



The Parish Beacon

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

2301 E. Court St. • Iowa City, IA 52245

Volume 34 – No. 2

February 2012

Dear Christian friends:

Here comes February and St. Valentine's Day and the world's focus on love.

It can be said that love is the foundation for a relationship and trust is the way to keep that fellowship straight and true. Essential to a loving relationship with Christ is trust.

Trust is a two-way street. Can God trust us and do we trust in Him? The depth of our faith and commitment will answer both questions.

When we experience God, our trust grows.

God wants us to trust in Him, and He wants to trust us.

Our goal as believers is to have a relationship of mutual trust. Through faith, we acknowledge that God is trustworthy. God entrusts us with time, talents, and money, and He wants us to be trustworthy in the use of our gifts.

Mother Teresa said, "I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much." God knows what we can properly take care of and how much He can trust us to use faithfully what we've been given.

In Scripture, trust enabled ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

- Because Abraham trusted God more than his own feelings, he was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac.
- David's trust in God gave him the courage to stand up to Goliath.
- The Widow of Zarephath was willing to give up the last of her flour to God's prophet Elijah.
- And the Widow gave her mite, her last two coins.

Trust does powerful things.

Possibly the most familiar Bible story is about Noah. Noah trusted the Lord with his life. When God told Noah to build an ark, he built one even when there was no sign of rain, in fact, before rain had ever fallen from the skies! After the flood, Noah built an altar to the Lord and sacrificed many animals. Noah trusted the Lord enough to sacrifice animals which he would need for his future. He gave sacrificially even when there were no needy people to give to or churches which needed support.

How can we measure our trust?

Certainly, our trust can be measured by our willingness to give. When we give faithfully and generously, our time, talent, and treasure, we demonstrate the same trust that Noah, Abraham, and David had.

As our trust grows in the Lord,

His trust in us will grow and we will become effective servants for the Lord.

In Christ, Pastor Hartwig

LAST PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
BEFORE THE ONLINE PICTORIAL DIRECTORY
IS AVAILABLE


February 4, 5, and 19 photographers will again be available in the library after every service to get photos of new members or those who may have missed out having theirs taken earlier. Please help make the new directory as complete as possible.

For further questions, contact Pam Wilson at 338-4059 or e-mail markpamwilson@msn.com.



IS FEEDING THE HUNGRY
YOUR MISSION?

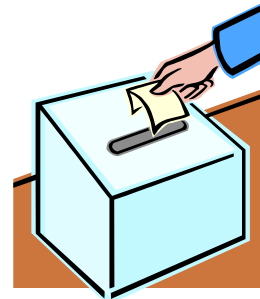
CROP WALK 2012
needs a coordinator



This year's Crop Walk is scheduled for April 1. An informational meeting will be held February 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church. If you have a desire to help feed the world's hungry, let the church office know so we can get you the packet of material and contact information. 338-5626

VOTERS' MEETING

February 19 after late service.
Chairpeople, please get your committee reports to the office for inclusion in the annual report.



LENT BEGINS with Ash Wednesday services on February 22 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. There are no midweek classes that night.



The following week, Lenten dinners begin, served at 5:10 p.m., followed by worship at 6:10 p.m. An earlier service is also held at 1:00 p.m.

Two tablets of stone, a few vessels of oil, simple markings, a small army, a remote field, a solemn oath--these are some of the strangest people, places and things through which God revealed himself to his people in the Old Testament. . See the OT for Jesus sermon series outlined on page 5.

The Old Testament is chock-full of passion themes, from the serpent being crushed in Genesis 3:15 to Isaiah's Fourth Servant Song. Yet this series looks at some of the lesser-known Old Testament passion themes and focuses on them by means of single words.

Page 8 details the Small Group studies that will be based on the sermon series.

—February Calendar available in church office.—

New Member Brunch



Calling All New Members

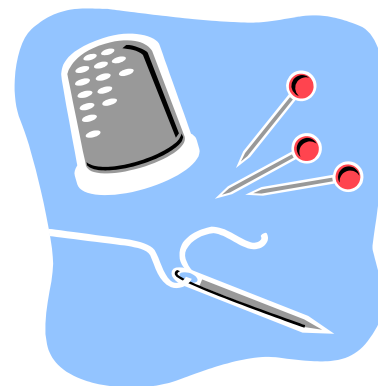
Who: New Members
What: Brunch and Fellowship Time
When: **Sunday, March 4, following the 10:30 worship service**
Where: Church Fellowship Hall (lower level by the kitchen)
Why: To meet new friends, enjoy a delicious meal, and learn about Our Redeemer's ministry opportunities
Host: Assimilation Committee

Who is a new member? If you have joined Our Redeemer in the last year and have not yet been able to attend a new member brunch, you're invited. RSVP to the church office at 319-338-5626 or Pam at 319-338-4059.

--Pam Wilson, Assimilation Committee

The Comfort-tiers items donated for 2011 are listed below.

To Salvation Army—24 quilts, 4 blankets, 7 baby quilts, 3 fleece blankets.
To Concern for Women—8 baby quilts.
To fire victims—2 quilts, 3 blankets.
To tornado victims—96 quilts, 1 blanket, 1 lap robe.
To LWML convention—2 quilts.
To Hope Lodge—27 quilts.
To Lutheran World Relief—153 quilts, 3 blankets (spring pickup), 101 quilts, 11 blankets (fall pickup).
To U of I Hospital—59 baby quilts.
To Shelter House—16 quilts.
To Goodwill—2 quilts, 3 blankets.
To Crowded Closet—6 quilts, 6 blankets.
Plus 100 quilts were made along with 5 blankets for Orphan Grain Train
Adding those in, the totals are:
552 quilts, 37 blankets, 77 baby quilts, 1 lap robe and 3 fleece blankets.



Remember, this couldn't have been done without you! Thank you again!

Volunteer Background Screening

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has been in ministry with children and youth for over 55 years. Our insurance carrier, Church Mutual, strongly encourages us to promote the safest and most secure environment possible by screening all employees and volunteers, both new and existing, especially those who interact with children. Performing background checks will provide safeguards and peace of mind to our staff, volunteers, parents, youth and children. Additional details will be forthcoming as we put this screening process in motion.

Midweek meal needs your help Wednesday, February 1.

We need servers and cleanup crew.

Please sign up in the office.

MENU

creamed chicken and veggies on mashed potatoes
bread jello jigglers strawberry cheese cake
milk-juice-water



February is American Heart Month

Heart disease and heart attacks are leading causes of death in the United States. It is important to recognize the signs and symptoms of heart attack.

Signs and symptoms of heart attack:

Some heart attacks are sudden and intense; however, most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help. Here are signs that can mean a heart attack is happening:

Chest discomfort: Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain.

Discomfort in other areas of the upper body: Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach.

Shortness of breath: May occur with or without chest discomfort.

Other signs. These may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or lightheadedness.

Your physician **MUST** evaluate these signs and symptoms. Call 911 if you experience signs and symptoms of heart attack.

How to Prevent Heart disease

A healthy diet is essential to fight heart disease. Read nutrition labels as you make daily food choices. Important dietary recommendations:

Cut back on foods high in dietary cholesterol. For example choose lean meats and poultry without skin. Eat less than 300 mg of cholesterol each day.

Select fat-free, 1% fat, and low-fat dairy products.

Choose foods labeled NO “trans fat” (hydrogenated vegetable oils). Examples of trans fat foods include: Commercial baked goods such as crackers, cookies and cakes; French fries; Shortenings and margarines.

Cut back on beverages and foods with added sugars.

Select and purchase foods lower in salt/sodium.

Keep an eye on your portion sizes.

Regular physical activity in your life is another important step to preventing heart disease such as a daily brisk walk. For guidance on physical activity please refer to the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/everyone/guidelines/index.html>

All information was obtained from <http://www.cdc.gov/features/heartmonth/>



LENTEN SERMÖN SERIES

Feb. 26	"Mine!" Exodus 20:17	Our desire to acquire
Feb. 29	"Refuge" Joshua 20:7-9	Cities of refuge, the body of relief
March 4	"Nothing" 2 Kings 4:1-7	Elisha provides for a widow
March 7	"Family" Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Abraham and Sarah are our parents
March 11	"Marked" Isaiah 44:5	God marks his people
March 14	"Nobody" Deuteronomy 7:7	Israel... least of all the people
March 18	"Enlist" Judges 6:16	Gideon's call
March 21	"Buried" 2 Kings 13:21	Death and life... for us all
March 25	"Invest" Jeremiah 32:25	Jeremiah buys a field in wartime
March 28	"Promises" Jeremiah 31:31-34	Our promises , our Christian witness
April 1	"Finish" 1 Kings 11:3	Finishing what he started

LENTEN WÖRSHIP

Weekends: Saturday 5:30 p.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Mid-week: 1:00 p.m. and 6:10 p.m.

Mid-week Meal: 5:10 p.m.

LABELS FOR EDUCATION—There is a basket on the card table downstairs where we are collecting not only the "Labels for Education" bar codes found on products from Campbell's, Dannon, Pop-Secret, Pepperidge Farms, Emerald almonds, V8, Post cereals, BIC pens, Prego, Glad bags, and All You, but also "Box Tops", those tiny little red rectangles from Yoplait, Betty Crocker, Nature Valley, Fiber One, Chex Mix, Progresso, Big G cereals, Totinos pizza products, Pillsbury, Hamburger Helper, ZipLock, Green Giant, etc. They are easily overlooked. The bar codes (hopefully you can remove the entire code without tearing) go to the Navajo Reservation school in AZ while the Box Tops go to Heritage School north of Iowa City--all for items the schools can use. Many thanks to all!

Used eyeglasses go also on the same table and are distributed to the Lions' Club who then send them on to third world countries. Thank you again.



Mite Marathon Stay Strong FINISH STRONG

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012

2011-2013 LWML BIENNIAL MITE CHALLENGE REDEEMING RESOLUTIONS!

Resolve to reaffirm your pledge to pray and support our 19 Mission Grants and our Mission Goal of \$1,825,000 for the 2011-2013 biennium. Be intentional in your giving and specific in your prayers!

I consider it worth adding to me, if only to say that the way and complete that the Lord Jesus has given me... (John 15:10)

New Year Reflections

- January is National Celebration of Life Month. Celebrate your life in Christ and add to your Mite Box so others may have the same opportunity.
- Jan. 18-25 is the Week of Christian Unity. Pray for all those touched by the mercy of Jesus through our Mission Grants. Give generously, for all we have is the Lord's!
- Jan. 23 is National Handwriting Day. Take a moment to send a handwritten note to tell someone you're praying for them. Add to your Mite Box, in thanksgiving for the freedom to praise Christ openly.

Stay Strong through February!

- February is National Expect Success Month. Take your Mite Box off the windowsill and make it the centerpiece of your table this month. Expect to fill it many times and praise God for His faithfulness.
- Feb. 4 is Ice Cream For Breakfast Day -- really! So eat your ice cream, laugh out loud, and put the cost of the ice cream in your Mite Box.
- Feb. 14 is also National Have a Heart Day. Share the heart of God today by sharing the story of mites with a neighbor or co-worker.
- Feb. 29 -- Take a LEAP of faith by giving sacrificially today. Just as the woman gave her mites, trusting God would provide, trust God in a big way in this Leap Year!

LWML
Lutheran Women's Missionary League
www.lwml.org

FEBRUARY HEADS UP

Since we don't meet in January, we are eagerly looking ahead to our meeting of February 20th at 7 PM. Martha Mitkos, a member of Our Redeemer, is now Director of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative for LCMS and will be our speaker for the evening. Come and learn more about this ministry of our church which is so vital to countries where people suffer from malaria, and what we can do to help. Devotions will be led by Cynthia Freundt, and hostesses will be Beth Hargens and Ruth Langehough. See you there!

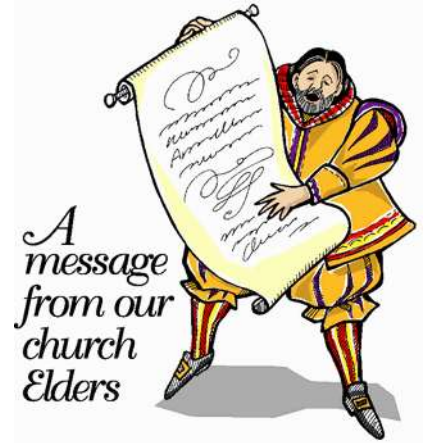
TASTING BEE April 21, 2012~~Can you believe it? It's that time of year again to start planning for the Tasting Bee, which is being held Saturday, April 21, 2012. First of all, for those who are new, "What is the Tasting Bee?" . . . It is the LWML spring fundraiser. We ask ladies of the congregation to find a new or unique recipe which they are willing to make enough for 180 tastes. A teaspoon is a taste, anything else is a helping. They submit the recipe and we compile a cookbook which each guest at the Tasting Bee receives as she registers when she arrives at the Tasting Bee. We have a theme. This year's theme is "Oh, The Places We Can Go". We ask ladies of the congregation who are willing to decorate a table of ten (rectangular) or a table of eight (round) in the theme of the Tasting Bee. When you sign up to decorate a table and/or submit a recipe, you are entitled to purchase 3 tickets for each task you sign up for. So if you decorate a table and submit a recipe, you could purchase a total of 6 tickets for guests of your choice. Tickets will sell for \$10 each. We have applied for matching funds from Thrivent for this year's Tasting Bee. Funds raised will go to a mission project to be announced later.



Sign up starts TODAY. Look for the signup sheets in the Narthex. There will be someone there to answer your questions. Also if you think you would like to chair or co-chair next year's Tasting Bee and would like to help this year to learn the ropes, please talk to Pat Sexton (629-5422). Thanks for your willingness to be a part of this fun event.

Membership Changes and Official Acts

<u>Releases</u>	
Marven Doehrman	12/30/2011
<u>Transfers In</u>	
Emily Lenhart	12/28/2011
Mark & Susan Ferguson	12/27/2011
Lucas Lenhart	1/10/2012
<u>Deaths</u>	
Glenn Treiber	12/31/2011
<u>Transfers Out</u>	
Joyce Roberson	1/3/2011
<u>Baptisms</u>	
Jadyn Lynn Waring	1/7/2012
Abigail Jean Daniel	1/8/2012
Harper Elaine Lenhart	1/14/2012
Gavin Louis Schrader	1/15/2012
Christopher Michael Davis	1/21/2012
Greyson Joseph Naraine	1/22/2012



Members of Our Redeemer,

Your elder serving you communion for the month of February will not be robed. We will be wearing a tie and jacket during communion. We are doing this so serving Elders or Elder can sit with our family. We are looking for feedback so please talk to an Elder and let us know what you think.

Steven Scott



Pancake Day

March 3, 2012

It's that time of year again. Time to get ready for **Our Redeemer's annual Pancake Day**.

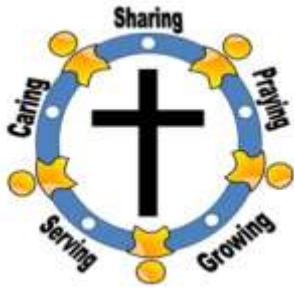
This year we will again be supporting the Crisis Center with the proceeds from this event.

In your communication box, in the narthex, there is a Pancake Day flier and a ticket booklet with more information. There are also volunteer sign-up sheets in the church office. Volunteers will be needed for set up, serving and clean up. Please consider donating a few hours of your time to help with this event.

Faith-Based Talk from Iowa Hawkeye Athletes ~ *Athletes in Action*

Join us on Sunday, Feb. 12th, from 12:15-1:45 pm, in the Fellowship Hall, for a catered meal and faith testimonies. Cost is \$5/person to help cover the expense of the meal. Please sign up in the church office and drop off your payment in the box. A freewill donation basket will be present on the 12th, with the proceeds going towards the University of Iowa Athletes in Action program. Continue to look for more details to come in the following weeks!!





Small Group Ministry Mission Statement: *To grow in grace using our spiritual gifts, through good stewardship for the benefit of the group so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

Updates from Small Group Ministry....

Here is an opportunity to follow the Lenten sermons with a small group Bible study.

Church Wide Spring 2012 Campaign: Old Testament for Jesus

This six-session Bible study is based on the themes of the Lenten worship series Old Testament for Jesus.

Two tablets of stone, a few vessels of oil, simple markings, a small army, a remote field, a solemn oath--these are some of the strangest people, places and things through which God revealed himself to his people in the Old Testament. The Old Testament is chock-full of passion themes, from the serpent being crushed in Genesis 3:15 to Isaiah's Fourth Servant Song. Yet this series looks at some of the lesser-known Old Testament passion themes and focuses on them by means of single words. This study will follow Pastor Hartwig's weekly sermons during Lent, beginning on February 26th.

Small groups will be held on Wednesday's from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at church, Sunday's from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM in a home, as well as offered at other times/places.



Living Proof Live with Beth Moore — Moline, IL

Jul 27-28, 2012

A perfect mix of biblically sound messages and worship from beloved teacher Beth Moore and worship leader Travis Cottrell. This fun, authentic ministry team prepares a unique message from God for each location for a fresh encounter with God.

Guests: Beth Moore, Travis Cottrell

If you are interested in joining a small group of women from Our Redeemer to attend, contact Denise Holida or Brenda Johnson by January 15th. Tickets are \$65.00 for the Friday evening/Saturday morning session. We have reserved hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn.



Student Prayer Partners: *Would you like to be a Prayer Partner to a college-age student?* We would like to team up all college/trade/technical school students from Our Redeemer with a prayer partner. We will give you information about the student and we would like you to be committed to that student for one year. Please keep them in your prayers, send them cards, and do other things you think would help them through their years after high school. The years after high school are wonderful years, but they can also be scary, trying, and indecisive years----and the students may need extra help, friendship, prayers and guidance through those years. Please consider being a Prayer Partner to one of these students. There is a sign-up sheet in the church office.

Contact person is Sandy Wagner (319) 338-1710; email: packratsandy@yahoo.com

HEY YOU.... YES, YOU ! 😊

Do you like sunshine, fresh air and exercise? Great! This is for YOU!

Board of Outreach is seeking a volunteer who will form a short-term committee which will oversee the planning and logistics for Sunday, June 3rd.

What's happening June 3rd? Why, it's Our Redeemer's Servant Event Day - "Serving the Community."

Please contact board chairman, Arlan Thompson, 338-2938 or arlanmarlene@yahoo.com for further details.

Thank you.

Volunteers Needed: The International Student Ministry (ISM) program at St Paul's Lutheran Chapel and University Center in Iowa City needs YOU! Due to several new requests by international students looking to practice their English, we are in need of new volunteers to serve as conversation partners or conversation class leaders. The commitment is typically one hour per week, and you choose the day and time that works for you. Weekends are especially needed. To sign-up, or for more information on this awesome opportunity, contact Deaconess Miller at ismstpaul@gmail.com or (319) 377-3652. Thanks!

Bible Study For Men

REVELATION: Worthy is the Lamb

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

God's revelation to John encourages Christians at every age. Indeed, our victorious Lamb who was slain is worthy of honor and praise!

Key thoughts concerning John's vivid prophecy include:

- * the ultimate defeat of Satan and all the forces of evil;
- * the confident hope believers have in their reigning Savior;
- * the final, glorious destiny of all those who trust in Jesus for salvation.



This study includes an in-depth exploration of the book of Revelation. Participants are asked to complete each lesson's study questions prior to attending the class.

Yes guys! There is homework.

During the study, we will discuss the completed questions as well as the discussion starters that will help us apply God's Word to our daily lives.

February 11

Lesson 8— Two Beasts and the Conquering Lamb

February 25

Lesson 9— Third Vision: Seven Censers



Holy Scripture, God's Word

February 28
7:00—9:00 p.m.

The word theology is derived from two Greek words: *Theos* (God) and *logos* (speech or reason). Therefore, theology in its simplest terms is rational discussion about God. It has been described as “the science of God and his relationship to man and the world” and “the attempt to reduce religious truth to an organized system.”

Systematic theology is any study that answers the question, “What does the whole Bible teach us today?”

If you would like to understand these basics about the Christian faith, such as the doctrine of the Bible, God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, mankind, the church, salvation, and the future, this is the group for you.

To Martin Luther, pure doctrine was not just the correct content of Scripture, but also that content conveyed effectively into the lives of those who hear God's Word.

Join Pastor Hartwig once a month in studying Robert Kolb's “The Christian Faith” and the quick, usable, comprehensive, concise “Lutheranism 101” books. Pastor Hartwig will also make additional readings available and discussion questions for each lecture.



BASICS OF THE FAITH

Appropriately titled, this course begins a six unit examination of the basics of the Christian Faith. Taken from the Bible and as understood by the Lutheran Church, we will explore the role of the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The revelation of God through the Bible and the role of the catechism will be discussed first. The Biblical message of Law and Gospel will be detailed. Finally, we will end with discussing the victorious and sanctified life of the Christian.



February 17-18 Weekend Immersion
Friday 7:00 – 9:00 pm &
Saturday 8:30 – 2:30 pm

**“CONSIDER NOW
WHAT GOD HAS DONE”**

Hymn Festival 2012

presented by the junior high and high school
choirs, handbells and instrumentalists from
St. John Lutheran Church and School,
Seward, Nebraska

Thursday, March 8th at 7:00pm

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1363 1st Ave SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Call (319) 366-1569 for more information.
Free-will offering

Sunday Adult Bible Study Offerings

CONTINUING IN FEBRUARY

Through February 19

Sunday Mornings (6 sessions)

9:30 – 10:15 am

WHERE DID THE BIBLE COME FROM?

We will first explore the assimilation of the books of the Biblical canon. Then, we will explore various “pop culture” attempts of stripping the truth of scriptures.

LECTIONARY READINGS

Discussions regarding the LECTIONARY Readings (Scripture) for the Day.

Emphasis will be on practical everyday applications of God’s Word for each of us. Ethics / Decisions / Attitudes / Habits—Based on our Christian / Lutheran Faith.

.....

NEW ON THE 26TH

Through April 1

Sunday Mornings (6 sessions)

9:30 – 10:15 am

JUDGES

The Book of Judges is a tragic account of how Yahweh [God] was taken for granted by His children year after year, century after century. Judges is a sad contrast to the book of Joshua which chronicles the blessings God bestowed on the Israelites for their obedience in conquering the land. In Judges, they were disobedient and idolatrous, leading to their many defeats. Yet God has never failed to open His arms in love to His people whenever they repent from their wicked ways and call upon His name.

After the death of Joshua and his contemporaries, the Israelites returned to serving Baal and Ashtaroth. God allowed the Israelites to suffer the consequences of worshiping false gods. It was then that the people of God would cry out to Yahweh for help. God sent His children judges to lead them in righteous living. But time after time they would turn their backs on God and return to their lives of wickedness.

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” Judges 21:25 ESV

THE CELEBRATION OF JESUS IN THE CHURCH YEAR

The Church calendar was created around the worship of Jesus as true God, and our Savior and Redeemer. Before most people were educated, colors and symbols were utilized to instruct and remind worshipers about Christ’s gift to us and our obligation to Him. Come and learn how the colors and symbols we still use today all point to Jesus.



Teachers Corner

"Lord, continue to bless Your Church with faithful, dedicated teachers who seek to give YOU all glory in their vocation for the work You do through them." (Lutheran Book of Prayer, pg154)

Unforgettable Students—All ages

Children can feel abandoned or bewildered by having no contact with their teachers after they've built a relationship while in class together. Consider maintaining a list of former student's addresses and keeping in touch with them during the summer, at Christmas, and at Easter. Children love to receive personal mail and will be honored by your sincere love and concern for them when you are enough to keep in touch.

Article from CPH: Teachers Interaction: the magazine for today's Sunday School. Spring 2012



Pontius Pilate by Dr. Paul Maier

"Pontius Pilate: a novel" is the startling yet untold story of the ambitious and successful Roman politician whose fateful verdict forever changes the course of history—but whose conscience can never rest with the consequences.

Paul L. Maier brings to life the Roman governor of Judea as he rises from the political intrigues of imperial Rome and survives the treacherous plotting of Herod Antipas.

Behind him stands Procula, a wife who fires his ambition for political advancement, while before him stands a bewildering clash of Jewish leaders, national extremists, and religious zealots.

Pontius Pilate is another terrific piece of historical fiction by Paul L. Maier. Maier is very disciplined with his rules for historical fiction: No proper names are invented, nothing knowingly contradicts historical facts and great care is exercised to fill in gaps. Any created or assumed portions are documented in the end notes.

The Christian Herald says:

"A tremendous story ... in drama, romance, color, scope, and depth, this novel is comparable to Ben Hur, The Silver Chalice, and The Robe."

Copies available in the church office - \$10

Book Club
Coming in April



Youth Written Beacon Article

The children's Christmas program was held on December 18, 2011. Pre-service there was musical talent from the youth. The Christmas program was about baby Jesus being born. People thought that the sheep were shaggy and smelly. They didn't trust the shepherds. The travelers think the sheep are shaggy and stinky. The shepherds complain about their job a lot. The shepherds saw the star and followed it to the manger. We have a Christmas program every year to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Afterwards we had grilled cheese and soup.

—Submitted by Christian Schwarting

Children's Ministry



"Our Mission is to nurture and support families; equipping them for a lifetime of learning, praying and celebrating God's love in every aspect of life."

It is the start of another year of Children's Ministry year here at Our Redeemer. Please take time to read each publication our church makes available to you.

Please join us for **Sunday School** hour from 9:15am to 10:15am. Classes range from **Toddlin' to Jesus** (for expecting parents and families with children through age 3 accompanied by their parents) to adult Bible study. **Toddlin' to Jesus** and the **Preschool** classes meet in their respective rooms, while 4 yr. olds through 3rd graders meet in the music room and the 4th through 8th grade meet in the Chapel for opening prior to going to their individual classrooms. For more information please contact Melissa Mullane or Charma Wenck.

We also have an adventure on Wednesday Nights for **Midweek Classes**. We have **KID'S CLUB** each week. It is separated into two larger groups; **PIONEER CLUB** for children aged 2 years through 2nd grade and **FAITH EXPLORERS** is for children in grades 3rd through 5th. For more information please contact Denise Schwarting or Becky West.

Cradle Roll Children aged birth through 3 years are entered into the Cradle Roll ministry at the time of their baptism. Periodically throughout the year these families receive materials to help nurture each child's spiritual, emotional, and physical development. These resources include a growth calendar with stickers, music CD, Bible story booklet, and brochures. These children also receive special postcards to help celebrate special milestones of their first three years. For more information about the Cradle Roll ministry, please contact Paula Caylor.



VBS June 25th | 29th

Children MINISTRY COORDINATORS INFORMATION

Toddlin' to Jesus - Rachel Deutsch

Cradle Roll - Paula Caylor 337-0620

Sunday School - Melissa Mullane 351-3290 or Charma Wenck 338-0882

Pioneer Club / Faith Explorers - Denise Schwarting 358-9590 or Becky West 430-3809

Education Committee Chair - Lynne Westphal 338-3197

Director of Children's Ministry - Kaja Mueller 338-5626

Baptise in the name of
the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*



Baptism

Our need for Baptism (Psalm 51: 5; John 3:5-7; Acts 2:38; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:3-4). According to the Bible, all people—including infants—are sinful and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). King David confesses, "I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Ps. 51:5). Like adults, infants die—sure proof that they too are under the curse of sin and death. According to the Bible, Baptism (somewhat like Old Testament circumcision, administered to 8-day-old-babies—see Col. 2:11-12) is God's gracious way of washing away our sins— even the sins of infants—without any help or cooperation on our part. It is a wonderful gift of a loving and gracious God.

ORKS & LYF Newsletter

Our Redeemer KidS (5-8th Grade)

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (9th-12th Grade)

Kids & Parents get your email addresses to Kaja. SIGN UP WITH KAJA MUELLER IN THE OFFICE.

5th - Youth Committee will meet in the youth room after late worship. Directly following, the Board members and class representatives will have lunch and meet to set goals and walk through the year.

5th - LYF & 8th grade SUPER BOWL PARTY. All 8th graders through current 12th graders are welcomed to come. The place will be announced the week prior to the party. Email and texting will notify the place. Arrive around 4:30pm and stay until the game is over. Bring: Snacks & drinks to share. We will have a great night just gathering, playing games, rooting for our team, and eating snacks together!

12th - LYF host Coffee & Treats

12th - ORKS & LYF & Families Valentines Delivery We are dividing again and visiting our Shut-Ins. We will join together at 4:30pm, receive a box lunch, and head out in small groups to hand Valentines made by our Kids Club on Wednesday night. SIGN UP WITH Kaja so we know how many box lunches to order from Hy-Vee.

12th - Junior & parent class: Does God Exist? Beginning on February 12, 2012, we will meet at 7:00 pm in the Youth Room. Please Register with Kaja in the office. Registrations have been sent out.



17/18th - LYF Winter Retreat Registrations were due January 29th. The 2012 LYF Winter Retreat will focus on the biblical mandate Judge NOT. We will spend time studying what the Bible says about not judging as well as looking at how that should look in our world today. The days will be broken up so that we will spend some time in God's word, growing in fellowship, and worshipping God. **TIMES:** Meet at Church at 6:30pm (to be at camp by 7:00pm) Friday Evening the 17th. Leave Camp at 10:30pm meet back at church by 11:00pm on Saturday the 18th.



24/25th - ORKS Lock-In will be at church. More information will be sent out to all 5th through 8th grade in Reflections and to their homes.

Confirmation: Remember on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, we do not have classes.

LYF Enter the GAP: As we gather together, we will be entering God's Awesome Presence. GAP will be lead by Kaja Mueller, Seth Illich, Skip & Marilyn Kempnich, and Brenda Johnson. Come fill the GAP on Wednesday nights at 6:45pm till 8:00pm in the youth room.

29th – Spring Confirmation Retreat Meetings– February 29th and March 21st after Midweek Class in the Fellowship Hall. The rSpring Rtreat will take place May 4-6th.

Coming Soon

LYF & 8th grade LOCK-OUT

March 23/24th

Riding in a big yellow school bus driven by our favorite, Marty Kranz!

GOAL 50 youth!!!!!!

BARF - Bring A Real Friend

We are inviting other local churches

Sunday School : ORKS Classes are every Sunday from 9:15am – 10:00am. LYF have no opening, start time is at 9:30am in the Youth Room.

YOUTH Key Verse Romans 12:4-5 “Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”

YOUTH Mission Statement Through God, as youth of Our Redeemer we will build a faith community that identifies our God given talents which trains and equips our youth in living and sharing what they believe and serves the congregation and community.

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

STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.	STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.
Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Heather Young, Preschool Director Tina Gossman, Preschool Asst. preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Kaja Mueller, Director of Christian Ed. dym@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 541-4827 (cell)	Marilyn Paetz, Organist organist@ourredeemer.org	351-4262 (home)
Harold Scheer, Visitation Pastor haroldscheer2@q.com	337-4855 (home)	Louise Klopp, Director of Choirs choirdirector@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Vacancy, Parish Nurse parishnurse@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Larry Freeman Bookkeeper & Director of Technology bookkeep@ourredeemer.org technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Denise Holida Director of Small Group Ministry smallgroups@ourredeemer.org	930-0165 (cell)	Laurel Sellers, Secretary redemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Seth Illich DCE Intern intern@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)		

2012 Board of Elders Congregational Assignments Steve Scott, Chair – 563-432-6977

Glenn Abernathy {F, G, T, U}	512-2219
Ryan Haack {B, W, X, Y, Z}	688-9513
Myrl Holida {H, J}	351-4301
Jeff Kucera {I, K, L}	512-6789
Alan Meyer {A, C, D, E}	319-461-1748
T. J. Ramsey {P, Q, R}	665-2534
Steve Scott {S}	563-432-6977
Tom Strumpel {M, N, O, V}	627-4322

Each family of the Our Redeemer flock is assigned alphabetically by last name to an elder, as shown above, to insure each family is prayed for and feels they “have an elder”. It is the sincere feeling of the Board of Elders that we are to love and be of service equally to the entire body of believers. We encourage any one of you to contact any one of us so we can share your spiritual journey, ideas or concerns.

DEADLINES

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

Beacon Newsletter & Church Activities Calendar (printed monthly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) by noon on the 16th of each month.

TELEVISION ~ RADIO

Our Redeemer Worship Service on Public Access TV Channel 18 every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

The Lutheran Hour Television Ministries talk show “On Main Street” is shown on **Public Access Television Channel 18** on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and Sundays at 10:00 p.m.

Lutheran Hour Ministries on Radio—WMT 600 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 6:30, and **KXEL 1540 AM Radio** on



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
2301 E. Court St.
Iowa City, IA 52245

Return Service Requested

Circles



earth around sun
moon around earth
birth follows death
death follows birth
winter follows winter
spring follows spring
rain falls to ground
then rises again
day follows night
night follows day
work follows sleep
sleep follows play
seed follows flower
flower follows seed
hunger follows emptiness
fullness follows feed
universe circles
rotating food chain
valley to mountain
mountain to plain
Father and Son
and Holy Ghost
each One equal
each One Most
my love circles
friends, family
God's Love circles
you and me

I saiah 40:22a

Carol Schuldt