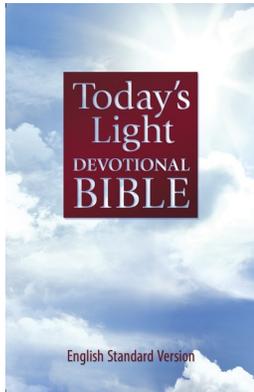




~Fourth Sunday of Advent~



ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Read through the Bible in two years

Week 104 Date	Reading
12/22/2025	Revelation 14:1-20
12/23/2025	Revelation 15:1-8
12/24/2025	Revelation 16:1-21
12/25/2025	Revelation 17:1-18:8
12/26/2025	Revelation 18:9-24
12/27/2025	Revelation 19:1-21

Sunday School Lessons

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
December 21/28	Christmas & New Year Weekends—No Classes	
January 4	2 Timothy 1; 3:14-17	To a New Generation—Paul Writes to Timothy

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers for the altar this weekend are from Dan and Judy Schwartz are in celebration of Christ the Lord, our newborn king; Dan and Judy Schwartz celebrating 44 years of marriage, and their daughter's birthday on Christmas Day. Merry Christmas and God's blessings to everyone.



Sunday Coffee & Treats



This Sunday's coffee and pastries are being provided by the LWML. Come join us in the Gathering Place for a little fellowship before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class.

CELEBRATE JESUS' BIRTHDAY WITH POINSETTIAS!!

Help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. Purchase poinsettias of your choice—all sizes and colors are welcome. Bring them to church by Sunday, December 21 (it is best not to bring them too early as care may not be consistent) so that they can be placed in the sanctuary Saturday morning. Poinsettias can be placed on the serving counter in the board room if you bring them early, in the Gathering Place anytime **after** the Wednesday Advent service.



Poinsettias will be arranged Sunday, December 21 after late worship. Volunteers to help much appreciated!

Prayer of the Church/Fourth Sunday of Advent/December 21, 2025

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 You promise blessing to those who follow in Your way, yet You also call them to carry their crosses. Grant Your peace to those who suffer among us [*especially **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 Fruendt, Mary Helen Gibson** (sister of Gwen McNatt Enokian), **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), **Ben Malcom** (father of Tiffany Roiseland), **Craig Michel, Gwen McNatt, 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), **Ed Pederson, Faith Pederson, Ben Rollins** (Lorrie Bailey's cousin), **Lee Schwarting** (Art Schwarting's mother), **Kathy Schweer, Carol Schuldt, George Schuldt, Amy Schulte** (sister of Crissy Pence), **Stanley Seese** (friend of Harold Warner), **Carol Simpson** (mother of Kara Hartwig), **John Stoll, 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), and **Martha Van Kirk**], let us pray to the Lord:*

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the blessing of love between husbands and wives and that You instituted holy marriage between husband and wife. Bless **Mark and Pam Wilson** for their 57th wedding anniversary and **Dan and Judy Schwartz** for their 44th anniversary, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For Your blessed estate of marriage. Let chastity be prized among Your Christians and honored also in the world. Bind husband and wife together in love and forgiveness. We especially ask you to bless the newly married **Mr. and Mrs. Alex and Jordan Kooker** and newly married **Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Alyson Holida**. Let us pray to the Lord.

C; **Lord have Mercy**

P: 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.**

BIRTHDAYS

December 21	Lexus Rozmus, Julie Wardenburg
December 22	Tony Faudel, Amy O'Shea, Wesley Obermueller, Jennifer Reynolds
December 23	Kolby Kucera, Ronald Sexton, Mark Stimmel
December 24	James Haack
December 25	Zettie James, Duane Miller, Alvin Wagner
December 26	Sadie Clack, Garrett Sexton
December 27	Shellie Morrison

STEWARDSHIP December 13/14, 2025

TIME	TREASURES		
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/13—5:30pm	20	Contributions	19,601.25
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/14—8:00am	140	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 12/14—10:30am	229	Midweek Advent Services (Dec. 10)	n/a
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	389	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	53/47

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church December 21—28, 2025

<u>Sunday, 12/21</u>		<u>Thursday, 12/25—Christmas Day</u>	
Worship Service	8:00am	***OFFICE CLOSED***	
Worship Service	10:30am	Christmas Day Service	9:30am
Live Nativity	4:00pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
<u>Monday, 12/22</u>		<u>Friday, 12/26</u>	
Chamber Singers	6:00pm	***	
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm		
		<u>Saturday, 12/27</u>	
<u>Tuesday, 12/23</u>		Worship Service	5:30pm
Al-Anon	7:00pm		
		<u>Sunday, 12/28</u>	
<u>Wednesday, 12/24—Christmas Eve</u>		Worship Service	8:00am
OFFICE CLOSED		Worship Service	10:30am
Emerson Point	2:00pm		
Christmas Family Worship	4:30pm		
Christmas Eve Service	6:30pm	Merry Christmas!!!	
Christmas Eve Service	11:30pm	He is Born!!!	

CAMPERSHIPS TO CAMP IO-DIS-E-CA

The Mission Guild is sponsoring camperships to Camp IO-DIS-E-CA. Please contact Linda Diggelmann at 319-594-6908 or diggelfa@gmail.com for more information. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2026.



2025 Advent/Christmas/New Year Schedule

December 20	5:30pm	Communion Service
December 21**	8:00am & 10:30am	Communion Services
December 24*	4:30pm	Christmas Eve Family Worship
	6:30pm & 11:30pm	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	New Year's Eve Comm Worship

**No Midweek Classes December 24 or December 31*

***No Sunday School or Adult Bible Class
December 21 & 28*

Thank you to all who purchased and delivered gifts!!gifts!!

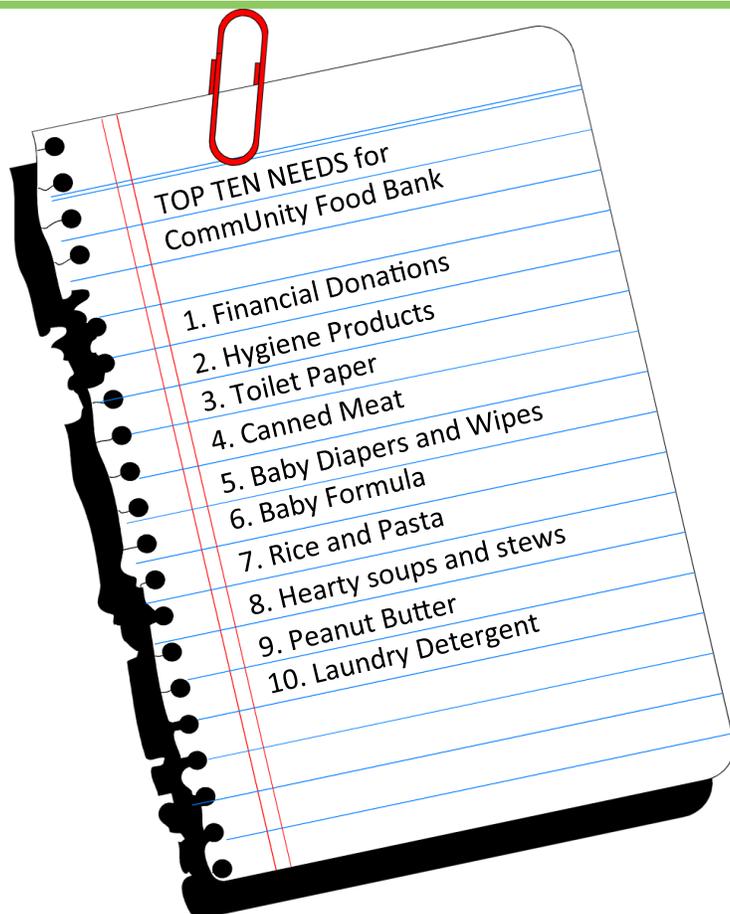


*Dear Lord,
Thank you
for blessing
the children.
Amen!*



Thank you for giving incarcerated parents the chance to be present with their children this Christmas—even from behind bars. You helped to bridge the gap between children in our community and their incarcerated parents. You gave families an opportunity to experience the joy that transcends their current circumstances (the joy that comes through Jesus's birth—both in Bethlehem and in our hearts....) And you gave families the opportunity to see the compassion and love that characterizes Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Thank you!
The Outreach Committee



**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.

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



Tis the Season for Giving!

Warm hands = warm hearts. Living in Iowa we all know bitter cold winter weather is right around the corner. Many of the local children are missing a basic comfort that we often take for granted, warmth. So many students walk to school and/or are unable to participate in daily outdoor recess at school with parents that cannot provide mittens, boots, or gear to keep them warm. Many of these children are the same families serviced by the area shelters and very much in need. The Human Care Committee is currently collecting the following items beginning December 1st until January 2nd and would really appreciate your help with a donation.

They are seeking new or gently used:

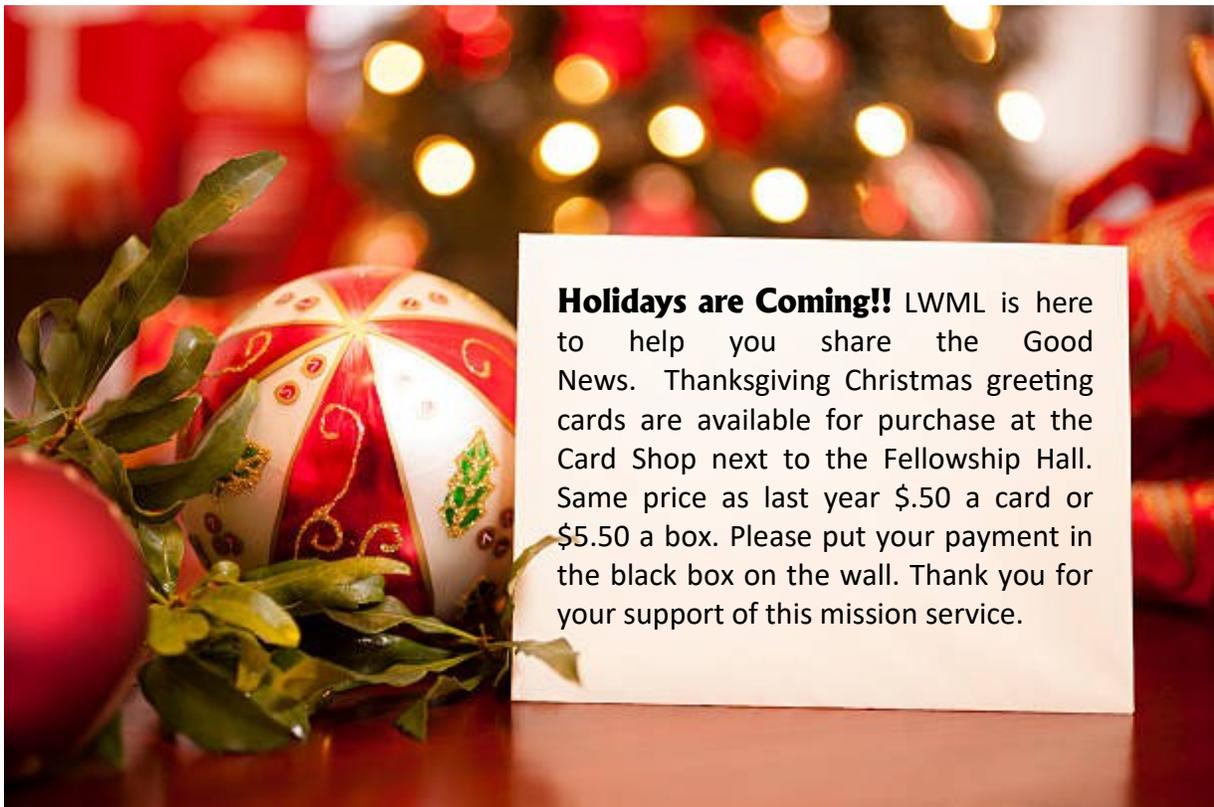
- **Snow Pants**
- **Hats**
- **Boots**
- **Mittens**
- **Scarves**



Any donations can be left at the Mitten Tree which will be located near the Welcome Counter.

On January 2nd the Human Care Committee will gather the items for delivery to the Iowa City School District Administration Office for distribution to children in need when classes resume.

Please feel free to direct any questions to Tracy Nelson, Human Care Committee Chair, at: tracy-nelson@uiowa.edu. Thank you in advance for your kindness!



Holidays are Coming!! LWML is here to help you share the Good News. Thanksgiving 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.



Seek justice. Love mercy. Restore hope.



WE NEED YOUR HELP – WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!

**Prison Fellowship is seeking volunteers to lead the
Prison Fellowship Grow program at
Iowa Medical and Classification Center in Coralville.**

Founded on the Christian belief of human dignity and redemption, the Grow program is Prison Fellowship's cornerstone program offered to prisons across the U.S. and here in Iowa. The program builds community and creates opportunities for men and women in prison to practice and develop values that transform them and others into good citizens. Graduates complete the Grow program as change agents, prepared to take their place as good citizens in the communities they live in today and the communities they will return to tomorrow.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NOW NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Wednesday afternoon (1:00pm-2:30pm)

A new class session will be starting in February 2026

Training and curriculum are provided

Interested? Contact Bob Powers for more information.

baronvonpowers@gmail.com or 319-330-8551

Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them

(Hebrews 13:3a)

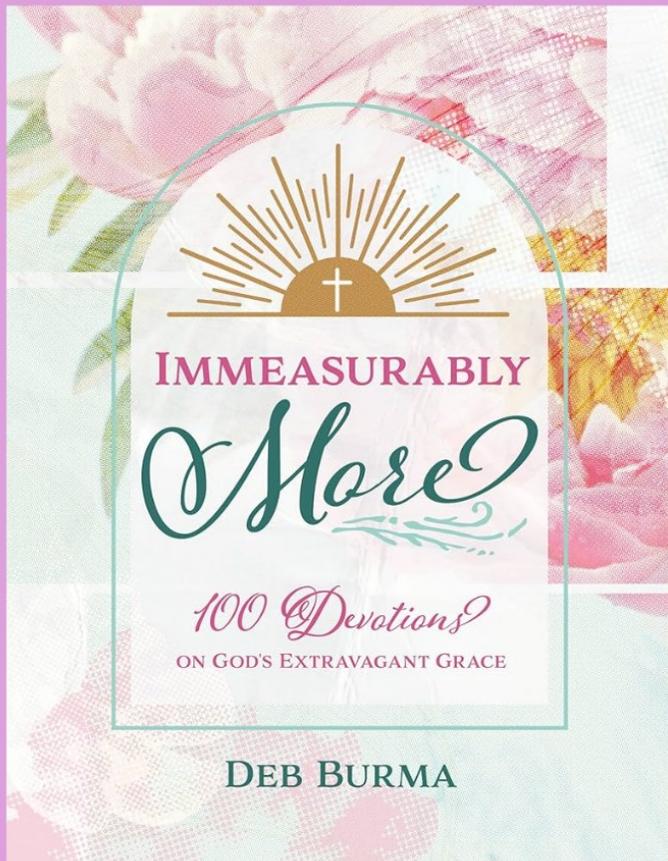
WOMEN'S RETREAT

“Immeasurably More”

We are excited to welcome Deb Burma as our guest speaker for this year's Women's Retreat. This one-day event titled “Immeasurably More” will focus on the beautiful truths found in Ephesians 3:20-21.

Highlights include three teaching sessions with biblical encouragement and personal reflection, plus live music by Wendysue Fluegge throughout the day.

Coffee, treats, lunch and more fun surprises!



January 10, 2026
8:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Cost: \$15 per person
Our Redeemer Lutheran
Church & Preschool

Register today using the
QR code or by calling
the church office at
319-338-5626



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool
2301 E Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
319-338-5626

Preschool Christmas Wish List

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

Money towards:

- Specific paints we are running out of
- Princess stickers
- Hawkeye stickers
- Stickers
- Gems for crafts
- Buttons for crafts



Sponsored

Darice 4.5" Natural Wood Popsicle Craft Sticks, 2000 Pcs, Ages 3+

4.5 (460)

1K+ bought in past month

\$26⁹⁹



+6 other colors/patterns

Sponsored

Golf Tees Multiple Colors Mixed Size Package, 100pcs Professional Bamboo/Wood Golf Tees, Size 3-1/4", 2-3/4" & 1-1/2" Reduce Fricti...

4.6 (199)

500+ bought in past month

\$8⁵⁹



4Pcs Kid Rakes, 31" Child Size Plastic Lawn Rakes for Leaves Wooden Handle, Great Gardening Tools Gifts for Boys Girls Age 3 Year Old and Up

4.0 (142)

500+ bought in past month

\$24⁹⁹



Bear Paw Creek Medium Stretchy Band

★★★★☆ 11

\$58⁵⁰



Toddler Puzzles Montessori Toy Wooden Shape Sorting...

Black Friday Deal

-20% \$17⁵⁹ List Price: \$21-99



Atoylink Toddler Sorting and Stacking Toys with Magnetic...

Black Friday Deal

-15% \$22⁰⁹ List Price: \$25-99



Adena Montessori Lower and Capital Case Sandpaper Lett...

Black Friday Deal

-20% \$23⁹³ (\$0.46 / count)



KODATEK Wooden Snap-Together Building Toys, STE...

Black Friday Deal

-20% \$19¹⁹ Typical price: \$23-99



Preschool Newsletter

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

December 15—19, 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

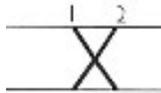
This Week

CIRCLE TIMES

- Daily Christmas question
- Math equation
- Letter X—recognize, write, and make the sound
- Color Song
- Bible: The angels announce to the shepherds
- Our Christmas songs
- Nativity books
- Stained glass nativity craft
- 5 little Christmas trees chant
- Christmas party with games, songs, and cookie decorating



Big line
Big line



X-ray Fish

Future Dates

- Dec. 22-Jan. 2—No preschool
- Jan. 5/6—Preschool begins
- Jan. 19—No preschool

At Home Question

Whose birthday do you celebrate at Christmas?
Why?

Snack in January

You get to bring snacks and be our line leader.
M/W/F = 15 students; T/TH = 13 students

- Monday: Coen
- Tuesday: Given
- Wednesday: Hazel
- Thursday: Norah
- Friday: Jane



You only need to bring 2 healthy food groups for snack of the 5 presented in our Credible Food List packet. **Half a gallon of a drink is all we really use in class.** Thanks for the snack. All those staying for lunch remember the 5 food groups.

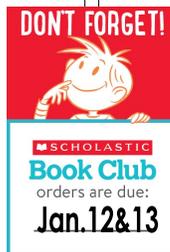


Happy 4 ^{1/2} birthday, Evelynn!

Xx (To Camptown Races)



Xavier was an alien, extraterrestrial. He was born on Planet X, extremely far from Earth. He had two pointy heads; his vision was x-ray. He saw exactly everything in an alien way.



Preschool Christmas Songs

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



Consign through the Stuff; this is a fundraiser for our preschool. You can donate items by dropping them off yourselves or placing them in a box outside the preschool. Preschool will receive 50% of the profit from the donated items that are sold at Stuff. All items given to Stuff will be a donation if they cannot sell them. **Consigner Number:** Iowa City #43522 Coralville #38168



Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade



Sunday School
Sunday, December 21st & 28th

**No
Sunday
School
Classes**

A Christmas To Believe

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND TO THOSE WHO DONATED AND HELPED WITH THE SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH.



**NO
MIDWEEK
CLASSES**

Wednesday, December 24 & 31



Youth

6th —12th Grade

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

Confirmation Classes

*Wednesday, December 24th
& Wednesday, December 31st*

**NO
MIDWEEK
CLASSES**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 21st



LIVE NATIVITY

Youth hours **3:00 pm —7:00 pm**

High School Youth please be here by **3:00pm** and bring your friends!

Open to public 4:00 pm—6:00 pm



Sunday School

Sunday, December 21st & 28th

**No
Sunday
School
Classes**



*Joy to the
World the
Lord has
come!*

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

<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>
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)
Andrew Vought, Vicar vicar@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Lorrie Bailey, Office Coordinator redemer@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 Gabel, 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 choirdirector@ourredeemer.org	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

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	319-331-5369
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 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.