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Iowa City, IA 52245
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Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—August 16, 2026

~The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost~

Summer Sunday School Lessons

Date	Bible Lesson	Scripture Reading(s)
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



RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 13

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 12/13

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



Today's coffee and treats are lovingly provided by Our Redeemer's own LWML. Come join in a little fellowship before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at the Gathering Place.

Prayer of the Church/The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost/August 16, 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 the love between husbands and wives and that you instituted holy marriage. Bless **Kevin and Joan Waring** for their 60th wedding anniversary. 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 16	***
August 17	Jarrett Ellyson, Mitchell Price, Natalie Ramsey, Kendra Schwarting
August 18	Curtis Boysen, Camila Segar
August 19	Clara Lyon, Gregg Redlin, Cameron Sass, Hilary Wilson
August 20	Michael Perry, Steven Severt
August 21	Carrie Faudel, Susan Hansen, Brian Kempnich, Cole Schneider, Jeremy Warner
August 22	Spencer Holman, Claire Milam, Carol Stoll, Gregory Wilson Jr.

STEWARDSHIP August 8/9, 2026

Time		Treasures	
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/08—5:30pm	38	Contributions	\$14,323.50
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/09—8:00am	81	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/09—10:30am	213	Fun Faith Fest Weekend	
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	332	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	0/0

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church August 16--23, 2026

<u>Sunday, 08/16</u>		<u>Thursday, 08/20</u>	
Worship Service	8:00am	Comfort Tiers	9:00am
Eswatini Report (all ages Fellowship Hall)	9:20am	Atrium Village	3:30pm
Worship Service	10:30am	Board of Elders Dinner	6:30pm
		Cross & Entrance	7:00pm
		Al-Anon	7:30pm
<u>Monday, 08/17</u>			
Staff Meeting & Planning Session	1:00pm		
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	<u>Friday, 08/21</u>	
Children's Committee	6:00pm	****	
Outreach Committee	6:30pm	<u>Saturday, 08/22</u>	
		Men's Bible Study	8:00am
		Worship Service	5:30pm
<u>Tuesday, 08/18</u>			
Solon Nursing Home	9:30am		
Al-Anon	7:00pm	<u>Sunday, 08/23</u>	
		Worship Service	8:00am
		Sunday School	9:20am
<u>Wednesday, 08/19</u>			
TOPS	8:00pm	Adult Bible Class	9:20am
Windmill Manor	2:00pm	Worship Service	10:30am
Youth Activity at Bohnsacks	6:30pm	District 13	2:30pm



**VOTERS
MEETING**

VOTERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20

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

WILL YOU SERVE?

Before you know it, it will be election time again at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Every year positions come open, not necessarily because people don't want to serve in their position anymore, but that the term is over. It leaves openings for people who may want to serve on a committee, board, or position in the church leadership.

Leadership is a scary word to some. It really shouldn't be because in many ways we already hold leadership positions. If you're a parent, you are a leader to your children. If you're a spouse, you have certain things that you are responsible to take care of. You might say how is that leadership; I'm just doing what I am supposed to. You have family coming for the weekend. There are countless things to take care of before that happens, so you might delegate some of the chores. Doesn't a leader do the same—they make sure the task gets done. A good leader doesn't do everything or that wouldn't be leading. Rather, they know who to ask that can fill the different needs of what needs to be done, be it at work, home, and at church.

Sometimes, the tasks ironically overshadow the purpose of the church itself. We are worried about this or that being done a certain way. We sometimes avoid taking on things because we are afraid we might fail. We don't take on tasks because we are afraid of criticism. There are many reasons why people don't want to say yes to that "recruiting call."

Let's take a closer look at some of those reasons. God has made us all unique. We do things differently. It may be the same product, but it has our personal "spin" that only we can add. The fear of failure is a common reason. It shouldn't be because we are supposed to be here to support each other. You may have the title, but you are far from alone. Your church family is there for help, just for the asking. Fear of criticism should be the last thing keeping you from a position. We are in a church; we are supposed to be friends and family. There are tactful ways to expressing an alternative action or idea without being disrespectful. As said before, there are many ways to serve and there will be calls being made very soon.

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!





"Train up a child in the way he should go." Proverbs 22:6. This Bible verse encapsulates the idea of a very active group of people in our area who have been working for several years on the idea of a Lutheran high school. In our everchanging world, we need daily Biblical teachings as well as reading, writing and arithmetic! Come to our fall LWML event to hear about the new Christ Lutheran High School which is set to open in the fall of 2027. Jan Doellinger and other board members will update you on this ambitious project. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 26. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with brunch and a program to follow. RSVP to your group president or contact person. Hope to see you there!



LLL Steak Fry, August 25 at 6:00pm Fellowship Hall

Men of the congregation are invited to bring their own meat to grill along with a side dish.



A BIG FUN FAITH FEST THANK YOU!!!

Our annual Fun Faith Fest was another successful outreach for our congregation to the community, thanks to the many volunteers from Our Redeemer who so graciously gave of their time and talents!! Although the weather made it somewhat challenging, God provided the weather so we could have it outdoors and use the dunk tank and our new bouncy house. That was the day that the Lord had made and we rejoiced that we were able to have it happen! From the wonderful worship service, inspiring music by the Praise Team, and the moving VBS children's songs, to the delicious hotdog lunch, cotton candy and popcorn, to the fun games and cool prizes, and added face painting, the day was full of outreach! We thank God for Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, for stepping up and creating a memorable day of witness of our gracious God to the community. Our many thanks to ALL the people who showed up to help in any way! Please know that you were an answer to prayer! Co-directors: Melody Strom, Donna Saehler, Carol Holman



Building Healthy Families: President Harry S. Truman once said, "A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties." *Which are you?* Pessimists...how's this working for you? It's usually true that mood follows message: what we think or tell ourselves about a situation results in how we feel about what is happening. The next time you are feeling low or having a difficult day, stop and listen to what you are telling yourself. *Is it true?* Challenge and then replace negative, untrue thoughts with the truth. (Hint: look for truth in your Bible.) If you're stuck in a negative pattern of thought and life, you don't have to stay there. Please reach out. Your LFS counselors are available to help you learn to identify and change negative thought patterns, replacing them with truth. www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

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

Says she isn't going back to school tomorrow or ever. Around the second month of school, reality sets in. It dawns on your child that you actually expect her to go to school each and every week. Even kids who love school sometimes raise objections at this time of year. Remain matter-of-fact and confident as you send her off. It may help to remind yourself that you aren't the only parent whose child has come down with the *please-let-me-stay home-today blues*.

HOUSKEEPING- Enable children to...

- *construct the world as she/he sees it
- *act out feelings and emotions in a comfortable setting
- *role-play real life situations
- *practice language and social skills
- *interact with other children in an informal setting
- *plan and work with others



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

PRESCHOOL STARTS
September 8/9



Question to ask kids!
Which story that grandma or grandpa tells is you favorite?

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.

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



RALLY DAY, Sunday September 13

Noisy Offering will be at all three services. Children and Big Children (adults) please bring in you Enter His Courts 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.



**Summer
Sunday School**
Sunday, August 16th
9:20am

**All ages meet in the
Fellowship Hall for a
Eswatini Mission
Report/Presentation.**

Youth

6th—12th Graders



Summer Sunday School
Sunday, August 16th, 9:20am

---ESWATINI PRESENTATION---

**ALL AGES MEET IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL
DURING REGULAR
SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME**

JUNE JULY AUGUST

Watch for details!

**Summer Youth Activity on
Wednesday, August 19th**

Youth Activity @ Bohnsacks 6:30pm



6th Grade Confirmation Retreat

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



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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.