

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
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WILLMAR, MN 56201
(320) 235-4685
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www.redeemerwillmar.org

Non-Profit Org.
US Postal Paid
Permit No. 370
Willmar, MN 56201

12/18

Address Service Requested



Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



Go Disciple All Nations

Sharing Christ, Changing Lives



**December
2018**



Have you noticed a difference?

On the east wall of the outside of the sanctuary there is a noticeable difference. Recently, congregation members donated their time, materials, and talents to put a cross on a part of the church that was largely bare. Where there was a void earlier, now stands a reminder of who the building is dedicated to and why it was built.

To those responsible for this beautiful work of art, thank you.

To those who pass by the building on the side walk and road we hope that the cross stands as a reminder of the one person in history who gave his life as a ransom for all mankind. During the month of December, the cross might be seen as a star that is pointing to the baby Jesus in the stable below. What a great thought that we have this Christmas season, the reason we to celebrate this Advent, when we gather to sing praises to the newborn King! His mission in life was to draw all men to Himself; that we remember the reason for peace on earth as our King was born to save us all by giving His life on the cross.

“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” John 12:32

Even as we are reminded of the mission that Christ had here on earth, may we also bring to light again the mission that we have as followers of Jesus. The Good News of the death of Christ fills us each day, and the result is the Gospel poured out onto the community, the county, and the country. We take the message of the cross from the sanctuary to the streets where we live and where we work; even though the physical church cross on the outside of the building becomes smaller as we drive away from the church, the cross remains with us to continue to carry with us “The Light of the World.”

Pastor Matt Canion

SERVING GROUPS

We have monthly serving groups and a list is posted on the church office window. Please check your phone number for accuracy or if you're not on the list and would like to be, contact the church office

DECEMBER

Beth Corti – 320-231-1907
Renee Jorschumb – 320-235-5451

Elloyd & Janice Bartel
Deb Bremseth
Neil & Marlene Buboltz
Rev. Matt & Kim Canion
Lee & Beth Corti
Cassie Drenkow
Ron & Dee Erpelding
Joel & Sharon Jergenson
Doug & Renee Jorschumb
Jeff & Darla Kimpling
Mike & Lori Martinek
Mike & Mary Mikkelsen
Craig & Heather Petersen
Bob & Lila Rekedal
Jerry & Betty Schleh
John & Lori Schroeder
Kim & Deb Setrum
Stan & Sharon Skaro

JANUARY

Sharon Skaro – 320-599-4506
Janice Bartel – 320-403-5045

Matt & Jennifer Akerson
Elloyd & Janice Bartel
Rev. Jack & Carol Baumgarn
Jacob Berghuis
Sarah Berghuis
Susan Christensen
Dave & Julie Danzeisen
Jerry Gesch
Pete & Paulette Hagen
Gary & Mary Hillenbrand
Carol Jackson
Jared & Kjaresty Johnson
Dylan & Angela Kalkbrenner
Roger & Lois Koosmann
David & Anita Maras
Jerret & Darci Mohr
Bill & Bridget Neumann
Jeff & Cheryl Pitt
Stan & Sharon Skaro
Rolf & Joyce Standfuss
Dale & Ashley Weilage

NOTE: Please remember to contact your co-chair and ask them how you can be of assistance or just to let them know you are available!

Commented [LS2]:

Commented [LS3R2]:

Commented [LS4R2]:

Sunday	Attend	Adults	Sr. High	Sunday School	Comm	Private
Nov 4	256	28	7	50	189	
Nov 11	283	34	4	31		
Nov 18	252	40	6	52	194	
Nov 21/22	56/126					
Nov 25	233	23	0	36		
TOTALS	1206	125	17	169	383	25
Out by transfer: John & Marlys Eggen, Rachel & Macie Klinnert, Kathryn Stalnaker						
Out by release: Angela, Ashlyn, Ella, Madeline, & Caylee Leindecker						
Out by death: Mary Bacon						
In by baptism: Sadie Evelyn Cordes						

STEWARDSHIP CORNER Through faith, we know that God gives us the ability to work and earn money (Deuteronomy 8:18). Whether we make lots of money or very little, we are to be thankful for the opportunity to work and for the money received from it. As God's stewards, we are caretakers of the money entrusted to us as well as the stuff we have bought with that money. We are to manage them faithfully and responsibly. We should continually seek God's guidance and wisdom to plan, save, spend, and give money in the best way possible. With God's help, we can withstand the temptations to place our trust and security in our money and the stuff we've acquired. By God's grace, we can hold onto our stuff loosely and serve the Lord with all of our earthly possessions.

IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, RMDs... lots of letters and lots of acronyms! But, did you know that these acronyms can become one of the very best gifts to Redeemer Lutheran Church? The IRA rollover provision allows those age 70 ½ to make gifts directly from their IRAs to their chosen charities. Making an IRA rollover, as opposed to a normal charitable gift, satisfies your required minimum distribution (RMD) and you're able to transfer up to \$100,000 annually without first having to recognize the distribution as income. Interested in making a gift? Contact your IRA account administrator and/or tax professional to discuss the options available. Stewardship Board

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG: On Sunday, December 23rd, starting at 9:45 am, join us as we sing some of our favorite Christmas songs before the worship service begins at 10:00 am.

Community Love at Christmas

As I write this Art Night is just a few hours away. This is another preschool event that involves sharing with our local community. We just finished Grandparent's Day which poured over \$750 and lots of love into the United Community Action Agency for families in need.

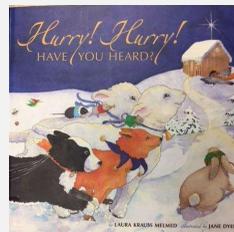
Art night is a bit different as it focuses on families from all walks of life. It provides an opportunity for families to create together and help each other out. I know some of the projects are designated as gifts for grandpa & grandma and others stay in the home. We always try to have a project or two that is a reminder of God's gift of Christmas- Jesus. This message is important to reiterate over and over to help combat the commercialism of the season.

I have also enjoyed seeing our own members come to art night and fellowship with one another. This year we invited our Divine house neighbors. I hope we have a few come to enjoy the projects.

Coming up soon will be our neighborhood caroling. We tend to go to Skylark Mall for coffee hour and a few houses. Some years we find many home and other years there are many empty houses. But those whom we visit love to hear the children singing Christmas carols.

On December 20th the preschool children will share the Christmas story from the animal's perspective at their Christmas Service. Another opportunity to share Christ at Christmas. Our theme this year is "All God's Critters Have a Place in the Choir" and therefore we focus on the animal part of our Bible accounts. Some may say that animals can't praise God but scripture does say in Revelation: "Then I heard every CREATURE....singing....Be Praise and Honor and Glory and Power for ever and ever!" Intellectually they are praising God but Instinctively they recognize that God is their Creator and a higher power to be respected and honored. Fortunately at this learning level we don't have to debate this; we can just have fun with the animals that could have been there when Jesus was born.

Preschool Christmas Service Dec 20 @ 5:45 & 7:00pm



Reverend Monte Meyer presents Preschool Director Rachel Jeppesen & Preschool Board with accreditation certificate for preschool.

Welcome Christmas

"And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

— *Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

With the onset of still yet another reincarnation of Dr. Seuss' Grinch story happening this season again I would have to say that my favorite is the 1966 classic cartoon. If you don't have your tree up by the day after thanksgiving, your house decorated with lights or your Christmas shopping and wrapping done by a certain day you might be labeled a Grinch. The line here at the end of the story is one we all need to remember as we are frantically trying to whip up that 6th batch of Christmas cookies for yet another holiday party.

The first Christmas came without anyone recognizing it, except for the group of dirty, smelly shepherds who had to be told by Heavenly Messengers. Just as the Whos in in Whoville didn't need to have all the fancy decorations, gifts and they certainly didn't need the roast beast in order to celebrate. We don't need any of the fancy decorations, gifts or tremendous feasts to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Now I am not being a Grinch and saying we shouldn't do any of these things because to tell you the truth I love all the lights, decor and yes maybe too many Christmas feasts.

Bright twinkling Christmas lights offer a bright hope in the darkness when the days are darker than light this time of year. The sometimes-endless feasts give us opportunities to connect with family and friends who we may not see very often or to share a meal with someone who doesn't usually have anyone to share a meal with them. Yes, even the simplest of decorations play a part this time of year to help to remind us that this time of year is different this time is special.

It's easy to get caught up in the glitz and glamour and busyness of the holiday season and to forget about what the season of Advent was really meant a time of waiting, a time of preparing our hearts for the Savior, born in a stable without decorations or tremendous fanfare but a light born to break the darkness that God's people continually faced. A light born to break through the darkness of our lives and to give us hope in a world filled with so many troubles. That is what those Whos had, they had hope that even without all the decorations, gifts and feasts there was still something more to celebrate. We have that same hope in our Savior who (suffered far more than we can imagine) walks alongside us in the joys and struggles of our lives. So, this season remember to slow down, look past the glitz and glam of Christmas to remember the humble manger.

God's Blessing this Advent Season
Cassie Drenkow
Director of Christian Education

When Love Was Born

Can you imagine looking into the eyes of baby Jesus-being able to see the face of God? Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and yes, even the animals, had the incredible gift of being the first ones to see that tiny baby in Bethlehem. He was just a baby, needing love and nurturing from Mary and Joseph, and yet He was born to be the one we need to save us.

"Starlight shines, the night is still; shepherds watch from a hill.

I close my eyes and see the night when love was born.

Perfect Child gently wakes; a mother bends to kiss God's face.

I close my eyes and see the night when love was born.

Angels sing fill the midnight sky and they sing, Hallelujah! He is Christ, our King!

Emmanuel, Prince of Peace, love came down for you and me.

Heaven's gift, a holy spark to light the way inside our hearts.

Bethlehem, through your small door, came the hope we waited for.

The world was changed forevermore, when love was born."

Mark Schultz, "When Love Was Born"

The world was changed forevermore, when love was born.

Rejoice in the incredible gift of salvation given to us through the baby Jesus!

Merry Christmas!

Anna Barber



HELP OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS BY BRINGING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:

SAFE AVENUES: Women's Underwear (boy or bikini cut), packs of socks, boys pants (size 8-10), winter coats (size 4T/5T, 6, 7, 8).

COMMUNITY BASICS: Lamps, rugs, silverware, fry pans, twin fitted sheets or complete sets, Ziploc bags (gallon, quart, snack). Group of volunteers are needed to distribute on the third Wednesday of each month (5:15-6:30 pm).

HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER: We do not accept any used items except for gently used baby furniture. We cannot accept any car seats unless they are new and no baby food or formula. Baby Toiletries (baby wash, lotion, diaper rash cream and baby shampoo), Toiletries for men and women (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, body wash) **Please no sample size!** Winter baby outfits (boy & girl size newborn to 24 month), small round or square laundry baskets, sleepers (boy & girl size newborn to 24 month), high chairs, changing tables, changing pads, baby gates, bounce seats, cribs & mattresses, monitors, car seats, car seat covers, baby laundry soap, receiving blankets, sanitary pads, crib sheets, diaper bags, size 6 diapers.



WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS:

- December 5, 12 & 19: Advent Worship – 6 pm
Supper – 6:30 pm
ADVENTure School – 7 pm
- December 9 – Children's Christmas Service – 10:30 am
- December 20 – Preschool Christmas Service – 5:45 & 7 pm
- December 23 – Sunday Worship – 10 am only
- December 24 – Christmas Eve – 5 & 7 pm
- December 25 – Christmas Day – 10 am
- December 30 – Sunday Worship – 10 am only
- December 31 – New Year's Eve – No Services



6:00 PM ADVENT SUPPER SERVING SCHEDULE:

- December 5 – Altar Guild
- December 12 – Middle School Youth Families
- December 19 – Elders

†† DECEMBER 2018 ††

	ELDERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	SOUND	LIBRARY
Dec 2 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Dave Runke Mark Sellmann Matt Akerson Paul Meyer	Myron Behm, Anita Petersen Gene & Rose Meyer Alice Beckmann, Carol Dahlke Todd Swartz, LaVonne Van Zee	Jay Marcus Henry Johnson	Brad Marcus Darrell Hoekstra	Bonnie Rhoda
Dec 5 6:00 PM	Doug Jorschumb		Mackenzie Schoumaker	Mark Boesch	
Dec 9 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Jeff Kimpling Neil Buboltz	Jim & Marcia Gilman Gayne & Marvelle Stone Jack Kuppich, Bonnie Rhoda Doug & Renee Jorschumb	Bradyn Bush-Gregory Adriana Behl	Wayne Dahlke Mark Boesch	Marcia Gilman
Dec 12 6:00 PM	Stan Skaro		Maddox Bolstad	David Reyes	
Dec 16 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Mark Sellmann Paul Meyer Brandon Kopacek Wayne Dahlke	Jeff & Cheryl Pitt Lyle & Vera Ehrenberg Gary & Mary Hillenbrand Leon & Carole Schultz	Koda Helfinstine Chloe Jensen	David Reyes Sarah Jeppesen	Anita Petersen
Dec 19 6:00 PM	Dave Runke		William Jorschumb	Sergio Fernandez	
Dec 23 10:00 AM	Jeff Pitt	Rolf & Joyce Standfuss Jeff & Darla Kimpling	Kayleigh Barber	Kolby Lindquist	LaVonne Van Zee
Dec 24 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Neil Buboltz Matt Akerson		Matthew Lingbeck Matthew Mohr	? ?	
Dec 25 10:00 AM Communion	Stan Skaro Doug Jorschumb	<i>Merry Christmas</i>	Monica Rhoda	Brad Marcus	
Dec 30 10:00 AM	Jeff Kimpling	Marlin & Cheryl Niss Loren & Judy Schultz	Adam Sandau	Brad Marcus	Michelle Marcus
USHERS		8:00 AM *Ken Behm, Matt Akerson, Amiah Akerson, Mike Botzek 10:30 AM *Joe Hammerschmidt, Kourtney Hammerschmidt, Jeff Pitt		(*Head Usher)	



EARLY BIRD COFFEE HOUR Join us on Sunday, December 16th! Start your day out with cinnamon rolls and coffee served by the youth from 7:00-8:00 am.

For Redeemer Families The Power of the Family Goal

We know this fall has been a crazy one for many of you with fall sports and activities. We have been praying for you as you go through this season of the year. We hope that with the approaching holiday season you can rest and find some time together as a family.

We would like to suggest something for your family in this down time in your schedule. Consider taking some time together to make some "Family Goals" for the new year!

We strongly believe that by setting family goals for this coming year, it will help you find balance and re-prioritize your family life. While the idea of "goals" may seem like another demand or pressure, setting goals will help you sort out some things that just don't fit with God's will for your family.

What are the goals you think your family needs Biblically?

- Schedule Wise? (Eph. 5:16)
- Financially? (Luke 14:28)
- Spiritually? (Josh 24:15)
- Emotionally/Relationally? (Eph. 4:2)
- Serving (Prov. 27:10)
- Church Life/Community (Gal. 6:10)

We will be praying for you as you give this idea some thought. If you have any questions or need some help, let us know. We would love to sit down with you as parents or even spend some time with your whole family coming up with a good set of family goals!

One of our goals for the upcoming year is to better connect with families and provide you with tools and resources that are helpful in connecting faith and life together.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Board of Education

Youth & Family Ministries at Redeemer

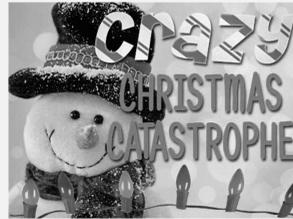
FAMILY NIGHT AT ADVENTURE SCHOOL On December 5th, join us the first evening of ADVENTure school for a family activity as you build an ADVENT Bag calendar for you and your family to use at home throughout this ADVENT season. Everyone is welcome to attend the fun starts at 7:00 pm with a short devotion and instructions.

ADVENTURE SCHOOL are Wednesdays, December 12 & 19 for grades 1st-6th grade starting at 7:00 pm.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE will be December 8th from 9:30-11:30 for 1st-6th Graders and 10:30-11:30 for Preschool-Kindergarten. Children's Christmas Service is December 9th at 10:30 am.



QUAKE JR.-SR. HIGH RETREAT is February 15-17, 2019. Sign up and pay for the event in the Church office. Cost for the event is \$30 until December 31st & \$40 after January 1st.



Youth Christmas Party/Lock-In December 15th

Christmas Catastrophe Mystery Party join us from 8pm-Midnight or 8pm-9am. Bring a \$5 White Elephant Gift to Exchange.

In Christmas Village, tucked away deep inside of the North Pole, preparations for Christmas happen 364 days per year. Each year, the coveted Christmas Icon award is bestowed upon the hardest working and most effective holiday helper as well as upcoming Christmas legend. Most of the time, the award is granted to a toy shop elf, but this year, it is rumored to be between none other than Icy the Snowman and the Gingerbread Man. However, expect the unexpected, as anybody in the town is a potential winner.

You are a resident of the North Pole and were invited to this event by Mrs. Claus. There are a few Christmas personalities you'd rather not be in the same room with, but everybody must do what Mrs. Claus wants, or they will pay the price. You never know – you might even win the Christmas Icon award this year, as stranger things have happened in the North Pole!

Calling all youth in 8th-12th grade just because you missed the early bird registration deadline doesn't mean you can't still sign up for National Youth Gathering for next summer July 10-15, 2019. This a great opportunity to be a part of this event since it is so close to us you don't want to miss out. Youth Applications can be found outside the youth room. **Final Deadline to apply for NYG is January 6th, 2019.**



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!! For **DECEMBER** we will be collecting previously viewed DVD's (comedy and action), paperback novels, games, board games, car games, electronic hand-held games, crossword and word find books, and journals. Please place donated items in the box located in the narthex.

IT'S OFFICIALLY Winter! Looking for a project to do this Winter? Here's something you can do at home, on your own time! The quilters have bundles of squares that can be sewn together, just grab one or more from the wire rack in the kitchen. Directions are included. The quilters meet every Monday at 12:30 pm – we'd love to have you join us!

OLD SHOES AND BOOTS!!! Bring your old shoes and boots (snow boots, work boots, rain boots, etc.) to church and place them in the box by the Fellowship Hall (no flip flops please). Please tie or bind them together. They are used to help support our Lutheran Island Camp.

SCRIP GIFT CARD ORDER FORMS can be found in the wooden rack in the narthex or the church office. December's order is due on the 10th.

TRAVELING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER? Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? Redeemer offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you have plans to travel south this winter, electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings. Simply complete and return an electronic giving authorization form to get started. Look for the yellow forms in the narthex or church office. **ALSO, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR ADDRESS AND MONTHS YOU'LL BE DOWN SOUTH FOR FUTURE MAILINGS.**

DID YOU KNOW that last year Redeemer used multiple Thrivent Action Team Grants to help fund projects for our community? Projects like Community Picnic, Trunk or Treat, Art Night, Youth Summer Mission Trip, Thanksgiving meal have all utilized funds from Thrivent Action Grants. Thrivent Action Teams make it easy for you to bring people together to make a positive change in your community! When you see a need, apply to lead a volunteer team—and bam! Once your idea is approved, a Thrivent Action Kit is delivered to your door. It's packed with everything you need to help make your project a success. It even includes \$250 in seed money to help get your project started. Each Thrivent member has the opportunity to apply for two grants a year that support service in your congregation or community. If you are a Thrivent member and would be willing to apply for a grant to help with an upcoming project yet this year, please stop in the church office and find out how to apply.



KRUSE FARM HONEY for sale in the Preschool office.
Proceeds go to the Redeemer Lutheran Preschool.



Order Your Poinsettias

Remember your loved one this Christmas season by decorating our church with poinsettias. Please return this form with your check/cash to the church office no later than Sunday, December 16th.

In memory of:

By: _____

I/We will pick them up

or

I/We will leave them at the church



Contribution \$ _____ Offering # _____

Coming in December...

Island Christmas Dinners

For Your Entertainment:

Dec. 7 – Island Christmas Dinner
"Christmas on the Piano" – Dianne Gutknecht

Dec. 8 – Island Christmas Lunch
"The Strings of Christmas" – Rachel Borchardt

Dec. 9 – Island Christmas Dinner
The Messiah's Minutemen present Christmas Dramas

Dec. 14 – Island Christmas Dinner
"An Acoustic Christmas" – Gary Bach

Dec. 15 – Island Christmas Lunch
"The Voice of Christmas" – Jim Slator

Schedule:
Friday and Sunday
3:30 Wagon Ride
5:00 Dinner/6:00 Program
Saturday
12:00 Lunch/1:00 Program

Cost is \$25 per person
Call or e-mail for reservation

(218) 583-2905
info@islandcamp.org

Lutheran Island Camp
45011 230th Street
Henning, MN 56551

*Wagon or Sleigh Rides
for Christmas Dinners
as weather permits!
(Not available for Lunches)*

Redeemer Mitten Tree



- Each Mitten tag on the tree indicates one need or want request from a family in our community.
- Select as many tags as you wish.
- Place your item in a gift bag with the gift receipt and the mitten securely taped to the gift.
- Return under the tree by 12/18/18.

Gifts purchased go to help families in Kandiyohi County area that are connected with United Community Action Partners. Thanks for helping spread the holiday joy this Christmas season!