



# The Parish Beacon

Volume 46—No. 11

December 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! Did you know that Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> is the last Sunday of the year? Well... of the church year that is. As November wraps up and we move into December, we begin a brand-new church year. Like always the church year starts with the season of Advent. This season is a time of quiet reflection and anticipation. We take extra time to worship together as God's people while we wait for the coming of the Messiah. We wait for Jesus Christ, God Himself to come down from heaven and be born into human flesh. He made Himself part of creation so that He could save all of creation.

Advent is a time of waiting. We are waiting for Christmas celebrations with family and friends. We are waiting for a break from work or for a much-earned end-of-year bonus. Students are waiting for classes to finish. For some of us, waiting is a hard reminder of the people who will not be with us this Christmas. This time last year my wife and I were able to worship with her grandma at her church in Wales, Wisconsin. They had a "Blue Christmas" Advent service that was meant to remember our loved ones who are no longer with us. That was the last time we were able to worship with Grandma. The next time we were at her church, it was for her funeral. This time of Advent can be full of joyous anticipation for Christmas and all the celebrations, and it can be full of sorrow and grief.

No matter where you find yourself during this Advent time of waiting, whether you move between times of joy and times of sorrow, Jesus is still coming. Jesus, the Son of God, is coming down to earth to be with you. We know He is coming because He has already done it once. We get to celebrate and remember when He was born of the virgin Mary and was made man. We get to remember and celebrate how He was crucified for us and how He rose again for us. He is now ascended into heaven, and we find ourselves in the same place as Israelites of old. We are waiting for our Savior—not to come down for the first time, but to come again in glory, to raise the dead, and to bring all believers to Him.

So now in this time of Advent we wait. We wait for Christmas. We wait for Christ to return. We wait for the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. A life where we and all believers will be united with Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Vicar Andrew Vought*

**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)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the sick and the dying, and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the children of God, especially Kellie Grace Palmer baptized this weekend.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For **Becky Behrens, Dorothy Blume** (Carol Schuldt's sister), **Joanne Bowman** (Rob Bowman's mother), **April Tutton Clark** (sister of Grace Maurer), **Tom Cowley** (Aaron Mueller's brother-in-law), **Kathy Eick, John Enokian** (brother of Chuck Enokian), **Raymond Forman, Jason Freundt, Mary Helen Gibson** (sister of Gwen McNatt Enokian), **Carol, Helle, Dennis Huedepohl** (friend of Bruce Maurer), **Jeff Hundley** (grandson of Karen Abernathy), **Dora Jacobson** (granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), **Todd Jones** (Barb & Ron Jones' son), **Ruth Langehough, Dot Langholdt** (friend of Ruth Varney), **Gwen McNatt, Ben Malcom** (father of Tiffany Roiseland), **Craig Michel, Laura Miller** (Linda Bonefeld's mother), **Norma Miller** (Twyla Freeman's aunt), **Jane Mills** (aunt of Rob Ghabel), **Marvin Muhlenbruck, Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp** (cousin of Ruth Varney), **Erin Nielsen** (cousin of Crissy Pence), **Faith Pederson, Ed Pederson, Lee Schwarting** (Art Schwarting's mother), **Kathy Schweer, Carol Schuldt, Amy Schulte** (Crissy Pences's sister), **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, Garry Wilcox** (Melissa Mullane's dad), **Martha Van Kirk, and Karen Wright**, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord have Mercy, Christ have Mercy, Lord have mercy. Amen.**

## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

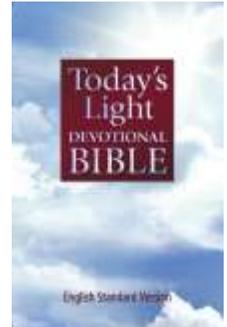
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|-------------|--|
| Sun 11/23   | Worship Service 8:00am<br>Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am<br>Worship Service 10:30am<br>Bowman Family Gathering 12:00pm |
| Mon 11/24   | Staff Meeting 1:00pm<br>Chamber Singers 6:00pm<br>Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm   |
| Tues 11/25  | GriefShare 6:30pm<br>Al-Anon 7:00pm  |
| Wed 11/26   | TOPS 8:00am<br>Emerson Point Service 2:00pm<br>Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00pm   |
| Thurs 11/27 | THANKSGIVING—Office Closed<br>Al-Anon 7:30pm   |
| Fri 11/28   | Office Closed  |
| Sat 11/01   | Worship Service 5:30pm   |
| Sun 11/30   | Worship Service 8:00am<br><u>NO</u> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class<br>Worship Service 10:30am<br>Deck the Halls 1:00pm        |



### THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

#### Week 96

- |          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| 11/24/25 | 1 Peter 1:1-25   |
| 11/25/25 | 1 Peter 2:1-25   |
| 11/26/25 | 1 Peter 3:1-4:19 |
| 11/27/25 | 1 Peter 5:1-14   |
| 11/28/25 | 2 Peter 1:1-2:22 |
| 11/29/25 | 2 Peter 3:1-18   |



Flowers this weekend are from Diane Burke and David Yansky in celebration of their 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



#### 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**

**Communion: December 20, 21,  
24 (6:30 & 11:30pm services) , 25, 31**

**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

Watch *Reflections* for more details



**THANKSGIVING  
OFFICE CLOSED  
NOVEMBER 27/28**



**DECK THE HALLS  
Sunday, November 30  
1:00pm**



**COOKIE WALK  
Saturday, December 6  
9:00-11:00am  
Signups are ongoing NOW!**



**December 3 & 17  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall**



**Wednesday, November 26, 2025  
7:00pm**



**PICTURES FOR DIRECTORY  
Saturday, November 22  
Sunday, November 23  
After Worship**



**Sunday, December 7, 2025  
Following 10:30 am Worship**



**Live Nativity  
Sunday, December 14, 2025  
4:00-6:00pm**



**Advent Worship  
Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17  
1:00pm & 6:10pm  
Sing-a-long at 6:00pm**



**Monday, Dec 15, 2025  
6:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall**



**Sunday, December 14, 2025  
Part of both 8:00am and  
10:30am Worship  
A soup and sandwich lunch  
follows 10:30 am Worship**



**Christmas Eve Worship  
Wednesday, December 24, 2025  
4:30pm, 6:30pm, 11:30pm**



**Christmas Worship  
Thursday, December 25, 2025  
9:30 am**

**School Closed—ICCS  
November 26-28  
December 22-January 3**



**Wednesday, December 31, 2025  
6:30pm**

## Birthdays

November 23	Keegan Chapman, Kathy Folkmann, Larry Frantz, Taylor Hoskyn, Ruth Langehough, Tracy Nelson, Carlee Sexton, Christy Stevens
November 24	Ryan Jackson, Jim Tiedemann, Ruth Varney
November 25	Kyla Cahoon, Richard Kubit, Brittany Palmer
November 26	Lloyd Broberg
November 27	Nancy Doehrmann, Christa Sexton
November 28	Robert Ghabel, Geneva Hein, Max Obermueller, Donna Reddel, Gary Yoder
November 29	Brice Bernard, Marek Ghabel, Anne Hinkle, Seth Penney, Sandra Sanders, Maureen Schultz, Harold Warner

## Stewardship—November 15-16, 2025

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Sat. 10/18 In Person 5:30pm	44	Contributions	\$8,741.04
Sun. 10/19 In Person 8:00am	88	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Sun. 10/19 In Person 10:30am	171		
<b>TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>303</b>	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	54/54



MISSION	November
Iowa District East	\$3,333.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,333.33</b>
Panama Rickman	\$250.00
Peace Officer Ministry	\$125.00
Housing Fellowship	\$375.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,083.33</b>
Crisis Center	***
Lutherans for Life	***
Concordia Seminary Food Bank	***
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,083.33</b>

## Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Baptisms</u>	
George Francis Holland	11-9-2025
Lee Arthur Vought (Recognition of baptism 11-9-2025)	10-16-2025



### BAPTISM

**Kellie Grace Palmer**  
 Daughter of  
**Jamie Palmer &  
 Brittany (Bowman) Palmer**

**Sunday, November 23—10:30am**

**Sponsors:**  
**Emily Geerdes  
 Bailey Stevens**



Submitted by Marcia Hulse

# Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

The joy of Christmas can turn into a time of loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But help is available.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and support you through the holidays and as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders.

**Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

**Pastor Hartwig 319-338-5626**

**Bill Benson 517-881-9848**

**Marcia Hulse 319-541-4026**

**Kevin Sellers 319-631-8924**

*Christmas & Carols*

*Joy*  
to  
the  
*World,*  
the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive  
her King!

*Join us as various choirs tell the Christmas story in song and scripture*  
**Saturday, December 6, 2025 ~ 5:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday, December 7, 2025 ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

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

## 2025 Advent/Christmas/ New Year Schedule

December 3	1:00pm 5:10pm	Advent Service Advent Meal
December 6	6:00pm/6:10pm 9:00am-11:00am 9:00-11:00am	Sing-a-long/Advent Service LWML Cookie Walk <b>Children's Service Practice</b>
December 7	5:30pm 8:00am & 10:30am	Service of Christmas & Carols Service of Christmas & Carols
December 10	12:00pm 1:00pm 5:10pm	Christmas & Cookies Advent Service Advent Meal
December 13	6:00pm/6:10pm 9:00-11:00am 5:30pm	Sing-a-long/Advent Service <b>Children's Service Practice</b> Worship Service
December 14	8:00am & 10:30am 11:45am 4:00-6:00pm	<b>Children's Christmas Service</b> Soup and Sandwich Lunch Live Nativity
December 15	6:00pm	Christmas Meeting LWML
December 17	1:00pm 5:10pm	Advent Service Advent Meal
December 20	6:00pm/6:10pm 5:30pm	Sing-a-long/Advent Service Communion Service
December 21**	8:00am & 10:30am	Communion Services
December 24*	4:30pm 6:30pm & 11:30pm	Christmas Eve Family Worship Christmas Eve Comm Worship
December 25	9:30am	Christmas Day Comm Worship
December 27	5:30pm	Worship Service
December 28**	8:00am & 10:30am	Worship Service
December 31*	6:30pm	<b>New Year's Eve Comm Worship</b>

*\*No Midweek Classes December 24 & December 31  
No Sunday School/Adult Bible Study December 21 & 28*

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2025

7:00pm

Attendance: Ben Weis, Jeff Kucera, Barb Pronk, Kennedy Donovan, Dave Yansky, Mary Robinson, Marilyn Albright, Steve Scott, Kaja Mueller, Skip Kempnich

Call to order, welcome

Opening devotion—Pastor Hartwig

Administrative Regulations Review:

Article IV—Responsibility of Contracts

Article V—Amendments

Review and approval of minutes from last meeting.

Treasurer's Report—Kennedy Donovan

Negative YTD--\$35,000

Working with Hills Bank about better rates on loan.

Elder's Report—Skip Kempnich

Working on budget for next year

Elders are meeting with new members

At-Large Reports—

Mary Robinson

Outreach needs Christmas cards and working on Angel Tree.

Mission auction went well.

Marilyn Albright

New Members Brunch went well.

Prime Time Dinner was enjoyed by all.

Steve Scott

23 trunks for Trunk or Treat.

Preschool is going well.

Youth service on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Need new acolyte robes for the students.

Asking confirmands if they would help usher.

Church Properties—Dave Yansky

Project on North side is progressing.

Replaced sidewalks where they were damaged.

Automatic lighting mechanism needs to be replaced in women's restroom.

Dishwasher tube will be replaced when tubes come in.

HVAC system needs to be repaired.

Staff Reports—

Pastor Hartwig

Received a very nice letter from a day care mom.

Working on loan approval and cross loan.

Campaign team to run the Ad Hoc ministry. Motion was approved.

Pastor and Jeff Kucera will vote for the Synodical President.

Vicar Vought

Baby is here and everyone is doing well.

Cont'd on following page

Denise Holid--NA

Kaja Mueller—Preschool & Youth

Veggie Tale movie and lunch in Fellowship Hall on November 16.

Christmas skit is coming together.

M.W.F Preschool—14 students

T.TH Preschool—12 students

Parent-teacher conferences on November 19.

Kara Hartwig—Youth

Youth Worship Weekend on November 15-16.

Youth Pie Sale—Saturday, November 15

Discussion Items—Budget

Budget was approved unanimously.

Kudos—

Thank you to Jeff Kucera for the presentations explaining the Cross and Entrance Project to the congregation.

Prayer and Adjourn--

Next meeting on December 4, 6:30pm. December holiday party.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Pronk, Secretary

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
**Voter's Meeting**  
**October 19, 2025**

--Call to order by Ben Weis.

--Pastor Hartwig opened the meeting with a prayer.

--Treasurer, Kennedy Donovan, provided a summary of our current loan outstanding of \$258,026.24.

--Motion: The proposed motion to approve the Cross and Entrance was passed by the voters.

72 Yes Votes

4 No Votes

--The meeting was adjourned and Pastor Hartwig closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Pronk, Secretary

# Canada & New England Cruise



 7-DAY CANADA & NEW ENGLAND CIRCLE: NEW BRUNSWICK  
Oct 3 - Oct 10, 2026

SHIP: **Zuiderdam**      DEPARTS: **Boston, Massachusetts, US**      ARRIVES: **Boston, Massachusetts, US**

Join Pastor and Kara Hartwig on a cruise to Canada's dynamic cities and Maine's alluring ports. Halifax's stunning waterfront, Sydney's giant fiddle, and Portland's eclectic boutiques. The beginning of October should be excellent for the changing colors of the New England leaves and the end of the whale watching season. In addition to experiencing all that Holland America has to offer, we will have private group Bible studies and a worship service. Planning to join us is as simple as 1, 2, 3...

## Explore Staterooms!

Inside cabin from \$1,469 pp.  
Ocean View cabin from \$1,639 pp.  
Verandah cabin from \$2,249 pp.



**1**

Prices include all taxes and fees for the cruise.

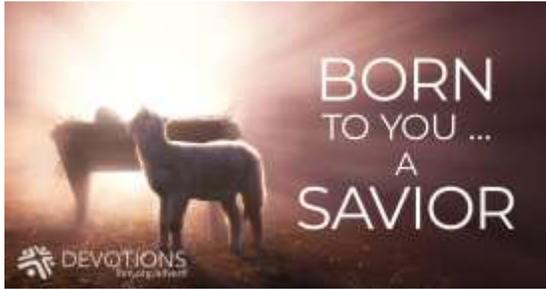


You can book your own flight, have Pastor help you book, or have Holland America book your flight. Pastor suggests that you arrive in Boston by Thursday, October 1, 2026. The cruise ship will not wait. Pastor is working on a fun excursion for Friday in Boston. Do you want suggestions or help with your hotel before the cruise? Talk to Pastor. The excursion and hotel will be at an extra cost.



Have it All Early Booking includes a free upgrade to the Elite Beverage Package, free upgrade to Premium Wi-Fi, free prepaid Crew Appreciation, a Low Fare Guarantee, shore excursion credits and specialty dining credits. Remember, once this offer expires it will no longer be available to book so we encourage guests to book early to take advantage! \$420 pp or \$60 per day.

Please contact Pastor with any questions – You know he LOVES to talk about travel! (319)855-2521  
If you are ready to book with Holland America, then call Bernice Harris, Holland America Personal Cruise Consultant at 800-355-3017 ext. 28109. Tell her... Group ID: TP6 Group Name: Orlc, Iowa City



## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE NOW

Sunday, November 30, is the first Sunday of Advent so you will want to pick up your daily Advent devotionals now. They are on the Welcome Center and free for your use.

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### A Big Thank You

Human Care Committee wants to thank everyone who participated in the first Sunglasses Sundays and donated new Sunglasses and old eyeglasses for people in Panama. 41 pairs of glasses were donated and 165 sunglasses were donated. The glasses will be given to MOST organizations to read the strength of the glasses. The group that went down to Panama took the donated Sunglasses with them. Again thank you. Our Redeemer is truly a loving and giving group of people.



Holidays are Coming!! LWML is here to help you share the Good News. Thanksgiving AND Christmas greeting cards are available for purchase at the Card Shop next to the Fellowship Hall. Same price as last year \$.50 a card or \$5.50 a box. Please put your payment in the black box on the wall. Thank you for your support of this mission service.



**Building Healthy Families:** "Count your many blessings, name them one by one..." God's blessings are bountiful which we see when we take time to notice, recognize, name, and count them. Challenge your family members to do the same this week. What's on your list? Happy Thanksgiving from your team at Lutheran Family Service [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)



# Children's Lunch & Matinee

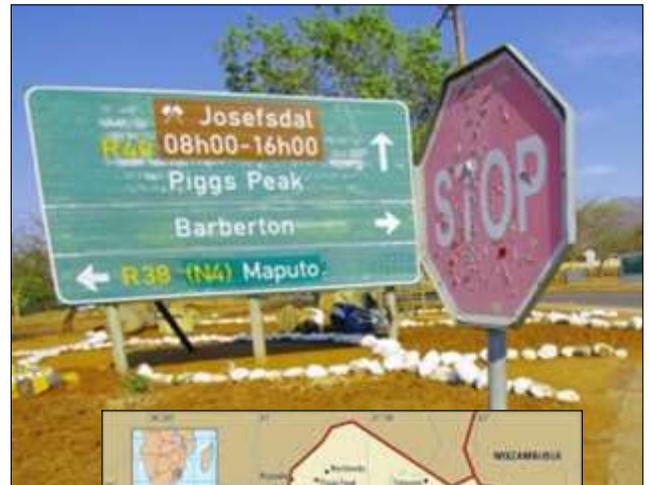
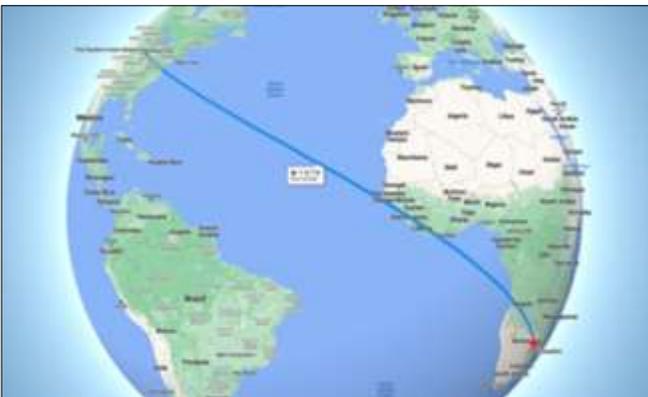
November 16, 2025



# ESWATINI (SWAZILAND)



MEDICAL MISSION  
TRIPS TO SOUTHERN  
AFRICA



Watch for information  
about future Short-Term  
Medical Mission Trips to  
Eswatini.



## Mission Committee Members

Denise Holidia / Anita Nicholson / Val Penney / Bob Powers / Tiffany Roiseland  
Lynn Smith (Chair)



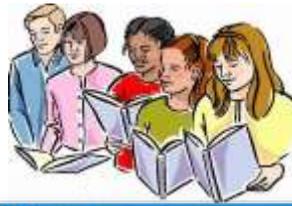
**for supporting our  
YOUTH PIE SALE!**

**Thank you to everyone  
who helped make pies,  
bought pies, and  
donated fruit!!**



*120 lbs apples  
96 sticks butter  
116.25 lbs flour  
25.6 lbs brown sugar*





# Youth Worship Weekend



A huge thank you to Skip & Marilyn Kempnich, Chris Schwarz, and Kevin & Laurel Sellers for helping us with music and sound!



Rachel played the saxophone, sang and acted during the service.



Our High School Youth acted in the "Alleluia in All Things" skit during our Youth Worship service!



Confirmation students served as acolytes, greeters, ushers, and camera operators on Youth Worship weekend.



*"In everything give thanks."*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

# 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



Toddlin' to 5th Grade  
Sunday, November 23



**Lesson:**  
**Paul's Prison  
Protection—The Plot  
to Kill Paul**  
**Acts 23:12-24**

**November 26**

**NO CLASS**

## **KIDS CLUB FOR DECEMBER**

**Advent Meals**  
**December 3, 10, 17**  
**5:10 pm**

**December 3**  
Lesson #11 Advent & Christmas

**December 10**  
Lesson #12 Christmas

**December 17**  
Jesus' Birthday Party  
Gingerbread Churches

## A Christmas To Believe



### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The Children's Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 14 during **BOTH** the 8:00 am AND 10:30 am worship services. Kindergarten - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be in the musical. The musical will include speaking parts, solos and group songs. They are practicing during their regular Sunday School time. The Preschool class will sing their songs before the Christmas musical at both services on Sunday, December 14.

### REHEARSALS FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

December 6 from 9:00-11:00 am  
December 13 from 9:00-11:00 am

### SOUP AND GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES



Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 am worship to enjoy a soup and sandwich lunch.



# Youth



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

## DECEMBER 2025

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	31			

DATE	EVENT	TIME
3	Advent Meal Sing-along / Advent Worship Midweek Classes	5:10pm 6:00pm 6:45pm
6	Children's Christmas Dress Rehearsal	9:00am
7	Christmas & Cookies	11:45am
10	Advent Meal <i>(6<sup>th</sup> Grade Families Meal Crew)</i> Advent Worship Midweek Classes	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm
13	Children's Christmas Dress Rehearsal	9:00am
14	Children's Christmas Services <i>(during worship services)</i> Soup & Sandwich Lunch Live Nativity <i>(Youth 3-7pm)</i>	8:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 4:00pm
17	 Advent Meal Advent Worship Midweek Classes <i>Kids Club Jesus' Birthday Party</i>	5:10pm 6:10pm 6:45pm 6:45pm
24	Christmas Eve Family Worship Christmas Eve Communion Christmas Eve Communion	4:30pm 6:30pm 11:30pm
12/25	Christmas Day Communion <i>Our savior IS BORN!</i>	9:30am
12/31	New Years Eve Worship	6:30pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

DRESS REHEARSAL

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS

K—8<sup>th</sup> Graders

9:00am—11:00am

Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

ADVENT MEAL

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth & Families are the crew

5:10pm—6:00pm

Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

DRESS REHEARSAL

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS

K—8<sup>th</sup> Graders

9:00am—11:00am

Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

K—8<sup>th</sup> Graders

8:00am AND 10:30am

SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH

11:45am

LIVE NATIVITY

High School Youth

4:00pm—6:00pm (youth here 3:00-7:00pm)

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

4:30pm, 6:30pm and 11:30pm

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP @ 9:30am

LIVE NATIVITY

High School Youth

Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

3:00 pm until 7:00 pm

Please mark your calendars to be here for this annual Youth event that shares the Good News of Jesus' birth with our community.



## 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)
Andrew Vought, 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	319-331-5639
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.

# Blessings Unnumbered

Psalms 128:1,2

**There's a solid roof o'er my head**  
with a floor beneath my feet.  
I have a loving family  
and nice, kindly friends to greet.

**There is 'air' to cool in summer**  
while in winter, I have heat,  
A comfy bed to lie upon  
**and places on which to 'seat'.**

**There're clothes and shoes in closets,**  
**boots and mittens for each 'paw';**  
Pots and dishes stacked in cupboards  
(So many you never saw!),  
Canned and frozen food in storage  
**while my flow'rs have mulch of straw.**  
My workroom is filled with fabrics  
**over which to "Oooo!" and "Awwww!"**

**I'm able to sort and give away**  
to charities and the poor.  
The more I give, the more it seems  
to accumulate by the score!  
**But I've learned to not let the piles**  
bother me much anymore—  
Donations come in, get sewn, then  
out through a revolving door!

**There's a church that we belong to**  
which teaches of Christ our Lord;  
plus Bible studies at different times  
to learn and study His Word.

**There's fellowship with other people,**  
making friends plus food galore!  
With baptism, communion, hymns to  
feed my soul: I need nothing more!

Carol Schuldt