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Reflections



Weekly Newsletter—September 6, 2026

~The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost~

Summer Sunday School Lessons

Date	Bible Lesson	Scripture Reading(s)
September 6	No Sunday School—Labor Day Weekend	
September 13	9:15am all adults and children meet in the Sanctuary for the opening together. Teachers are introduced and will take their classes to their home room for a short introduction. 9:30am teachers walk their classes to the Fellowship Hall for their large group lesson. Teacher training with Pastor in Room 208; 1st grade & parents in the Chapel with Kaja. Adult Bible will be in the Sanctuary with Vicar until 10:15am. Preschool—12th grade with Denise Schwarting in Fellowship Hall; Middle School & High School helping in the Fellowship Hall; 10:15am Parents pick up their children in the Fellowship Hall Sunday School Lesson will be Unit 2: GOD REDEEMS HIS PEOPLE, Lesson 13 The Fish-and-Bread Sign---Jesus Feeds Five Thousand; John 6:1-15. Potluck to follow late worship.	



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.



VOTERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20

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



The flowers on the altar for this weekend are from Art and Denise Schwarting who are giving thanks for their 27th wedding anniversary.

Prayer of the Church/The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost/September 6, 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 *Art and Denise Schwarting* for their 27th wedding anniversary. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have Mercy**

P: For *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*, *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), *Grace Maurer*, *Craig Michel* (Denise Schwarting's step-dad), *Norma Miller* (Twyla Freeman's aunt), *Robert Miller* (Keith Macek's son in-law), *Jane Mills* (aunt of Rob Ghabel), *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

September 6	Crissy Pence
September 7	Jacob Marks, Alta Wagner
September 8	Chad Dyson, Ryan Greene
September 9	Verne Folkmann, Jolene Nelson, Eric Nieland
September 10	Ryan Jerred, Debra Wrede
September 11	Mae Carlson, Donald Hein, James Schafer, Aron Wardenburg
September 12	Max Anderson, Bristol Bernhard, Drew Cornwell, Deborah Haima, Eden Koch, Harper Koch, Scott Reese, Macklin Sass

STEWARDSHIP August 29/30, 2026

Time		Treasures	
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/29—5:30pm	40	Contributions	\$23,331.50
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/30—8:00am	73	Monthly needs for budget	\$71,996.33
Worship-In Person/Live Stream 08/30—10:30am	174		
Total Saturday/Sunday Worship	287	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	56/14

This Week at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church September 6--13, 2026

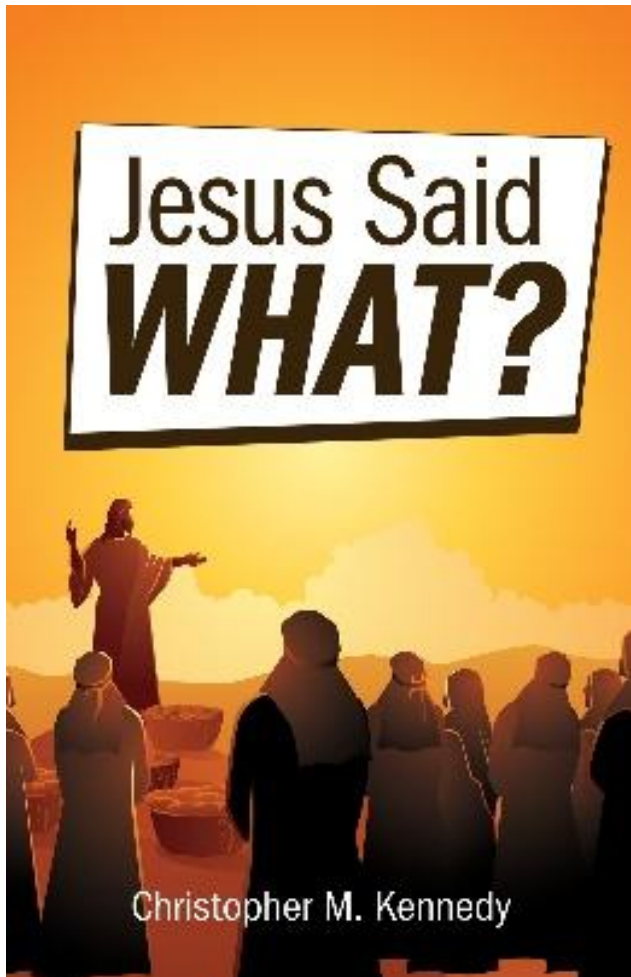
Sunday, 09/06—Labor Day Weekend/No Classes		Lantern Park	10:00am
Worship Service	8:00am	Briarwood	4:00pm
Worship Service	10:30am	Board of Directors	7:00pm
		Al-Anon	7:30pm
Monday, 09/07—Labor Day/Office Closed			
Youth Committee	6:00pm	Friday, 09/11	
Chamber Singers	6:00pm	****	
Sunlight AA Group	6:00pm		
		Saturday, 09/12	
Tuesday, 09/08-Preschool Begins		Men's Bible Study	8:00am
Connections Committee	6:30pm	Worship Service	5:30pm
Al-Anon	7:00pm		
		Sunday, 09/13—Rally Day	
Wednesday, 09/09-Preschool Begins		Worship Service	8:00am
TOPS	8:00am	Sunday School	9:15am
Properties Committee	5:30pm	Adult Bible Class	9:30am
Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm	Worship Service	10:30am
		Rally Day Lunch (Potluck)	12:00pm
Thursday, 09/10		Confirmation Orientation	12:45pm
Comfort Tiers	9:00am		



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 a 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. Ingathering will be for Christ Lutheran School—see list earlier in newsletter. The sign-up sheet will be made available at this meeting.

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.

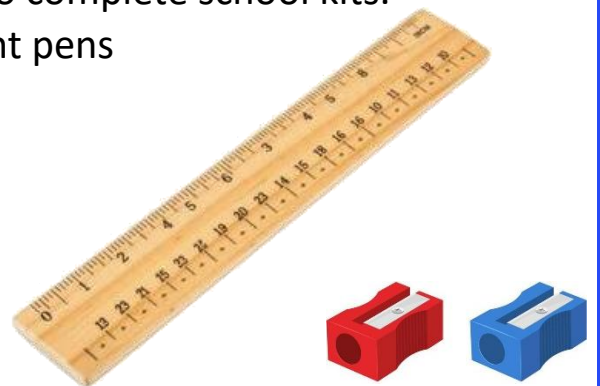
Women's fall Bible study at Our Redeemer is beginning on September 15th at 10:00am. Registration forms are on the Welcome Center counter with more information.



School Supplies Needed for Lutheran World Relief

The women of the Lutheran World Relief are seeking the following school supplies to complete school kits.

- Black or Blue ballpoint pens
- Rulers
- Blunt scissors
- Erasers
- Pencil Sharpeners



Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office.
Thank you for your support.

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.



"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.



Sunday, August 9, 2026





FIGHT
CHILDHOOD CANCER

BLOOD DRIVE

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Thursday, October 1

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

2301 E Court Street

**Your donation helps
Our Redeemer Preschool
unlock grant funding! **

**PEDIATRIC
PATIENTS USE**

≈ 1800

**UNITS OF BLOOD
EVERY DAY**




ImpactLife



**To book appointment, scan QR code,
visit bloodcenter.org or call ImpactLife
at 800-747-5401.**

Group Code: 2813

Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 08/06/2026



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!

PRESCHOOL STARTS September 8/9

Thank you for the beads, for supporting our youngest disciples as they grow, learn, and create!



Preschool Wish List



School Is Starting! You can help our preschool students learn and grow by purchasing items from our Amazon Wish List. Your generous donations provide essential classroom supplies that spark curiosity every day. Thank you for partnering with Our Redeemer Preschool in this ministry to nurture young hearts and minds. Scan the QR code or follow the link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3MP26VBQE052F?ref_=wl_share



Pray for our Preschoolers and their families

Aria
Ava
Brooklyn
Clara
Elira
Elizabeth
Given
Hazel
Henry
Hudson
Juniper
Liza
Lizzy
Maxwell
Neema
Samuel
Wesley
Yoel

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 your 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, September 6th
9:20am

NO CLASSES
LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Youth

6th—12th Graders



**Summer
Sunday
School**

**Sunday, September 6rd
9:20am**

**NO CLASSES
LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

**CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
12:45pm**

6th Grade Confirmation Retreat

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

Call Kara for more information.



RALLY DAY, Sunday September 13



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



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.