



First Avenue and Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org
www.ourredeemer.org

Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—August 9, 2026

~The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost~

Summer Sunday School Lessons

Date	Bible Lesson	Scripture Reading(s)
August 9	No Classes—FUN FAITH FEST Set Up	
August 16	Eswatini Presentation—All Ages Meet in Fellowship Hall	
August 23	A Weather Wonder—Jesus Calms a Storm	Mark 4:35-41
August 30	A Life Restored—Jairus's Daughter	Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

Come one, come all to our annual Fun Faith Fest!
It will be held outdoors this Sunday, August. 9th on
Our Redeemer west parking lot from 12-2. p.m.

The 10:30 church service will be held in the sanctuary
this year, and will include the Vacation Bible School
songs sung by the children who attend. After the service,
there will be a hot dog lunch in the Fellowship Hall at
11:30, provided by the small Bible studies group.



The carnival for the children will start at noon in the west parking lot. We will have a bouncy house, dunk tank, cotton candy, popcorn, tattoos, and 10 carnival games, including a basketball hoop shoot game. And don't forget the prize table! All children begin at the designated registration before going to the carnival games, where they win tickets to buy prizes at the prize table. **Volunteers who signed up for the Fun Faith Fest are encouraged to wear either your Christ Cares, Thrivent shirts or VBS shirts.**

After the 8:00 church service we are asking for help to set up chairs, tables and canopy tents on the west parking lot and bring game equipment to their designated spots.

Volunteers who signed up for the carnival games, prize table, bouncy house, popcorn, cotton candy and dunk tank are to go to the front of the hot dog lunch line so you are ready at noon to take care of your assigned duties.

Parking for Sunday will be available at the parking lots south of the church. There will be additional handicapped parking spots in the front lot row south of the church, and east of the church, People using these parking spaces will be able to enter the church from the south and east door and use the elevator.

We are excited to provide outreach to our VBS and community families and celebrate God's goodness to Our Redeemer Lantern family!! We hope to see you there! Bring a friend, or neighbors!!

Outreach committee for Fun Faith Fest: Melody Strom, Donna Saehler, Carol Homan

Prayer of the Church/The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost/August 9, 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 results, we give you thanks, and we ask that you would govern the construction of the "Cross and Entrance" project this fall, 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. Seth and Summer Penney**. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the love between husbands and wives and that you instituted holy marriage. Bless **Don and Donna Reddel** for their 63rd wedding anniversary. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For **Steve Rudin** being blessed with 30 years of good health after his bypass surgery. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have Mercy**

P: For the families and friends of **Brian Sexton** as they mourn his death. 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 **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), **John Enokian** (brother of Chuck Enokian), **Mary Helen Gibson** (sister of Gwen McNatt Enokian), **Isaiah Giebeck**, **James Haack**, **Ella Grace Hedberg** (granddaughter to Becky Pedersen), **Jeff Hundley** (grandson of Karen Abernathy), **Sandra Jacobs**, **Dora Jacobson** (granddaughter of George and Carol Schuldt), **Todd Jones** (Barb & Ron Jones's son), **Katie Kucera** (Jeff Kucera's sister), **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), **Ed Pederson**, **Beverly Prem**, **Mary Ann Schlueter**, **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**, **Charma Wenck**, **Lynne Westphal**, **Garry Wilcox** (Melissa Mullane's dad), and **Jennifer Wood** (Henry & Linda Diggelmann's daughter), 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

August 9	Tammy Frantz, Tim Frantz, Rachel Haack, Breanna O'Leary, Holden Schrader
August 10	Willow Hahn, Florence Miller
August 11	Alexander Chabal, Florence Miller, John Mentink
August 12	LilliAnne Eldridge, Debbie Johnston, Hope Koch, Lloyd Koopman, Winifred O'Shea, David Varney
August 13	Matthew Gerard, Claire Gienapp, Nicholas Pumfrey, Jeff Saehler, Michelle Waring
August 14	Ali Carlson, Scott Redlin, Faith Reynolds, Abigail Saehler-Hall
August 15	Tammy Bower, Nathaniel Glandorf, Beatrice Guhl, Sharon Hintze

STEWARDSHIP August 1/2, 2026

Time		Treasures	
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/01—5:30pm	45	Contributions	\$20,547.87
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/02—8:00am	73	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/02—10:30am	165		
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	283	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	50/8

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church August 9--16, 2026

<u>Sunday, 08/09—Fun Faith Fest</u>		<u>Thursday, 08/13</u>	
Worship Service	8:00am	Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Fun Faith Fest Set up	9:20am	Lantern Park	10:00am
Worship Service	10:30am	Briarwood	4:00pm
Hot Dog Lunch	12:00pm	Al-Anon	7:30pm
Fun Faith Fest	1:00pm		
		<u>Friday, 08/14</u>	
<u>Monday, 08/10</u>		Chamber Singers--Audition	4:00pm
Staff Meeting	1:00pm		
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	<u>Saturday, 08/15</u>	
		LWML Roade Trip	10:00am
<u>Tuesday, 08/11</u>		Worship Service	5:30pm
Connection Committee	6:30pm		
Al-Anon	7:00pm	<u>Sunday, 08/16</u>	
		Worship Service	8:00am
<u>Wednesday, 08/12</u>		Eswatini Report (all ages Fellowship Hall)	9:20am
TOPS	8:00pm	Worship Service	10:30am
Properties Committee	5:30pm		
Youth Activity	6:00pm		

Why should I consider wearing my name tag?

Because wearing your name tag helps –

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



Best Day Ever Cake Boxes Are Needed!

The Human Care Committee is collecting cake mixes and frosting again this year. Please consider bringing a CHOCOLATE, LEMON or STRAWBERRY cake mix and a frosting to go with it. We will be collecting these the rest of July and all of August.

Thank you!



LWML Road Trip

August 15, 10:00am

Where: Matchstick Marvels, 319 Second Street, Gladbrook, Iowa 50635 (Gladbrook City Centre Building)
Admission Fee: Adults \$5.00 Ages 5-12 \$3.00 Under 5 years FREE **CASH ONLY--NO CARDS accepted**
Since 1977 Gladbrook artist Patrick Acton has created dozens of wooden sculptures made exclusively of ordinary wooden matchsticks. With over five million matchsticks and hundreds of gallons of glue, he has created more than 70 highly detailed and painstakingly scaled models. Many models have historical significance, such as Iowa governor's mansion, Terrace Hill, and a thirteen-foot scaled model of the USS Iowa battleship along with 14 others on display here at Matchstick Marvels. Ripley's Believe It or Not has purchased several of Acton's matchstick art to place in their museums throughout the world. Experience some the best matchstick art in the world and the story that began it all! The building is handicap accessible.

Carpool from church meeting at 10:00am to leave at 10:15am with arrival for a lunch break at Murph's Creamery and Grill in Toledo, Iowa at about 11:30am (Price range 10\$ to \$20 per person). We will depart Murph's at 12:30pm to arrive at Matchstick Marvels by 1:00pm. Leaving by 3:00pm to arrive back to Our Redeemer by 5:00pm.

Please sign up by August the 9th. Sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Counter in the Narthex.

RALLY DAY Sunday, September 14



Noisy Offering will be at all worship services. Children and Big Children (adults) please bring in your Enter His Courts coin banks.

Presentations for 3 year-olds, first graders, third graders, sixth graders, and juniors will take place during the 10:30am service.

Immediately following the 10:30am service, there will be a potluck that the whole congregation is welcome to come to. Please bring a dish to share.

6th to 8th graders (2026-2027 academic year) and parents, there will be Confirmation Orientation at 12:45pm.



NOISY OFFERING September 13/14

Noisy Offering will be at all three worship services. **Children AND Big Children (adults)** please bring in your Enter His Courts coin banks.



VOTERS
MEETING

VOTERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20

There will be a voters meeting on Sunday, September 20, immediately following the late service.



Building Healthy Families: In today's culture, death is often suggested as the answer to life's most challenging situations – including the challenge of an unplanned pregnancy. The world tells a scared and confused mother she can make her situation better by ending her child's life through abortion. We Christians have a better option: tell her that she and her baby are both seen, known and loved by God. Tell her of Jesus' love, mercy, and forgiveness. Then love her like family, support her in choosing life; offer tangible help like transportation, meals, childcare, diapers, clothing, and other household items. Continue your support through the pregnancy and long after. There is joy in living out 1 John 4:19 – *We love because he first loved us!* www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**



With school starting, we may be thinking about our own school days and how it impacted us. “Train up a child in the way he should go.” (Proverbs 22:6)”, is the theme of the Fall LWML event at St. Paul’s Lutheran, Marion, this **September 26, 2026**. Our own area is in the process of starting Christ Lutheran, a high school for those who wish to send their children to a Christian school. Come hear Jan Doellinger and other board members discuss this option. They have been working diligently for several years to make this school a reality. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by a brunch and the program. Discover how you can support this endeavor in this ever changing world. RSVP to your group president or contact

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.



2026-2027 Enrollment Form



Child First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____

What year in school: Prek 3 OR Prek 4 Sex: Male OR Female Size T-shirt: _____

Birth Date _____ Age as of September 15, _____ years

DAILY SCHEDULE:

7:30am Extended Care Drop off
9:00am Preschool Starts
9:30am Learning Centers
10:30am Snack/Bathroom
11:00am Outside Recreation
11:45am Story/Music
12:00pm Preschool Ends/Pick Up/Lunch
12:45pm Lunch Ends/Pick Up

OTHER INFORMATION:

- * Our Preschool starts after Labor Day and ends before Memorial Day.
- * Children may enroll throughout the school year as spaces allow.
- * Scholarship information is available upon request.
- * Morning extended care students may be dropped off any time after 7:30am.
- * Lunch extended care students will be picked up at 12:45 pm.
- * Morning snack will be provided by an assigned preschool student.
- * Students staying for lunch will provide their own bag lunch and ice pack to keep food cold.
- * No breakfast will be offered.
- * During winter weather you will be notified if: (We follow the Iowa City School District)
 - We are delayed, no preschool, no extended care.
 - We are cancelled, no preschool, no extended care.

CHECK DESIRED PROGRAM:

_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$256/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$336/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$374/month
_____ (M/W/F)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$456/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$188/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$240/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$269/month
_____ (T/TH)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$322/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program	9:00am-12:00pm	\$423/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with extended care LUNCH time	9:00am-12:45pm	\$557/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with MORNING extended care	7:30am-12:00pm	\$623/month
_____ (5 Day)	Preschool Program with MORNING e.c. & LUNCH	7:30am-12:45pm	\$756/month

Financial scholarships are available for Preschool, not for extended care or lunch expenses. Scholarships are considered at each of these deadlines and are available while scholarship funds remain: March 1, May 1, August 1.

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Best Phone Number _____

Best Email _____

Our Redeemer Preschool admits children of any race, color, nationality or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities of the Preschool. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality or ethnic origin in administration of the educational or admission policies. Our curriculum is Christian-based.

Please mail your completed form along with the **\$50 non-refundable** registration fee made payable to:

Our Redeemer Preschool
2301 E. Court Street
Iowa City, IA 52245

Upon receipt of the Enrollment Form and fee, your child's spot will be reserved. An enrollment packet will be sent to you containing all additional paperwork to be completed. Thank you for enrolling your child with Our Redeemer Preschool.

Updated: 1/2025



Summer Preschool Newsletter



Director/Teacher, Kaja Mueller Assistants, Christie Cherian M/W/F, Erin Dyson T/TH
Preschool Phone: 319-338-3949 www.ourredeemerpreschoolic.org preschool@ourredeemer.org

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

Things Not To Worry About When Your Child Starts School

Starts acting wild and racing around the room the minute you come in to pick her up. Some kids wonder exactly who is in charge when both parent and teacher are present. Acting up is one way to find out. Confer with the teachers to work out who's going to call the shots.



Question to ask kids!
What do you want to do when you grow up?

PRESCHOOL ORIENTATION
September 3, 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Our church preschool is bursting with creativity, but our craft closets are running low. We are asking our wonderful congregation for donations of **craft beads** of all shapes, sizes, and colors. Please place your donations at Kaja Mueller office door anytime this summer or fall. Thank you for supporting our youngest disciples as they grow, learn, and create!



This helps with their Fine Motor Skills: Stringing beads helps little fingers develop coordination; with their Math Concepts: Children practice sorting, counting, and pattern-making; and their Creative Expression: Kids love making gifts for family and friends.

WRITING- Enable children to...

- *attempt to create print
- *develop fine-motor control
- *become aware of how lines can be combined to form letters and letters combined to form words
- *learn how writing and speech relate
- *use pictures, letters and words to represent objects
- *use a variety of materials for self-expression
- *feel a sense of pride in their development of writing skills



Enrollment for 2026-2027 is OPEN!

Preschool enrollment for next year is now open!

Be sure to register soon to reserve your child's spot.



Our preschool runs from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, with morning/lunch extended care and scholarships available. Please contact us at preschool@ourredeemer.org for more details.

Personal referrals from families like yours are our number one source for new students. We've been blessed with so many wonderful children over the years, and we ask that you continue to spread the word about Our Redeemer. Help us fill our classrooms with children ready to play, learn, and grow in Christ!

Children's Ministry

Birth—5th Grade

VBS 2026



A special thank you to
all of the volunteers
who helped out with
VBS Tropical Trek 2026.



Summer

Sunday School

Sunday, August 9th

9:20am



**No Sunday School
Help set-up for
Fun Faith Fest**

Youth

6th—12th Graders



Summer Sunday School
Sunday, August 9th, 9:20am



----NO SUNDAY SCHOOL----
SET-UP FOR FUN FAITH FEST

JUNE JULY AUGUST

Watch for details!

Summer Youth Activity on
Wednesday, August 12th



6th Grade Confirmation Retreat

There will be a 6th Grade
Confirmation Retreat on
Saturday, September 19, at
5:30pm. Call Kara for more
information.



**A Special thank you to all of the volunteers
who helped out with VBS Tropical Trek 2026.**



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 NUMBER</u>	<u>STAFF & EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
Rev. Dr. Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org	338-5326 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Jacob Morse, 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)	Erin Dyson, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)
Sarah Ghable, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@ourredeemer.org	3387-5626 (church)	Kara Hartwig, Youth Coordinator youthcoordinator@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Denise Holida, Adult Coordinator smallgroup@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)	Louise Klopp, Director Choirs/ Praise Team/Properties chiordirector@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Laurel Sellers, Consultant consultant@ourredeemer.org	319-331-3242 (cell) 338-5626 ext. 21	Kevin Sellers Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 ext. 18 631-8924 (cell)
Marily Paetz, Organist	351-4262 (home)		

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
	Jim Tiedemann	319-341-3400
	Steve Scott	563-889-0990

DEADLINES

Reflections (printed weekly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, or emailed) each Wednesday by 5:00 pm

Beacon Newsletter & Church Activities Calendar (printed monthly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, or emailed) 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.