.

- Request kit
- Assemble at home
- Send it back to give back
- Help transform lives



- 3 filters or lights to assemble
- Step-by-step assembly instructions
- A return mailing label

—-OR—





Both builds are designed for easy assembly and any tools needed are included with the kit. The SolarBuddy Light kit involves steps that require fine motor skills. Instructions are included in both kits, making the process simple and straightforward.





Select your kit You're eligible to get 1 per year. For more information contact Cynthia Fruendt

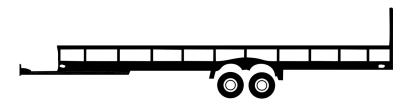


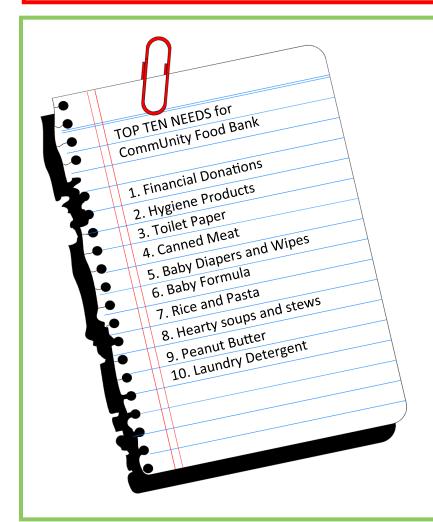
HEAVY DUTY TRAILER NEEDED!

The Outreach Committee is in need of a heavy-duty flatbed trailer for the Fourth of July parade because the trailer we used in the previous year is no longer available. We would like the trailer to be between 15 and 30 feet long and 96-102 inches wide. It will need to hold approximately 6000-8000 pounds of water and decorations. We hope to use the trailer from Saturday, June 28th through Friday, July 4th. If you know of a trailer that we could possible use, please contact any Outreach Committee member. Thank you in advance for helping us to keep the ORLC parade tradition alive!

Outreach Committee members:

Arlan Thompson	319-338-2938
Donna Saehler	319-321-3207
Skip & Marilyn Kempnich	319-351-5297
Judy Schwartz	563-650-6610
Carol Holman	651-226-7722
Melody Strom	319-330-3326







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.



Building Healthy Families:

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime," wrote Dr. Martin Luther. We celebrate Jesus' resurrection with you today. *Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!* May this eternal Good News be your constant and lasting source of joy, hope, and strength in the days ahead. Easter Blessings to you, your family, and your congregational family from the staff and Board of Directors of Lutheran Family Service!

Lutheran Family Service <u>www.LutheranFamilyService.org</u>

WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER WEARING MY NAME TAG?

Because wearing your name tag helps -

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



Part-Time Administrative Assistant Needed

St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Iowa City is hiring a part-time Administrative Assistant to help with tasks such as maintaining attendance records, managing social media, producing weekly bulletins, and handling mailings. This flexible position requires 5–10 hours per week. If you're organized, tech-savvy, and looking for a way to support our chapel, please contact Jon Kohlmeier at jonkohlmeier@gmail.com for more information.



A Fellow Our Redeemer Member Needs Rides

One of our members is no longer able to drive, but is quite mobile and would very much like to attend worship and Bible study. If anyone could give 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.

Our Redeemer Preschool

For children ages 3-5 years and are potty trained

Open House

May 7, 2025 6:00pm-7:00pm

- Meet the staff
- ▼ Explore our classroom
- Create a craft
- Ask questions
- ▼ Enroll your child









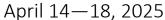


Phone: (319) 338-3949

Email: preschool@ourredeemer.org www.http://ourredeemer.org/preschool/ 2301 East Court Street, Iowa City 52245

Preschool Newsletter

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





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

preschool@ourredeemer.org















































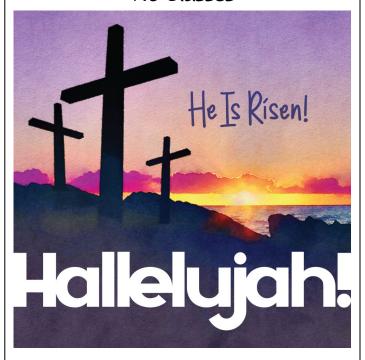




Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade

Sunday School, April 20, 2025 No Classes



Happy Easter!!!

An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus

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

April 23 Wednesday 6:45pm



LAST NIGHT OF KIDS CLUB
CELEBRATION NIGHT

EASTER EGG HUNT Sunday, April 20th 10:05 am

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

ALL children 5th 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.







6th —12th Grade

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

Confirmation (6th—8th Grade)

Wednesday, April 23rd at 6:45 pm

6th Grade—Small Group EXAM



7th Grade—Small Group

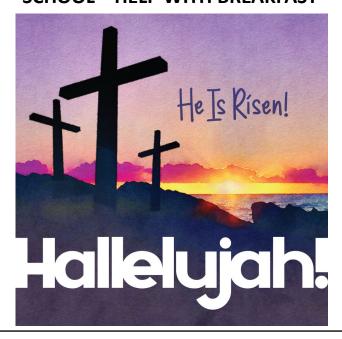
<u>Class Wrap-up/Discussion</u>
<u>on prayer</u>



8th Grade—Lecture
Practice Questioning



SUNDAY, APRIL 20 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL—HELP WITH BREAKFAST





Save the Dates



Saturday, April 19th Easter Breakfast Set up 8:00am Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 20th
Easter Breakfast
Fellowship Hall
Check with Kara
for ready time

Saturday, April 26th
Spiritual Growth Event
7:00pm Sanctuary followed
by reception the Fellowship
Hall at 8:00pm





Sunday, April 27th
Confirmation Service 10:30am



Saturday, April 26th
Spiritual Growth Event 7:00pm
Confirmation Reception 8:00pm

Sunday, April 27th Confirmation Sunday 10:30am 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 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	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		

2025 Board of Elders			2025 Board of Directors		
Bill Benson (chair)	517-881-9848	President	Ben Weis	319-936-6850	
Kevin Roiseland	319-230-5247	Vice President	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088	
Tim Eick	248-514-2881	Secretary	Barb Pronk	641-425-4880	
Rick Gienapp	319-331-7425	Treasurer	Kennedy Donovan	515-230-2057	
Chad Waring	319-331-8303	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 20th of each month.

RADIO

Lutheran Hour Ministries on Radio—WMT 600 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 6:30 am, and **KXEL 1540 AM Radio** on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. For more information on Lutheran Hour Ministries go to www.LHM.org.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND SCREENING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has a strong, caring ministry with children and youth. To promote the safest and most secure environment possible all employees and volunteers, both new and existing, undergo a background screening before working with younger members. Performing background checks provides safeguards and peace of mind to our staff, volunteers, parents, youth, and children.