

Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—May 18, 2025

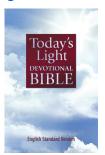
First Avenue and Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245 Phone: 319-338-5626 Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

~Fifth Sunday of Easter~

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Read through the Bible in two years



Week 73 Date	Scripture
05/19/2025	Zechariah 3:1-10
05/20/2025	Zechariah 4:1-14
05/21/2025	Zechariah 5:1-11
05/22/2025	Zechariah 6:1-15
05/23/2025	Zechariah 7:1-14
05/24/2025	Zechariah 8:1-23

Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson		
May 18	Graduation Breakfast all ages gather in the Fellowship Hall—No traditional classes			
May 25	Memorial	Day Weekend—No Classes		



Sunday, May 18th GRADUATION BREAKFAST 9:15 am—10:15 am

Come join us in the Fellowship Hall during the regular Sunday School hour for breakfast to celebrate our high school seniors' milestone. All are invited.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Tom and Sandy Wagner in celebration and giving thanks to God for their 45th wedding anniversary.



BAPTISM

Peyton Rae Freie
Daughter of
Andrew & Chelsea Freie
Sunday, May 18—10:30am

Sponsors: Matthew & Amanda Winegard

Prayer of the Church/Fifth Sunday of Easter/May 18, 2025

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

Lord of heaven and earth, in the glorious resurrection of Your Son, You have given the promise of our own resurrection. As we await the Last Day, calm our hearts and strengthen our faith through our sorrows.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, You hold all people accountable for the responsibilities You have given them. Bless our president, our governor, the Congress and legislature, and all judges and magistrates. Guide them to serve according to Your will and for the common good of all.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, You will bring heaven to earth and banish sorrow, sin and death. Sustain [Becky Behrens, Arlene Boots, Dorothy Blume (Carol Schuldt's sister), Loren Deetz, Kathy Eick, Chuck Enokian, John Enokian (brother of Chuck Enokian), Danny Fuhrmeister, 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), 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, John Robinson, Lucas Schildknecht (friend of the Hartwigs), Lee Schwarting (Art Schwarting's mother), Pat Sexton, David Soldner (friend of Carol Holman), Carol Schuldt, Stanley Seese (friend of Harold Warner), Marlene Thompson, April Tutton Clark (Grace Maurer's sister), Natalie Ullrich (Jeff Kucera's cousin), Reece Ullerich, Don Warner (Harold Warner's brother), Harold Warner, Mark Wilson, Rod Wittich, Beth Wu, Martha Van Kirk, and Velma Zebuhr (Bruce Maurer's aunt)] those now in tribulation. By the comfort of Your Holy Word, increase their faith and see them through their trials.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, 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 *Peyton Rae Freie* this weekend. Strengthen her and all baptized in the faith.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, we give You thanks for the youth that are reaching a major life milestone and graduating high school. We ask your blessing for *Tyler Bell, Philip Bloesch, Nicholas Caylor, Connor Cross, Karsten Ghabel, Claire Hartwig, Molly Krogh, Rachel Matel, Addyson McKillip, Adam Schaefer, and Grant Wilson*.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, You have given us both bread for the body and Christ, the bread of life. Prepare us now to receive with faith and thanksgiving His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, You tell us to come to You with our burdens, 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

- May 18 Caroline Schrader
- May 19 Kenneth Shaner, Gerald Thompson, Daniel Titus
- May 20 Bill Benson, Devyn Schramm, Jerry Sexton
- May 21 Jackson Ellyson, Michelle Greve, Kaylee Kasal, Amy Lane
- May 22 Robert Holmes, Michael Martens, Leora Smith, Zachary Swart
- May 23 Fredrick Walters
- May 24 Marlene Moeller

STEWARDSHIP May 10/11, 2025

TIME TREASURES			
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 5/10—5:30pm	32	Contributions	\$13,953.05
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 5/11—8:00am	84	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 5/11—10:30am	109		
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	225	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	***

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, May 18—25, 2025

<u>Sunday, 5/18</u>		Wednesday, 5/21	
Worship Service	8:00am	TOPS	8:00am
Graduation Breakfast	9:15am	Properties Committee	5:30pm
Worship Service	10:30am		
Hartwig Set up	12:00pm	Thursday, 5/22	
Claire Hartwig Graduation Reception	3:00pm	Comfort Tiers	9:00am
The Chosen	6:00pm	Preschool Graduation and Party	11:30am
Hartwig Cleanup	7:00pm	Arthur Rickman—Panama & Pie	7:00pm
		Al-Anon	7:30pm
<u>Monday, 5/19</u>			
Old Capitol Quilters Material Exchange	9:00am	<u>Friday, 5/23</u>	
Staff Meeting	1:00pm	Preschool Graduation and Party	11:30am
Chamber Singers	6:00pm		
LWML Ladies Night Out	6:00pm	Saturday, 5/24	
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	Men's Bible Study	8:00am
Children's Committee Meeting	6:00pm	Worship Service	5:30pm
Preschool Commit	6:30pm		
		<u>Sunday, 5/25</u>	
<u>Tuesday, 5/20</u>		Worship Service	8:00am
Solon Nursing Home	9:30am	Worship Service	10:30am
Chamber Singers—Auditions	6:00pm		
SM-Small Group/Marcia	6:30pm	Monday, 5/26—Memorial Day	
Al-Anon	7:00pm	OFFICE CLOSED	_

LWML Ladies Night Out, Monday, May 19, 6:00pm

The ladies of Our Redeemer are having a Ladies Night Out at the Miller Homestead—a full Amish meal. Signup sheet is in the narthex. The meal is a two entree meal, which includes fried chicken and Salisbury steak, homemade noodles, vegetable, salad, homemade bread, pie, and drink. The price is \$25 which includes tip. If you want to join us, please sign up by Sunday, May 11. Make checks payable to Miller Homestead. Pay in cash or check and mail to Cynthia Fruendt, 1224 Ash Street, Iowa City 52240. Must sign up and pay by Sunday, May 11. We will carpool from church leaving at 5:15 p.m.





Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Mission Committee



PENNY CHALLENGE & MISSION MINUTES

Vote for the mission(s) of your choice with your pennies (up to 100 pennies per week).

For the next several weeks we're going to hold a Mission Minute during the church services.

Each week the Mission Minute will highlight one of the missions noted below.

At the end of six weeks, the mission funding will be allocated according to the penny votes.



Parish Nurses of Eswatini
Mission Minute for April 27



Mission Minute for May 4



Panama

Eyeglass Clinic

Mission Minute for May 11



Lutheran Church of Panama

Mission Minute for May 18



Lutheran Family Service

Mission Minute for May 25



Iowa District East Student Aid

Mission Minute for June 1

Mission Committee Members

Denise Holida / Anita Nicholson / Val Penney / Bob Powers/Lynn Smith







FREE CONCERT

The Vocal Artists of Iowa have their spring free-will offering concert on Saturday, May 17th from 3:00-4:00 at the Voxman Music Building, located on the corner of E. Bulington Street and S. Clinton Street. The theme of the concert is the vibrant energy of spring with songs inspired by the elements -- Wind, Fire, Rain, Light, and Stone. Ryson Stuart is a part of this group and wants to invite anyone to the concert.



Karsten's Deck Project

Karsten Ghabel is still trying to get monetary donations in order to complete his Eagle Scout project. The project of replacing the back deck at the Vicarage needs a total of \$6000 to complete it. So far, Karsten has been able to raise \$3253. He needs \$2747 more to complete it. If you wish to donate please call the church office. Karsten thanks you for your donations and asks for continued to finish the project.



MISSIONS 2025-2026 SCHEDULE

22 May, 2025

Panama And Pie

Presentation by:
Rev. Dr. Arthur
Rickman
and
Pies for All!

21 Feb - 2 Mar, 2026

Panama VBS

\$1,100 per-person

A small group for people who have a heart for children's ministry and have experience teaching Sunday School and VBS. Spanish comprehension is helpful but not required.

\$200 Deposit by 1 June 2025

14-23 Nov, 2025

Panama Eyeglass Clinic

\$1,100 per-person

Open to the whole congregation NO MEDICAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

\$200 Deposit by 1 June 2025

2026

eSwatini Trip

Be on the lookout for more information. Dates YTBD.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Iowa City



Thursday May 29, 2025 6:30 PM

Hosted by Zion Lutheran Church LCMS
201 First Avenue
Hiawatha, IA

Guest Preacher:

Rev. Alex Post

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown

Refreshments to follow the service.

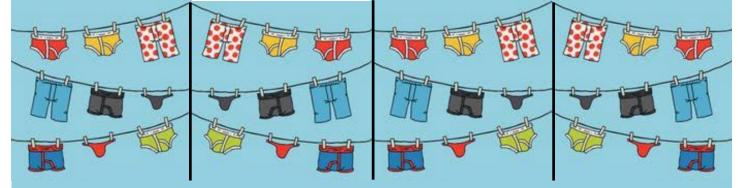


We took 43 boxes to Cedar Rapids on 4/26/25 for Lutheran World Relief. We had 38 boxes containing 155 quilts, 4 boxes containing 41 Health/Personal Care kits and 1 box with 2 Fabric kits. Thank you Tom Wagner and Dave Fruendt for taking the boxes to Cedar Rapids for us and thank you to everyone in our congregation that contribute clothes for the baby kits, items for the school kits, personal care kits and fabric kits and material for all the quilts!!

Looking for exciting ways to engage your children in faith? Check out the Gospel Adventures Show! This kid's audio program uses songs, storytelling, and activities to help kids encounter clear and compelling Gospel themes. Learn more and listen now at gospeladventures.org or wherever you listen to podcasts.



UNDIES SUNDAY



Starting Sunday, June 1st to June 29th, Our Redeemer Himan Care Committee will be sponsoring our fourth annual "Undies Sunday" to benefit the Iowa City Shelter House. Since this drive started in 2022, our church and community have donated a total of 2,097 pairs of underwear. We would appreciate your support in making this year the most successful!

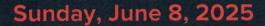
Did you know that underwear is one of the most requested items for the homeless that does not get donated very often? Having a clean pair of underwear each day is critical for a person's physical and emotional well-being. Our committee is asking the congregation to donate NEW underwear for men, women, and children. Selections in all sizes and colors are appreciated.

Laundry baskets will be placed in the Narthex for donations. Next time you are out shopping for you and your family, please consider purchasing a package of underwear and making a difference to the homeless in Johnson County. Thank you!

CHAMBER SINGERS OF IOWA CITY

HAYDN THE CREATION

Directed by Dr. David Puderbaugh



3:00 PM Voxman Music Building Concert Hall



Tickets: \$20 General Admission Student tickets are free www.icchambersingers.org



Haydn's *The Creation* is a breathtaking musical portrayal of the world's beginning as told in Genesis. This timeless masterpiece brings to life the six days of creation with full orchestra and chorus, featuring soprano **Jessica Pray Patel** as Gabriel/Eve, tenor **Colin Wilson** as Uriel, and baritone **David Meyer** as Raphael/Adam. From primordial chaos to the Garden of Eden, witness the wonder of creation unfold through Haydn's inspired music.



Our Redeemer will be serving The Loving Arms Kids Care Center and allowing them to use parts of our church facility, as they must vacate their current building while renovating a new one of their own. A portion of the church staff met with their leaders to discuss details. We discussed our expectations and theirs. They are very willing to work around, and with all the meetings and events that take place here throughout the summer and fall. Their estimate to be here is after Memorial Day and through the beginning of October. Some details are still pending.

This is such a unique way of serving others in our community. We talk about Outreach when we have a resource that meets a community need. We have space, and they need to be somewhere temporarily. This speaks very much to the serving heart of Our Redeemer Church and Preschool. God be praised in this journey.

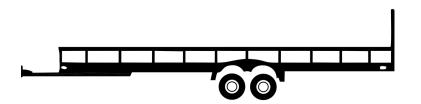


HEAVY DUTY TRAILER NEEDED!

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





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

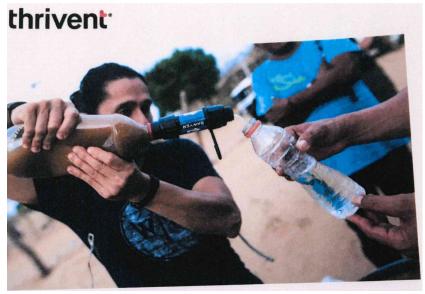
5:00 pm meal 5:30-5:45 pm opening 5:30-8:00 pm activities 8:00-8:15 pm closing

STUDENT AGES:

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

Sign up to attend or volunteer:

https://vbsmate.com/OurRedeemerVBS2025

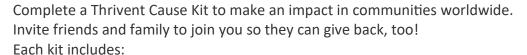


vithout access to clean drinking water. And the number of people in need of purified water is increasing daily. Each enclosed Wine to Water filter is designed to make a sustainable impact by providing 10-12 people with drinkable water for at least 10 years.



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



Preschool Newsletter

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

May 12—16, 2025

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

Monday: Matthias

Tuesday: Elizabeth

Wednesday: Moses

Thursday: Emersyn

Friday: Norah

This Week

Welcome farm question Classroom rules Letter P—recognize, sound, write Farm animal facts Farm animal sounds Line leader color sona Bible lesson—Pentecost Songs for the celebration Old McDonald song & craft



Little curve



Coming Up

May 22/23—11:45 am Celebration and Graduation in sanctuary with lunch to follow

August 3-7th—Vacation Bible School from 5:00-8:15 pm with optional dinner at the beginning.



September 2nd —Preschool class 2025-2026 begins

(Tune: Do You Know the Muffin Man?)

Next Week's Snacks

You get to bring snack and be our line leader!

You only need to bring 2 healthy food groups

Food List packet. Half a gallon of a drink is all

we need. Thank you. If staying for lunch, our preschoolers need all 5 food groups present.

for snack of the 5 presented in our Credible

M/W/F = 14 students; T/TH = 12 students

P is for Penelope, Penelope, Penelope, P is for Penelope, a proud and pretty pig. Penelope is pink and plump, pink and plump, pink and plump. Penelope is pink and plump a truly



perfect pig.





ast Days Celebration and Graduation



On the last days of preschool, May 22/23, we will have our End-of-Year Celebration in the church sanctuary at 11:45 am. Invite whomever you would like to come celebrate! The preschoolers will sing a few songs. Mrs. Kaja will introduce each student and present each one with a certificate. Each student will receive a special gift after the program is done. The preschool classroom will remain open for families to walk through or students to get their items. Directly following the ceremony we will have a lunch. See lunch needs sign-up sheet in the preschool hallway.

Please fill out the Parent Survey by May 16, 2025

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSdKKhzENr2p-7rpdcvwaBmMj6AddGIGMh0-IYEv3PpN53gJbA/viewform?usp=sharing

















































Pizza & Playground Night

Thank you for such a great time getting together. A big thank you to the Preschool Committee who took time to come and serve us!

Preschool Lawn Signs

By the door, as you leave preschool, there will be lawn signs for you to take home. Please place it where others can see it on your lawn. We want to share Our Redeemer Preschool with everyone. We still have one opening in our preschool for next year, so spread the word!

Our Redeemer Preschool

2301 East Court St. Iowa City

(319) 338-3949

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 3 - 7, 2025 5:00 PM—8:15 PM 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/events/ OurRedeemerVBS2025/30172

2025-2026 Class

Preschool enrollment for next year is open! Preschool is from 9:00am until 12:00pm. Morning/lunch extended care and scholarships are available. Ask for more details. preschool@ourredeemer.org.



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



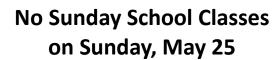
Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade



May 18th

All are invited to the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am. There are no traditional Sunday School Classes on that Sunday.



Labor Day Weekend





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



6th —12th Grade

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

Graduation Breakfast



Sunday, May 18th 9:15 am—10:15 am Fellowship Hall

The congregation is invited to attend this celebration for Our Redeemer's high school seniors who are graduating in 2025.



YOUTH Sunday School Sunday, May 18th

Graduation Breakfast 9:15am to 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 17th GRADUATION BREAKFAST SET-UP

9:00 am—11:00 am 6th graders thru 11th graders and families helping



Sunday, May 18th GRADUATION BREAKFAST

9:15 am—10:15 am 6th graders thru 11th graders and families helping

Sunday, May 25th
No Sunday School/Adult Bible Class
Memorial Day Weekend

Monday, May 26th
MEMORIAL DAY
Office Closed
No School—Iowa City



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 Boar	rd of Elders		2025 Board of Directo	rs
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.