



# The Parish Beacon

Volume 47—No. 6

June/July 2026

I cannot believe how fast this school year has gone! I cannot believe that my family and I only have two months left here at Our Redeemer. You have all been so gracious and welcoming to us, thank you!

Have you ever noticed how the church year tends to move together with God's creation? I ask because I did not until I started seminary. Growing up in the church, the church year simply happened. Green colors on the pulpit this week, red the next, and purple the week after, I never really paid that much attention. But the more you look at it, the more it all fits together. And now in this season of Pentecost, we find ourselves at the end of spring and the beginning of summer. Think about how many shades of green you seen as you drive around. The grass, the bushes, the trees, and the new crops planted in rows. And the shade of green that will hang over the pulpit here at church. Green to remind us of new life and growth in Christ. New life found in the waters of your baptism.

In this season of Pentecost, this season of green, we look to the Holy Spirit who holds our faith together. The one who gives us the gift of faith, the one who keeps us in the faith and the one who surrounds us with His church. You are surrounded by the church. The people of God who have been placed in your life to build you up and encourage you. The people who God uses to strengthen you in the faith. The people who God has given you to serve and the people God has given you to serve alongside. You are the church and you get to be the blessing of God to the people around you.

My family and I see it firsthand. We have been so blessed to be here. We have been so blessed to be able to watch you work and serve together. Thank you for inviting us in. May the Holy Spirit continue to bless you and work through you.

Grace and Peace,  
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)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH/The Holy Trinity/May 31, 2026

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 "Enter His Courts" Ministry Expansion Campaign that God would teach us stewardship and this campaign allow the cross and entrance project to move forward, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have Mercy**

P: For the group traveling to Eswatini for safe travel and effective ministry to the people through assisting the clinic and parish nurses, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have Mercy**

P: For the children of God, especially *Margot Marie Kucera* 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), Hank Diggelmann, John Enokian (brother of Chuck Enokian), Dean Hargens, Mary Helen Gibson (sister of Gwen McNatt Enokian), 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 (Denise Schwarting's step-dad), Norma Miller (Twyla Freeman's aunt), Jane Mills (aunt of Rob Ghabel), Marvin Muhlenbruck, Merri Mullane, Julie Pratt-Mullenkamp (cousin of Ruth Varney), Elora Nelson (great niece of John and Tracy Nelson), Erin Nielsen (cousin of Crissy Pence), Faith Pederson, Ed Pederson, Beverly Prem, Carol Schuldt, George Schuldt, Lee Schwarting (Art Schwarting's mother), Stanley Seese (friend of Harold Warner), Carol Simpson (mother of Kara Hartwig), Marlene Thompson, Natalie Ullrich (Jeff Kucera's cousin), Reece Ullerich, Don Warner (Harold Warner's brother), Harold Warner, and Garry Wilcox (Melissa Mullane's dad),*

let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the family and friends of *Shana Siems*. Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For our Adult Confirmand who is being confirmed this weekend. Bless our adult confirmand: *Brian Slade*. Strengthen him in his faith unto life everlasting, 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.**

# THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun 05/31      Worship Service 8:00am  
                   Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:20am  
                   Worship Service 10:30am

Mon 06/01      Staff Meeting 1:00pm  
                   Chamber Singers 6:00pm  
                   Sunlight AA Group 6:00pm  
                   Youth Committee 6:00pm

Tues 06/02      Primary Election Precinct 17 7:00am  
                   Solon Nursing Home 9:30am  
                   Human Care 6:30pm  
                   Al-Anon 7:00pm

Wed 06/03      TOPS 8:00am  
                   Bible Study 11:00am  
                   Lunch Bunch 12:00pm

Thurs 06/04      Comfort Tiers 9:00am  
                   Visitation 6:30pm  
                   Al-Anon Birthdays 7:30pm

Fri 06/05      \*\*\*

Sat 06/06      Worship Service 5:30pm

Sun 06/07      Worship Service 8:00am  
                   Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 9:20am  
                   Worship Service 10:30am



## BAPTISM

**Margot Marie Kucera**  
 Daughter of  
**Thomas Kucera & Kristan Bryars**

**Friday, May 29**

**Sponsors:**  
**Jeff & Kelli Kucera**  
**Jennifer Thousand**



## Congratulations Confirmand

**Brian Kenneth Slade**

**May 31, 2026**  
**8:00 a.m. Sunday Service**

### 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: June 6, 7, 20, 21**  
**July 4, 5, 18, 19**

**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**

**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)**



**Wedding**

**May 30, 2026**

**Congratulations**  
**Casey Marvin**  
**&**  
**Erin Rochleau**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Watch *Reflections* for more details

**ESWATINI MISSION TRIP**  
May 31—June 14



Primary Election  
Precinct 17  
June 2  
7:00am—8:00pm



June 3  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall

**LWML DISTRICT CONVENTION**  
June 12—13



UKANDU  
COMMISSIONING  
Sunday, June 14  
10:30am service



June 17  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall



UKANDU  
June 20—27



Sunday  
June 21



July 1  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall



July 15  
Bible Class 11:00am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Fellowship Hall

**LWML IED RETREAT**  
July 17—18

**PASTOR AT LCMS CONVENTION**  
July 17—23

VICAR VOUGHT'S LAST SUNDAY  
JULY 26



FAREWELL LUNCH IMMEDIATELY  
FOLLOWING LATE SERVICE

LOADING MOVING TRUCK  
MONDAY, JULY 27 @ 10:00am



VICAR MORSE—MOVE IN  
THURSDAY, JULY 30 @ 9:00am

## Birthdays

May 31	Brett Harvis, William Lothamer, Peter Rocca, Peter Svare
June 1	Linda Brachtel, Kristin Breza
June 2	Eli Haack
June 3	Dana Chown
June 4	Claudia Cornelius, Kara Hartwig
June 5	Kecia Boysen, Shelby Davis
June 6	Kayla Huedepohl, Don Reddel, Erin Rochleau, Kimberly Sexton, Alissa Sotzen

## Stewardship—May 23/24, 2026

ATTENDANCE		TREASURES	
Sat. 5/23 In Person 5:30pm	44	Contributions	\$11,364.56
Sun. 5/24 In Person 8:00am	83	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Sun. 5/24 In Person 10:30am	117	No SS or ABC—Memorial Day Weekend	
<b>TOTAL WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>244</b>	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	0/0

## Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Death</u>	
Shana Siems	05-25-2026
<u>Transferred In</u>	
Monty & Debbie Fisher	05-01-2026
Beth Richter	05-05-2026
<u>Removed</u>	
Bonnie Broadwell	05--14-2026
<u>Baptism</u>	
Margot Kucera	05-29-2026
<u>Adult Confirmation</u>	
Brian Slade	05-31-2026
<u>Wedding</u>	
Casey & Erin Marvin	05-30-2026

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Minutes  
May 14, 2026 ~ 7:00pm

Present: Jeff Kucera, Kennedy Donovan, Bruce Maurer, Barb Pronk, Dave Yansky, Mary Robinson, Jim Tiedemann, Steve Scott

Staff: Pastor Hartwig, Vicar Vought, Kara Hartwig

1. Call to order, welcome.
2. Opening Devotions – Pastor Hartwig
3. Bylaws Review – Article VI, sections 6-8
  - a. Section 6. Change in number of members of the Board of Directors
  - b. Section 7. Called Church Staff
  - c. Section 8. Parliamentary Procedures
4. Reviewed – minutes from last meeting stand approved as written
5. Treasurer’s Report –
  - a. April Income - \$1,876.56
  - b. January – April income down \$16,109.59
  - c. Current outstanding debt is \$231,000
  - d. Current pledge amount is \$731,448.69 for the Ministry Expansion Campaign
6. Elder’s Report – Annual staff reviews are started
7. At Large Reports –
  - a. Mary Robinson – N/A
  - b. Jim Tiedemann –
    - o Photographs of congregation are continuing for the directory
    - o Members of this committee sent cards to the confirmands
  - c. Steve Scott –
    - o Planning has started for Vacation Bible School
    - o Preschool pizza party appreciation for students and parents was held with 54 attendees
    - o Parents evaluations of our preschool were turned in. Parents loved our staff and curriculum
8. Church Properties – Dave Yansky
  - a. Adjuster is coming back to check for reported hail damage
  - b. Chiller is still having high and low temperature alarm problem
  - c. Hawkeye Communications is our new provider for the church.
  - d. Awarded the \$10,000 Climate Action grant that will go to the building fund for new vestibule doors
  - e. Sidewalk construction – MidAmerica completed their portion and Iowa City to complete the last seven pads on the north side
  - f. Steve is keeping up with weed control in the construction area
  - g. Property Committee sent a message to all confirmands
  - h. Daycare is leaving some time in May
  - i. Properties Committee seeking quotes to paint exterior white fiber boards that surround the sanctuary

- j. Pump in boiler room – need to purchase a spare for emergency replacement when necessary
  - k. Rick Gienapp will be removing some shrubs and replanting in vacant spots along the row
  - l. Approved tree removal of maple at \$4200 in front of the church using tree fund and landscape fund
  - m. Merit Construction will take the cross down sometime next week
9. Staff Reports –
- a. Pastor Hartwig –
    - Cross and Entrance Campaign consists of three committees
      - Building
      - Campaign
      - Finance
    - They all work together
    - Jacob Morse’s Vicarage assignment to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church for next year-we have been blessed with great vicars the last 11 years
    - Annual planning has begun for program and theme selection
  - b. Vicar Vought –
    - Cross and Campaign has been a great experience
    - July 26 will be Vicar family’s last Sunday here
    - Lensing Funeral Director met with Pastor and Vicar about all services they provide.
  - c. Kara Hartwig –
    - The Bible is Right was held Sunday, May 10
    - May 17<sup>th</sup> the Senior Grad Breakfast will be held. All congregational members are invited to attend.
10. Discussion Items –There will be no Board of Director’s Meetings in June or July.
11. Kudos – Kennedy Donovan, Board treasurer, for providing monthly financial reports and helping to provide financial expertise with the pledges made for our Ministry Expansion Campaign
12. Prayer and Adjourn: Next meeting is August 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Pronk, B.O.D. Secretary



## **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church welcomes new members Isaiah & Anna Smith**

ORLC would like to take the time to welcome Isaiah & Anna Smith. Isaiah is currently employed as a supply chain purchaser at UIHC. Anna is currently employed as a nurse.

Some of the couples hobbies and leisure time activities are watching Hawkeye sports (Go Hawks!) and Minnesota Vikings games. They also like to travel and be outdoors. Anna also likes reading and crocheting. They have previously lived in Cedar Rapids and Muscatine.

## Our Redeemer Lutheran Church VBS

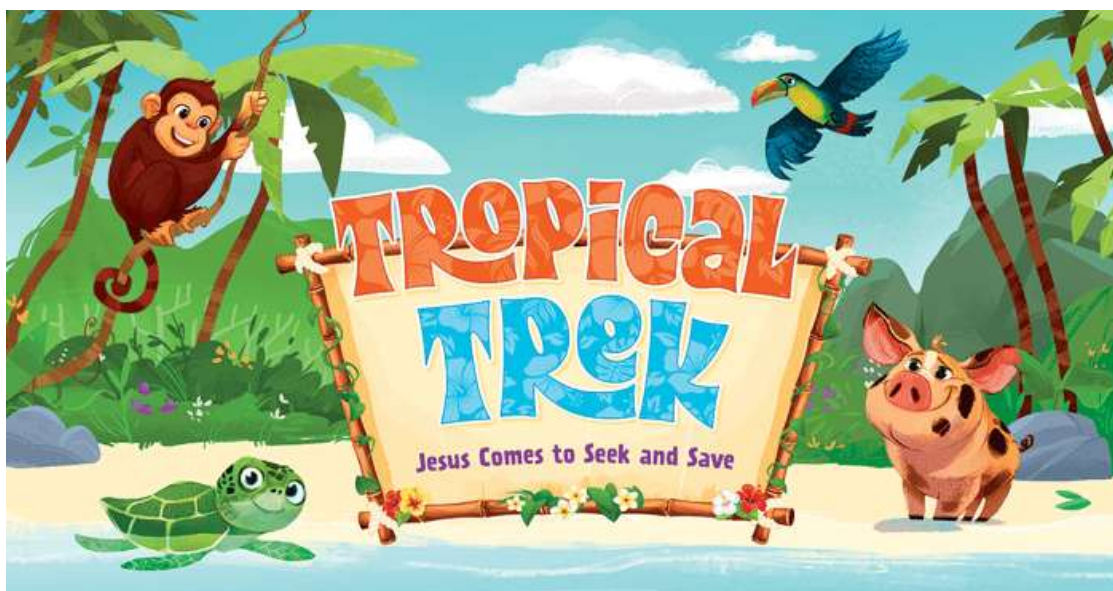
Sunday, August 2, 2026 to

Thursday, August 6, 2026

5:00 PM—8:15 PM

2301 East Court Street

Iowa City, IA



Sign up today for **Tropical Trek VBS** this summer! Throughout this program, we will learn how Jesus came to seek and save the Lost! As we traverse fun and exciting places, like a dormant volcano and island caves we will discover how God finds us in every challenge we face.

### 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 2026-27)

Volunteer or sign up to attend at the link below:

<https://vbsmate.com/events/OurRedeemerVBS2026/31540>



# Camp Iodiseca

February 2026

Greetings in Christ from Camp Iodiseca!

*"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."*

- Galatians 5:13

Registration is now open for our 2026 Summer Program. This year's theme is **Free to Serve**. Enclosed, you will find two posters. Please hang the posters where they may be seen. Should you need more posters, please contact us, and we will mail them to you.

On the posters, there are two QR Codes. One of the QR Codes is for prospective staff members to scan in order to find out more information about being a counselor at Camp Iodiseca. The other is for parents to scan and will take them to our website which will provide more information about our Summer Program as well as the link to register online. We have updated our registration process to be completely online. All forms will now be accessible and able to be completed through our registration website. They will no longer be available as printable versions.

For individuals who would like to register for camp for the first time, our *First-Time Camper* Scholarship is a way in which we continually pursue new campers by cutting the cost of their first camp experience. Please refer new and interested families to this tuition discount. Camp scholarship funds are also available to those who need financial assistance. Additionally, your congregation may sponsor campers as they look to attend summer camp. If your congregation would like to financially contribute to your members' camp experience, please contact [office@iodiseca.org](mailto:office@iodiseca.org) to find out how we can help facilitate your payment.

Discounts are available to pastors and rostered church workers as well! Additional information on both financial aid and discounts can also be found on our website.

We look forward to having your congregation's youth join us this summer as they enjoy the outdoors, study God's Word, and make unforgettable memories.

Peace in Christ,



Alec Deppe  
Director of Programs and Retreats  
Camp Iodiseca



**Rachel Christine Haack 2026**

Graduate from: City  
College/Future Plans: Colorado State University  
Field of Study: Psychology  
Compete Track & Field



**Mitchell Robert Holman 2026**

Graduate from: Liberty  
College/Future Plans: Concordia University WI  
Field of Study: Environmental Science



**Jessie Mae Kucera 2026**

Graduate from: City  
College/Future Plans: Iowa State University  
Field of Study: Kinesiology, Pre-Dental



**Frank James Ogilvie 2026**

Graduate from: City  
College/Future Plans: U of Northern Iowa  
Field of Study: Entomology



**Natalie Ramsey**

Blanket by Marilyn Paetz



**Lucy Catherine Robinson 2026**

Graduate from: City

College/Future Plans: University of Iowa

Field of Study: Undecided

**Natalie Mae Ramsey 2026**

Graduate from: Liberty

College/Future Plans: U of South Dakota

Field of Study: Kinesiology & Basketball



**Jordan Mark Traetow 2026**

Graduate from: Mid Prairie

College/Future Plans: U of Northern Iowa

Field of Study: Unknown



**Jordan Traetow**

Blanket by Jane Marshall



**Evan Allan Waring 2026**

Graduate from: Clear Creek Amana

College/Future Plans: Iowa State University

Field of Study: Mechanical Engineering



**Lucy Robinson**

Blanket by Fern Parish



**Evan Waring**

Blanket by Laurel Sellers



## **CLHS is Building Connections**

This past month Christ Lutheran High's board of directors have been busy sharing our progress in presentations to various pastors and congregations in Benton and Linn counties. As we work through the modules for launching CLHS, we need YOUR insights for the next phase of development — whether general community input or targeted interests from families with prospective CLHS students. Will you please take 10 minutes to complete the survey? We will value your input.

[Interest Survey](#)



## **Next Vision Presentation**

**Sunday, June 7, 2026 | 10:30 AM**

Trinity Lutheran Church – Cedar Rapids

**Questions:** [info@christlutheranhigh.org](mailto:info@christlutheranhigh.org)

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



*Submitted by Marcia Hulse*

# Stephen Ministry

We care, Christ cures.

We like to think of summer as being a relaxing, enjoyable time. But hurts, struggles, crises, and problems don't take a vacation. Many times our difficulties seem even worse during the summer because everyone else seems to be enjoying life while you are feeling down. If you are experiencing a difficult time—emotionally, spiritually, or relationally—you don't have to struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. It's free. It's confidential. And it will make a difference in your life! **Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!**

To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders.

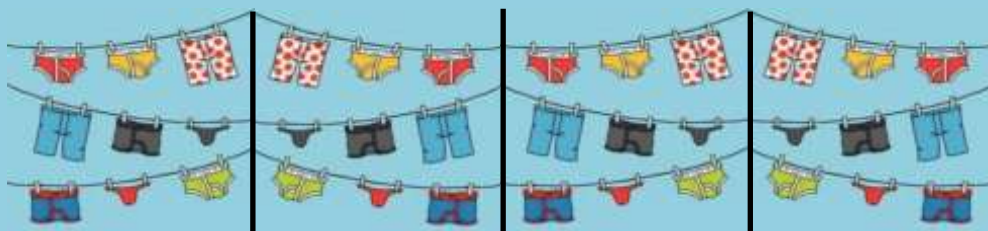
## STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

**Pastor Hartwig 319-338-5626**

**Bill Benson 517-881-9848**

**Marcia Hulse 319-541-4026**

**Kevin Sellers 319-631-8924**



## UNDIES SUNDAY

Starting Saturday, May 30th, through Sunday, June 28th, the Our Redeemer Human Care Committee will sponsor our fifth annual "Undies Sunday" to benefit the Iowa City Shelter House. Since this drive began in 2022, our church and community have donated a total of 3,347 pairs of underwear. We appreciate your support in making this another successful year.

Did you know that underwear is one of the most requested but least donated items for those experiencing homelessness? 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 in all sizes and colors.



Laundry baskets will be placed in the Narthex for donation. Next time you are shopping for your family, please consider purchasing a package to help make a difference for our neighbors in Johnson County.

Hebrews 13:16 "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."



## WANTED: BOTTLES OF WATER FOR JULY 4 PARADE



**Our Redeemer Outreach Committee is seeking bottles of water that can be distributed along the Coralville Fourth of July parade route. The bottles will be labelled with a message pointing to Jesus (and to Our Redeemer Church!) What a wonderful opportunity be the hands and feet of Christ by interacting with those around us to meet a community need!**

**Please place donated bottles of water in the narthex or Fellowship Hall.  
Thank you!  
-Outreach Committee**



## THE PENNIES ARE IN!!!

MISSION	% TOTAL	Amt + Vote	S.S. Sunday	TOTALS
Tabor	13.85%	\$459.98		\$459.98
Eswatini	13.14%	\$471.62		\$471.62
Panama	29.90%	\$982.33		\$982.33
Lutheran Hour Ministry	14.53%	\$482.42	\$80.00	\$562.42
IDE Scholarships	12.76%	\$444.19	\$100.00	\$544.19
UKANDU	15.83%	\$519.99	\$130.00	\$649.99
		<b>\$3,360.53</b>		<b>\$3,670.53</b>



These photos are from the Children & Youth Sunday School event for “Enter His Courts” on Sunday, April 26. Kaja shared information about the Cross & Entrance project and the “Enter His Courts” campaign with the Toddlin’ through high school classes. Aaron led us in singing “He Hung Upon The Cross”.



Enter His Courts Ministry Expansion Committee is excited to share these pictures from the pledge events held in April and May. Amount pledged from these the Leadership Initial Commitment event and the weekend commitment event plus pledges mailed in or dropped in the box in the pledge box in the office is over \$750,000. Thank you to everyone

who has pledged. If you have not been able to get your pledge card in there is always time. The pledge box will be in the office for awhile yet or you can mail it to the church office. Exciting times will be starting soon. Watch and listen for updates and progress. One last exciting note—the noisy offering for the campaign on Sunday, May 10 was \$408.72. Wow...keep saving your change.



*Banks for noisy offering ready for blessing and distribution (rt)*

## Cross and Entrance Committee Progress Update

The Cross and Entrance Committee would like to provide an update with the most recent developments. The committee has been meeting for about three years looking at multiple encompassing aspects of the project. This is a major undertaking with various multilevel complexities.



A listing of the issues included structural and aesthetic assessment of architecture, building and traffic access issues, lighting restrictions, and incorporating and modifying existing water flow from the roof and new canopy away from walkways to improve safety. Other safety measures include exterior door monitoring capabilities and ADA door access. This project was undertaken to try to meet the needs of the congregation and community and be welcoming to God's House with The Word of God and displaying hospitality. These and many other issues not included here were painstakingly reviewed, all of which had to adhere to city and county code constraints. Stewardship of God's gifts given back for this project was crucially important and was a major consideration of the committee's review process.

As has been noted previously, cross integrity was a potential safety issue and was prioritized to be removed. This happened on May 20<sup>th</sup> (see photos). Because the church is a designated disaster building site, access to and from the church must meet city requirements so alternate access/egress doors will be chosen with restricted access of the front entrance and other entrances when construction begins. The best estimated start timeline is late summer to early fall.



We give thanks to God, acknowledging those who have committed their time and abilities both historically and now to keep Our Redeemer Lutheran Church an inviting place to worship. We ask that you keep this project in your prayers so that it fulfills needs as God intends.

It's All about The Cross (Jesus).

Myrl Holida, Chair  
Cross and Entrance Committee



On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> the big tree in front of the church came down





Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Mission Committee  
Highlighting the Christian/humanitarian work of our congregation as a whole and as individuals.  
Here and around the world.

# **TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH** **ALBANY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD - CHICAGO ILLINOIS**

**Tabor Lutheran Church's "Outreach Nights" to the Albany Park neighborhood**  
**would appreciate your prayers,**  
**your volunteering and your financial support.**



**Tabor Lutheran Church on Chicago's North Side.**



**Outreach Night**



**Spanish Language Services**



### Tabor Lutheran Church Staff

(L to R) Pastor Robarge / Elder Steve Kowbel / Executive Director Emily Pacyga / Pastor Ramirez



The Albany Park neighborhood is known as “Gateway to the World”. Albany Park is 2.5 square miles with a population of 64,000 people. Albany Park has 128 people groups speaking 64 different languages.

### Mission Committee Members

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



Further fundraising for Eswatini Parish Nursing through jewelry and card sales



\$2,317 raised was distributed amongst:

- Eswatini Parish Nursing
- Former vicar Tyler Simmons
- Informed Choices



Door prize committee members Marilyn Kempnich and Melissa Mullane



Singing Alleluia



Committee members Donna Saehler, Laurel Sellers, Laura Stresow, Cynthia Freundt, and Sandy Wagner



Can you guess who decorated the Coke table??





**Confirmation 2026  
10:30am Service  
April 26, 2026**

Dear members of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church,

Greetings from Concordia Seminary St. Louis!

It is my great pleasure to announce that I have received my vicarage assignment to Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Humble, Texas! Lamb of God is a vibrant and growing congregation in the suburbs of Houston. I am very excited to serve God's church in Texas and experience life in a different part of the country. On vicarage I will get to put into practice everything I have been learning at the seminary. I will practice preaching, leading Bible studies, teaching confirmation, and many other responsibilities that I will have in the ministry. Of course, I will still be keeping up with my Greek and Hebrew skills. I can't wait to begin this new stage of my seminary training! Thank you for all your support as I embark on vicarage. Please be praying for me and my fellow seminarians as we travel and get settled in our new homes for the coming year.

In Christ,  
Nathaniel Pekari

# Preschool Beacon



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



**Have a great  
summer  
everyone. See  
you in  
September!**



# Children's Ministry

Birth—5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Toddlin' to  
5th Grade  
Sundays at  
9:20am**

Date	Scripture	Bible Lesson
May 31	1 Kings 11:9—13, 26—40; 12:1—24	A Divided Kingdom— Jeroboam and Rehoboam
June 7	Jeremiah 4:1—10; 29:1—14; 31:31—34; 33:14—16	Comfort in Captivity—Jeremiah
June 14	Daniel 6	A Trap and a Release—Daniel
June 21	Ezra 1:1—2; 7:11—28; Nehemiah 2:1—8; 12:27—43	Homecoming Hopes— Return from Exile
June 28	UKANDU Presentation—Fellowship Hall (all ages)	
July 5	Luke 2:1—20	A Nativity Night—Jesus' Birth
July 12	Matthew 2	Wise Men Worship
July 19	Luke 3:15—22; 4:1—13	Claimed and Tested— Jesus' Baptism & Temptation
July 26	Luke 5:1—11	Fishers Follow—Jesus Calls Disciples

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church VBS  
Sunday, August 2, 2026 to  
Thursday, August 6, 2026  
5:00 PM—8:15 PM  
2301 East Court Street  
Iowa City, IA**



Sign up today for **Tropical Trek VBS** this summer! Throughout this program, we will learn how Jesus came to seek and save the Lost! As we traverse fun and exciting places, like a dormant volcano and island caves we will discover how God finds us in every challenge we face.

#### 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 2026-27)

**Volunteer or sign up to attend at the link below:**

<https://vbsmate.com/events/OurRedeemerVBS2026/31540>

# Youth

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

## JUNE 2026

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				

## JULY 2026

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
6/1	UKANDU \$300 due	
6/10	Youth Activity	6:00pm
6/17	Youth Activity	6:00pm
6/20	UKANDY (June 20—27)	
7/1	Family Youth Activity at Bohnsacks	6:30pm
7/8	Youth Activity	6:00pm
7/15	Youth Activity	6:00pm
7/22	Youth Activity	6:00pm
7/29	Youth Activity	6:00pm

Watch Reflections and Beacon for peach updates.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>  
 ICCSD—Seniors  
 Last Day



Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>  
 UKANDU \$300 due



Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Summer Youth Activity  
 6:00pm

Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Summer Youth Activity  
 6:00pm

UKANDU, June 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Chicago



Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Family Summer Youth Activity  
 @ Bohnsacks  
 6:30pm

Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Summer Youth Activity  
 6:00pm

Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Summer Youth Activity  
 6:00pm

Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Summer Youth Activity  
 6:00pm

## 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:redeemer@ourredeemer.org">redeemer@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)

### 2026 Board of Elders

Tim Eick	248-514-2881
Rick Gienapp	319-331-7425
Skip Kempnich	319-331-5639
Cameron Koch	319-269-0871
Jordan Lyon	563-506-2321
Brad Mullane	319-936-5826
TJ Ramsey	319-325-3790
Kevin Roiseland (Chairman)	319-230-5247
Chad Waring	319-331-8303

### 2026 Board of Directors

President	Jeff Kucera	563-316-1088
Vice President	Bruce Maurer	319-530-1524
Secretary	Barb Pronk	641-425-4880
Treasurer	Kennedy Donovan	515-230-2057
Board of Elders	Kevin Roiseland	319-230-5247
Properties	Dave Yansky	319-621-7694
At Large	Mary Robinson	319-400-5572
	Steve Scott	563-889-0990
	Jim Tiedemann	319-341-3400

### 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.