



First Avenue and Court Street

Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—August 23, 2026

~The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost~

Summer Sunday School Lessons

Date	Bible Lesson	Scripture Reading(s)
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.



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.



Prayer of the Church/The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost/August 23, 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 academic year. O Lord, You have made some to be teachers and some to be students. As the academic year begins, we ask your blessing upon both. At every level, from preschool to college, prepare the teachers. Enrich their lesson plans. Give the teachers excitement and enthusiasm that is contagious. And at every level, from preschool to college, prepare the students for learning. Open their minds and understanding so that they may live a life fulfilling the many vocations You have given them, 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' son), **Katie Kucera** (Jeff Kucera's sister), **Ruth Langehough**, **Dot Langholdt** (friend of Ruth Varney), **Ben Malcom** (father of Tiffany Roiseland), **Grace Maurer**, **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**, **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 Ullrich**, **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 23	Dustin Vilhauer
August 24	Mark Becker, Carla Jackson
August 25	Virginia Alston, Isabella Brogley, Zoey Palmer, Todd Schuld
August 26	Leola Meraz, Randall Sexton
August 27	Rob Bowman, Alan Cross, Paul LaRoche, Brittney Pirkel, Nathaniel Thoe, Samuel Weis
August 28	Jeff Reuter, Kevin Roiseland, Grant Wilson
August 29	Johnny Stoll, Matt VanKirk

STEWARDSHIP August 15/16, 2026

Time		Treasures	
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/15—5:30pm	38	Contributions	\$6,725.89
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/16—8:00am	107	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/16—10:30am	148	Eswatini Presentation (Bible Class	
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	293	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	61 (all ages)

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church August 23--30, 2026

<u>Sunday, 08/23</u>		<u>Wednesday, 08/26</u>	
Worship Service	8:00am	TOPS	8:00am
Sunday School	9:20am		
Adult Bible Class	9:30am	<u>Thursday, 08/27</u>	
Worship Service	10:30am	Comfort Tiers	9:00am
District 13	2:30pm	Al-Anon--Birthdays	7:30pm
<u>Monday, 08/24</u>		<u>Friday, 08/28</u>	
Staff Meeting & Planning Session	1:00pm	****	
Chamber Singers	6:00pm		
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm	<u>Saturday, 08/29</u>	
		Worship Service	5:30pm
<u>Tuesday, 08/25</u>		<u>Sunday, 08/30</u>	
LLL Steak Fry	6:00pm	Worship Service	8:00am
SM-Small Group/Marlene	6:00pm	Sunday School	9:20am
SM-Small Group/Skip	6:00pm	Adult Bible Class	9:30am
SM-Large Group/Marcia	6:45pm	Worship Service	10:30am
Al-Anon	7:00pm		

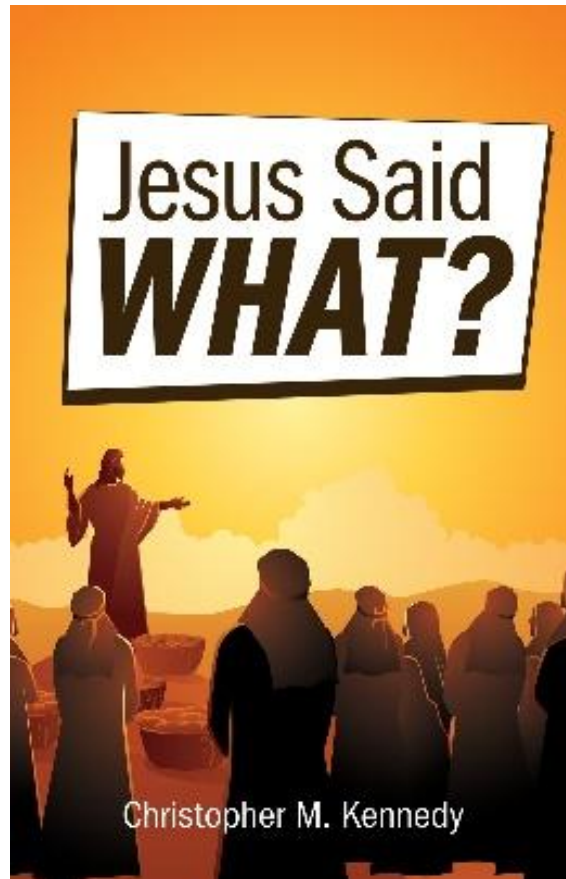


**VOTERS
MEETING**

VOTERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20

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

JESUS SAID WHAT?



Jesus doesn't always tell you what you want to hear. But He always tells you what you need to hear, and even the hard words are a gift given to you in love.

In *Jesus Said What?*, author Christopher Kennedy tackles some of Jesus' words that people may struggle to understand. It may seem easier to avoid some of Jesus' tough sayings, but instead of shying away from these passages, Kennedy urges readers to look to Scripture to understand Scripture.

Women's fall Bible study at Our Redeemer is beginning on September 15th. Registration forms are on the welcome center with more information.

CEDAR RAPIDS ZONE FALL EVENT



Rooted in Christ. Preparing to Soar.

A presentation on the plans and progress for a Lutheran high school.

**SATURDAY
SEPT
26**

8:30 AM
Registration

9:00 AM
Breakfast

**St. Paul's
Lutheran Church**
915 27th Street
Marion, IA

IN GATHERING: STOCK THE OFFICE

- Pens
- Sharpies
- Highlighters
- Tape dispenser / tape
- Stapler / staples
- Masking tape
- Poster tac
- Scissors (x2)
- Bulletin board (4' x 5')
- Push pins
- Paper clips
- Binder clips (S / M / L)
- Rubber bands
- Hot glue gun / sticks
- Elmers glue (bottles and/or sticks)
- Pencil cups
- Sorting trays
- Post-it notes
- 6"x9" legal pads
- Notebooks
- Pocket folders
- File folders (1/3 cut)
- Hanging folders
- Clipboards (x2)
- Paper tray (stackable)
- Copy paper
- Card stock
- Business envelopes
- Postage stamps
- Paper cutter
- 3-hole punch
- Dry erase markers
- Whiteboard erasers
- Power strips (x2)
- Desk lamps (x2)
- Wall clock
- Batteries (AAA, AA)
- Extension cords (6', 10')
- Nurse supplies
- Monetary gifts (office supplies, coffee, gas)



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. Have you heard the news? Christ Lutheran High School is planning on opening the fall of 2027 here in the Cedar Rapids area! Come hear all about this promising, life-changing project report from Jan Doellinger and the planning board. This LWML fall event at St. Paul's Lutheran, Marion, is Saturday, September 26 with registration at 8:30 a.m. followed by a brunch and an updated program about the school. RSVP to your group president or contact person. Hope to see you there! "Train up a child in the way he should go." Proverbs 22:6.



Building Healthy Families: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit... Therefore, honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) This Biblical instruction isn't just for young people! No matter what your age, take time this week to do something that will make your body stronger or healthier. Fix a healthy snack, go for a walk, and invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Shared activity makes it more fun, and creates an open door for conversation about wellbeing, including the importance of faith and spiritual wellness. Thank God for and honor Him by taking care of your body, no matter how many years it's been around! www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**



Salad Supper

Come and meet Vicar Morse at the LWML Salad potluck at 6 PM on September 21.

Vicar will introduce himself and his family, have the opening devotion and a Bible class.

There will be sign-up sheet for the October 15 servant event at Crowded Closet. Please sign up so Crowded Closet can be given the number of attendees.

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!



Questions to ask kids!

What is your favorite Bible story?
What do you like about it?

What is something you are especially
thankful to Jesus for right now?

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.

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

PRESCHOOL STARTS
September 8/9

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.

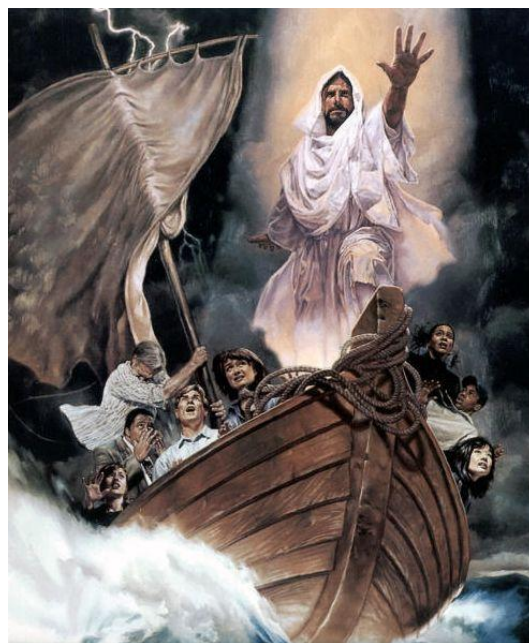
Presentations for 3-year-olds, first graders, third graders, sixth graders, and juniors will take place during the 10:30am service.

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 23rd 9:20am



A Weather Wonder – Jesus Calms a Storm Mark 4:35-41

Youth

6th—12th Graders



Summer Sunday School

Sunday, August 23rd
9:20am



A Weather Wonder—Jesus Calms a Storm
Mark 4:35-41

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	338-5626 (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.