



“Our Joy Comes from Jesus”

One of the responsibilities of being a pastor is to teach the full counsel of God. This includes both law and gospel. This means things that are easy to say, and those that are hard. Often, we don't like to talk about money. I suppose it's because it's personal. Yet, we need to talk about it. It's sort of like going to the doctor. I hate having to step on the scale. But what kind of doctor doesn't want to know everything about your physical wellbeing? Even if it's personal. And so, on the scale we step. If the doctor is any good, they must do it. And we know it to be true. The same is true with our life of stewardship. We need to talk about it. So, let us think about how we handle our treasures, including money.

Jesus said, **“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy be in you, and that your joy may be full”** (John 15:11). As we are filled with God's grace, love, and presence, joy is an everyday experience, and our joy is full. For periods of time, the world can provide happiness, but it does not last. When the thing or person that

provides happiness is gone so is our joy. Only the joy from Jesus is full and everlasting. When Jesus said, **“These things I have spoken to you,”** He is referring to the beginning verses in John 15.

In those verses, we are told that Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches. Jesus likens our relationship with Him as a vine with its branches. Those branches that stay connected with the vine will thrive and do well. Those branches that become disconnected will die. Abiding in Jesus will cause us to bear fruit, because fruit just naturally flows from branches that are connected to and abide in the Vine, Jesus. Fruit are works of love. Abiding in Jesus, the Vine, we receive the Holy Spirit Who prompts us to bear fruit that glorifies God. We do not bear fruit by our own efforts. We bear fruit because the Holy Spirit lives in us.

Our fruit is seen as we minister to the needs of others. We feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, entertain the strangers, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and the

(Continued on page 2)

prisoners (Matthew 25:37-39), all in the name of Jesus, the Vine. Jesus tells us that when we love and serve others in His name, we are serving Him. Jesus said, **“My joy be in you.”** That joy was manifested when, **“for the joy that was set before Him [He] endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God”** (Hebrews 12:2). His joy was to bring us to heaven by the way of the cross. To fill us with joy, He was shamed and died. As we abide in Him and bear the fruit of faith, our joy is made full.

Redeemer has been very blessed. For the past 100 years we've been paying our bills and helping the masses with our treasures. Even as I write this article, we are still able to do these things. Yet, I must bring this up so that we don't forget our responsibility and our duty as Christians.

I thank God for the wonderful stewards at Redeemer and pray that the Lord continues to bless you and that we continue to respond with offerings and gifts to further the ministry.

God Bless, Pastor Senstad

SENIOR BLANKETS

The Youth Committee has purchased soft, white blankets to be given to each of Redeemer's sixteen graduating students when they are honored at the **Sunday, May 10th 10:45 service**. Each of the graduating seniors will receive a blanket that is personalized with their confirmation verse. The blankets will be a reminder to the seniors that God and Redeemer are always with them as they begin life away from home, and possibly away from their home church.

Each senior will also receive a balloon bouquet.

The seniors who are being honored this year will receive their personalized blankets:

Samantha Benedix, Chase David, Jayde Dolphin, Calleigh Eilers, Jacob Fisher, Vanessa Koelling, Sean Lessmann, Remy Marchand, Jordyn Marlow, Leanna Peterson, Brooklyn Robinson, Temperance Thomason

Thank you to Thrivent Financial for the use of a Thrivent Action Team Card & Thrivent Choice Dollars to help defray costs of the gifts.



Congratulations to Redeemer's 2026 Confirmands



✠ *Dominic DuBois*

✠ *Kennedy Robinson*

✠ *Sienna Karrer*

✠ *Madilyn Schutt*

✠ *Hayden Kunze*

✠ *Brayden Surber*

✠ *Victoria Peterson*

✠ *Kate Van Meter*

Please Share Graduation Info for June/July Newsletter

Congratulations to Redeemer members graduating from high school or college! We'd like to share your good news with our members. Please complete this form and bring to church office or call (712) 276-1125 by Wednesday, May 15, to be on our 2026 Honor Roll of Graduates. Thank you!

Student Name: _____

Student's parents/guardians: _____

Graduating from: _____

Major/degree (if college): _____

Future plans/job (if known) _____

Contact number if questions: _____



Special Announcement: May Fundraisers

Throughout the month of May, our congregation will be hosting a special fundraiser to support an important upgrade to our church sound system. We will be offering a variety of homemade goods, including:

Fresh-baked pies – ½ or whole – \$10/\$20 (Apple, Cherry, German Chocolate Cake, Peach and Strawberry Rhubarb) on Thursdays & Sundays. **Jams, jellies, & pickles as well.**

All proceeds will go directly toward improving our sound system so that everyone can better hear and participate more fully in the worship services and events.

How You Can Help:

Purchase items to support the cause

Spread the word to family and friends

Sales will be available after Thursday and Sunday services each week in May. *If you'd like a specific pie on a particular day, you can place a request in advance.* Thank you for your continued generosity and support as we work together to strengthen our church community.

PIES AVAILABLE TO ORDER *(for different days)*

Apple	Raspberry	Coconut Cream
Blueberry	Rhubarb	French Silk
Cherry	Rhubarb Custard	Cherry Cheesecake
Peach	Strawberry—	Turtle Cheesecake
Pecan	Rhubarb	Tripleberry Cheese-
Pumpkin	Tripleberry	cake



Pizza Ranch Fundraiser Night

Monday, May 18, 4:00–8:00 PM—Pizza Ranch on Floyd: Come out for great food and a great cause! Tips and 10% of all sales will benefit

Redeemer's sound system project. Kids enjoy the *Fun Zone* Arcade at half price all evening! We're also looking for volunteers to help bus tables—let us know if you can lend a hand!

**Redeemer Lutheran
100th Anniversary Celebration Meeting**

“Rooted in Christ, Growing in Hope”

SAVE the DATE: September 20, 2026

A noon meal will be served followed by a special afternoon service at 2pm with guest, Pastor Paul Sieveking, sharing the message. Cake reception following special service.

Special Sundays: We plan to recognize and celebrate our 100th Anniversary during a designated Sunday morning worship in July and November. Dates to be determined.

In-Gatherings: Our in-gatherings will now be in the months of April, July, October. Watch for details in bulletin and newsletters. A wagon will be in the south entry to put your donations in.

Contributions: To help offset the celebration expenses (approximately \$6,500), donation envelopes are available in the back of the church or the anniversary display table. Contributions may be returned to the church office, placed in the offering plate, or deposited in the glass vase located in the entryway.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

The Endowment and Legacy Fund of Redeemer has tuition money available to Redeemer members who enroll in a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod school, at preschool through graduate levels. If interested in applying for financial assistance, please contact Rhonda Camarigg or rkathome@aol.com) for further details or an application. Please note, applications are **due by June 1st** and funds are limited.



Tuition assistance is available for the upcoming school year for Redeemer Lutheran KinderCottage Preschool and St. Paul's Lutheran School (grades K-5). Members of Redeemer may receive \$500 per student towards KinderCottage preschool tuition and/or \$1000 per student towards St. Paul's Lutheran School tuition. This assistance is courtesy of a generous donation to the Redeemer Church Endowment and Legacy Fund. If interested, please call the church office (276-1125) to provide your contact information or pick up a form in the office. Please note that funds are limited and forms are processed on first come/first served basis. **Deadline to apply is July 31st, 2026.**

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Rene said to her good friend Cheryl, “I really don’t like the idea of sharing much about my personal life with other people. I am very private. That’s why I haven’t moved forward with my estate plan revisions after Peter died. I just don’t want to tell everyone what I am thinking about, and what I am planning to do.

Cheryl responded, “Didn’t you go to the doctor last month, to deal with your fear that you might have cancer?”

“Well yes, I did. What is your point?”

“My point is that you openly shared your fears with your doctor, talked about some very personal symptoms and allowed the doctor to run tests. I am so thankful you got a good report. Seeking the help of someone who will care about you, who understands how to get you organized, who can keep you on track and who can share a wealth of information about how to achieve your goals, is the same thing. It’s good to be assisted by someone who has compassion and experience. I worked with the LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor after a presentation they did at Church. They were very helpful. I had some work to do but because of the counselor we dug in, I made some decisions, I completed work with my attorney and now I have peace of mind knowing I have a good plan in place.”

Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you as well with their care, organizational skill and charitable gift planning expertise. To get started, contact **Leon Schoenfield** at Leon@iowadistrictwest.org or call 712-830-7481.

MAY

See DCE Jonathon Bailey
with any questions or
Call

Youth News



Celebrating
OUR GRADUATES

Graduate Recognition Sunday - We will recognize our 2026 high school graduates on Sunday, **May 10th at both worship services.**

Senior Bibles - Bibles for our seniors are available on the table in the parish hall. Please take a moment to write an encouraging note or highlight a favorite Bible verse. These Bibles will be presented to the seniors on Graduation Sunday.

Senior Breakfast - Senior Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, May 9th at 9:00 a.m.** All seniors are invited to come relax, enjoy a meal, and spend time in devotion. Parents are welcome to attend as well.

⇒ **Sunday School Announcement:** As the school year comes to a close, so does our regular Rock Sunday program. Our last day of Sunday School will be **May 17th.** We will take a couple of weeks off before transitioning into our Summer Sunday School program.

Summer Sunday School will begin on **June 7th.** Middle school and high school students will meet in the upstairs youth room, while 5th grade and younger will meet in the large room downstairs.

⇒ **VBS Registration Is Now Open!** Join us for an exciting trip to Ireland! During VBS, we'll explore the life of David while diving into Psalm 23 and learning about sheep farming in Ireland. 📅 **Dates:** July 19-23 **Time:** 5:30-8:30 PM



Register online using the QR code below, or pick up a paper registration form in the lobby.
Space is limited—be sure to sign up soon!

Redeemer News & Events

~ Farewell ~

On **May 10th**, during the education hour (9:30 a.m.), we will be hosting a farewell cake and coffee for Paulette Schmidt. The reception will be in the parish hall. Very soon she will be moving to be closer to her sons and her grandchildren. While we are excited for her, we're sad to see her leave. We wish Paulette God's speed and we are very thankful for the years of service and the many areas of ministry that she has been involved, here and throughout our circuit.

~ HER Health Women's Center ~

Your CHANGE can make a difference for LIFE! By participating in our Baby Bottle Campaign you help Her Health Women's Center provide confidential and caring services at no charge for anyone in Siouxland facing an unintended pregnancy. Pick up a bottle, starting on **Mother's Day, May 10**, and fill it with coins, cash or checks and **return it by June 21, Father's Day.** For more information on the ministry of Her Health Women's Center go to PartnersofHerHealth.org

~ Steak Sales ~

Support St. Paul's Lutheran School with our Steak Fundraiser! Steaks - 2 for \$25, each steak is 12 oz and 3/4" thick and individually wrapped (Previous year's steaks were 8 – 10 oz and 1/2" thick). Place your order today! Order forms are available on the back table in the Parish Hall, next to the jams and jellies.

~ Trinity Lutheran Church~

Trinity Lutheran Church of Cherokee would like to invite your congregation to join them in celebration of the Installation of their new Pastor, Jason Letsche. The service is scheduled for Sunday, June 7th, at 4:00 pm and will be held at Trinity Lutheran, Cherokee. The address is: (230 N. Roosevelt Ave., Cherokee, IA 51012).

SUMMARY OF MINUTES LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 P.M. Opening devotion was led by Pastor Senstad.

Financial report reviewed and accepted. Actuals compared to budget are looking good to start the year.

Pastor Senstad: Very pleased with worship during Holy Week.

Pastor Zirpel: No Easter bake sale this year. BiBi's daughters will be taking over the orphanage.

Jonathon Bailey: A lot of events in March, 325 – 350 people at the Easter Car Hop. Easter breakfast went well. Planning continues for the mission trip.

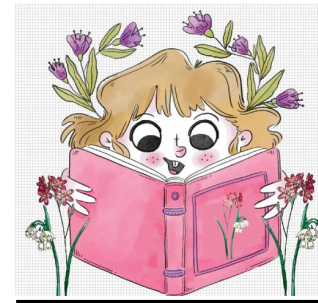
Elder's Report: Prayer vigil wasn't attended as well as we had hoped for, will be discussing ideas to promote attendance.

Parking Lot Strips – Going to contact two that gave us quotes and check the color of paint and thickness before deciding on which company will do this.

Discussion about cleaning at the church.

Constitution and Bylaws – Voter's meeting on Sunday 4/12.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:57 P.M.



Reading Makes Your Mind Bloom

Redeemer Library Committee: Michelle Callahan, Lisa Gottburg, Jeannette Johnson, Sylvia Johnson & Andrea Van Peurse



Intimate Moments With the Savior:

Learning to Love

by Ken Gire

Intimate Moments With the Savior captures the intimate moments Jesus spent with individuals and how those moments forever changed their lives. You will stand with him on the windswept shores of Galilee, ascent with him up the fateful step of Calvary. At those places, you will see the people Jesus saw. Your heart will melt for Peter, ache for the hemorrhaging woman, and break for Judas. You will also see what these people saw in Jesus. You will see the kindness in his face, the forgiveness in his eyes, the power in his hand, and a moment by intimate moment, you will be change

Lessons From A Sheep Dog

by W. Phillip Keller

Phillip Keller and his wife became sheep farmers in British Columbia and needed a loyal sheep dog to help manage their flock, bringing home Lass, a border Collie initially perceived as “worthless” and untrainable; she in uncooperative, fearful, and misused by her previous owner. With Keller’s patient and loving guidance, Lass develops trust and eventually becomes a skilled and invaluable sheep dog, drawing parallels between us and Christ.

Chasing Sunsets: *Angels Walking #2*

by Karen Kingsbury

Lindsey is facing heartbreak and uncertainty, feeling disconnected from those around her. She carries emotional baggage from past experiences, which affects her ability to trust and form new connections. As she navigates her personal journey, Lindsey also confronts moral dilemmas and situations that lead to moments of self-discovery. Kingsbury weaves faith in the narrative, emphasizing the power of prayer, community, and leaning on God during life’s trials to bring faith, hope, healing and love.

The Timepiece

Large Print

by Beverly Lewis

Adeline’s very existence is a reminder of the painful secret that has so recently upended the Miller household. And with Sylvia and her mother still struggling to come to terms with that news, this is a challenging time to welcome a newcomer into their midst. Adeline is aware that she’s treading on Sylvia’s turf, and she feels guilty about doing so when Sylvia is grappling with issues of her own. Not only is Sylvia trying to rebuild trust with her father, but she’s uncertain what to make of her engagement to Titus Kauffman, who hasn’t pursued her since she confronted him.

thank
YOU

Dear Redeemer
Members & Friends . . .

A Heartfelt “Thank you” for your prayers and concerns during the first onset of my vertigo. I am steadily recovering and your care and thoughtfulness did not go unnoticed! ~ Mindy Byrne

* **thrivent** Thrivent Members Who *
* **Have Choice Dollars** *
* NEW Choice Dollars for the 1st quarter of 2026 are now availa- *
* ble. You can call the home office at 1-800-847-4836 or go *
* online at www.thrivent.com. Thanks to all of you who have been *
* directing your Choice Dollars to Redeemer after each quarter! *

Passing Strangers

by Angela Elwell Hunt

Large Print

A train roars over the rails, carrying passengers on a trip that will change their lives. Among the many people aboard the 97 Silver Meteor are Andie Crystal, a lonely young woman hiding from her youth as a TV star; Matthew Scofield, a widower trying to escape his responsibilities to his two young children; and Janette Turlington, a middle-aged mother running from a situation that has destroyed the peace in her home and marriage. These three form a makeshift family on an Amtrak tour through the Southern seaboard, a journey that just might heal their wounded hearts and restore them to the people to whom they matter most

A Bride In Store:

Unexpected Brides #2

by Melissa Jagears

Large Print

Impatient to meet her intended groom and help him grow his general store, mail-order bride Eliza Cantrell sets out on her travels a week early. But her plan goes sadly awry when her train is held up by robbers who steal her dowry, and Axel, her groom-to-be, isn't even in town when she finally arrives. Axel's business partner, William Stanton, has no head for business and would much rather be a doctor. The sparks that fly between Will and Eliza as they work together in close quarters are hard to ignore, but Eliza is meant for Axel. When Axel finally returns, their troubles are far from over, and soon Will and Eliza must decide what they're willing to sacrifice to chase their dreams--or if God has a new dream in store for them both.

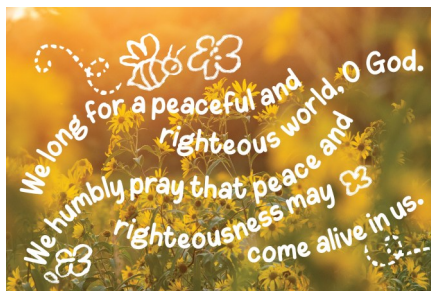
My Dearest Dietrich: A

Novel of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Lost Love

by Amanda Barratt

Large Print

A staggering love illuminating the dark corners of a Nazi prison, renowned German pastor and theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer is famous for his resistance to the Nazi regime and for his allegiance to God over government. But what few realize is that for the last years of his life also held a love story that rivals any romance novel. Based on detailed historical research and including photos from both Maria's and Dietrich's lives, this is a true love story, both beautiful and heartrending. *My Dearest Dietrich* sheds new light on a world-famous theologian and the woman who change his life.



Yada Yada Prayer Group:

Volume Contains Books 1 & 2

by Neta Jackson

What do an ex-con, a former drug addict, a real estate broker, and a married mother of two have in common? Nothing, or so I thought. Who would have imagined that God would make a prayer group as mismatched as ours the closest of friends? When I faced the biggest crisis of my life, God used my newfound sisters to show me what it means to be just a sinner saved by grace.

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>3 † SEE EVERY SUNDAY Confirmation Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:45 AM Confirmation Service 1-3 PM Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>4 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball</p>	<p>5 10 AM Devotions at Bickford Assist. 10:45 AM Bickford Memory w/ Pastor Zirpel 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6 PM LWML Board Mtg</p>
<p>10 SEE EVERY SUNDAY Mother's Day  8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services Senior Graduate Recognition 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 10:45 AM Blanket Dedication for Seniors No Adult Bible Study-Paulette Schmidt Farewell Reception 1-3 PM Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>11 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball</p>	<p>12 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5 PM Aktion Meal-MWMM 5:30 PM Adult Fitness</p>
<p>17 † SEE EVERY SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday—Last Day 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 1 PM KinderCottage Preschool Graduation 1-3 PM Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>18 4-8 PM 'Pizza Ranch—Floyd' Fundraiser Night 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball</p>	<p>19 11 AM Retired Educators Meal/MWMM 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5:30 PM Adult Fitness</p>
<p>24 SEE EVERY SUNDAY FOOD SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 1-3 PM Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>25 Memorial Day Office Closed 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball</p>	<p>26 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5 PM Aktion Meal-MWMM 5:30 PM Adult Fitness</p>
<p>31 SEE EVERY SUNDAY MITES SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 9:30 AM Sunday School Teacher Mtg 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 1-3 PM Sudanese Worship</p>		

Redeemer Lutheran Church & KinderCottage Preschool

3204 S. Lakeport, Sioux City, IA ❖ Ph. 712-276-1125

E-mail: redeemerchurchsc@gmail.com ❖ Website: redeemersiouxcity.com

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 9:30 AM Lamplighters at <i>Calvary</i> 7:30-9 PM Youth Group	7 5:30 PM- Adult Fitness 6:30 PM-Worship	1 9-noon Food Shelf	2 7:30 AM Red M&M's Breakfast & Bible Study 9AM Jesus & Java <i>Council Oak Cafe</i>
		8 9-noon Food Shelf	9 9:00 AM Senior Breakfast
13 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study in <i>Conference Rm</i> 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study— <i>Oscar Carl Vineyard</i> 7:30-9 PM Youth Group	14 5:30 PM- Adult Fitness 6:30 PM-Worship w/Holy Communion 7:30 PM Leadership Council Mtg	15 9-noon Food Shelf	16
20 10:30 AM Devotions at <i>Whispering Creek</i> w/Pastor Senstad 1 PM Pickleball	21 <i>Last Day for T/TH Preschool</i> 10 AM Thrivent Choice Mtg. 11:30 AM 'Women Serving in Christ' Mtg - at <i>Perkins</i> 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Worship	22 <i>Last Day for M/W/F Preschool</i> 9-noon Food Shelf	23
27 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study in <i>Conference Rm</i> 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study— <i>Oscar Carl Vineyard</i>	28 1 PM Altar Guild 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Worship 7 PM Elders Mtg	29 9-noon Food Shelf	30

EVERY SUNDAY: (☩ = Holy Communion Sunday)

8:15 AM: Traditional Worship; **10:45 AM:** Contemporary Worship

9:30 AM: Adult Bible Study; **9:30 AM:** ROCK Sunday

1:00-3 PM: Sudanese Worship Service

Website: www.redeemersiouxcity.com **Facebook:** RedeemerLC

KinderCottage Preschool May 2026

A Ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church
3204 S. Lakeport Sioux City, IA 51106 (712)276-1123
KinderCottage Direct line (712)224-2273

We can't believe it's the last month of the school year already! The year seemed to go quite fast!

We are VERY thankful that Hy-Vee started their School Cents program again and that SO many of the congregation members and our preschool families saved their receipts for us! All receipts had to be turned in by April 15th and we received a grand total of \$813.57! A BIG thank you to Keith Huffman for sorting & totaling them for us!

Graduation for the MWF students will be on Sunday, May 17th at 1:00 in the church sanctuary. Graduation caps have been ordered and each student will get to keep their hat after the ceremony.

Our end of the year celebration will be a visit from the *Sioux Falls ZooMobile!* We are very excited to see what animals they bring to share with us! The MWF class will enjoy their visit on Monday, May 18th and the T/Th class will see them on Tuesday, May 19th.

The MWF classes will have a review of numbers, colors, shapes & letters. The T/Th classes will be work with numbers 0-10 and continue identifying our ABC's!

Both classes will be hearing the Bible stories about 'The Holy Spirit Comes' and 'The Lame Man'.

The last day of preschool will be Thurs. May 21st for the T/Th class & Fri. May 22nd for the MWF class. Hope you have a wonderful & safe summer!

Blessings* Tara & Jazmin

May Dates to Remember

17* Graduation for MWF students at 1:00

18* MWF students get visit from Sioux Falls ZooMobile

19* T/Th students get visit from Sioux Falls ZooMobile

21* Last Day for T/Th classes

22* Last Day for MWF classes



May Birthdays

12 Murphy VanBuskirk

15 Sunny Hersom

27 Zoey Klein

June Birthdays

18 Collins Roskilly

July Birthdays

1 Grace Lambertsen

2 Sylvie Rueppel

Cooking with Pastor Senstad

~ BEEF BARLEY SOUP ~

I don't know about you, but every now and then I'm in the mood for a good soup. On Facebook, I found a recipe that just made me hungry! I hope you enjoy.



Ingredients:	3 stalks celery
2 pounds stew meat	2 onions
salt and pepper	5 cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons oil	1 large potato, peeled
10 cups water	3-4 large carrots
3 mounded tbsp beef broth	1 cup pearl barley rinsed

Directions: Step 1 Generously salt and pepper the beef. In a large stockpot, heat the oil over medium-high heat. When it is very hot, add about 1/3 of the meat. Brown for about 1-2 minutes, then turn to brown the other side. Remove it to a plate when it is browned on all sides. Repeat with remaining meat in 2 more batches.

Step 2 When all the meat is browned, add all the meat back to the pot with 10 cups of water. Add 3 healthy tablespoons beef stock concentrate. Add the chopped celery, onions, and garlic. Bring to a boil, then turn the heat to medium-low. Simmer for about 2 hours with the lid on.

Step 3 When the meat is tender and you can break it apart easily with a wooden spoon, add the shredded potato and carrots. Bring to a boil, then continue to simmer on low for another 30-45 minutes, or until the carrots are tender.

Step 4 Add 1 cup of barley. Bring to a boil, then reduce to low. Cook for another half hour, or until barley is tender and the soup tastes...like home.

Step 5 In a large pan, brown the meat according to the instructions. Remove the browned meat to a large crockpot. Add 2 cups of water to the pan and bring to a boil. Stir up all the browned bits. Add this and the remaining 8 cups of water to the crock pot.

Step 6 Add the beef base, celery, onions, and garlic to the slow cooker and stir. Cook on low for about 6 hours. Add the potatoes and carrots and cook for another hour. Add the barley and simmer for another hour or so, until it is tender.

I know this is a little more work than my average recipe, but I hope you enjoy the meal. ~ God Bless, Pastor Senstad

It's MAY

May your days be filled with the blessings of love, peace, and joy!!



LWML CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2026

Sat. May 2 9:00 AM Jesus & Java— Council Oak Café (101 W. 3rd St., Sioux City, IA)

Tues. May 5 6:00 PM LWML Board Mtg—All are invited—Confer. Rm

Wed. May 13 10:00 AM Women's Morning Bible Study—Confer. Rm



"Great Prayer-ers of the Bible—We dedicate ourselves to him with all that we are and have" pgs. 4-9

Wed. May 13 5:30 PM Women's Evening Bible Study—Oscar Carl Vineyard



"Leaning on Jesus" A Study of God's Strength. Week 5 'Leaning on Jesus When We Need Comfort', pgs. 128-136

Thur. May 21 11:30 AM Lunch- Women Serving in Christ Bible Study Perkins (Eastgate Shopping Center). Bible Study: "Who Is My Neighbor and "What Does That Mean?" pgs. 18-19 in the Spring 2026 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. Bible Study Leader—Loralee Fink



Wed. May 27 10:00 AM Women's Morning Bible Study—Confer. Rm



"Great Prayer-ers of the Bible—We dedicate ourselves to him with all that we are and have" pgs. 11-15

Wed. May 27 5:30 PM Women's Evening Bible Study—Oscar Carl Vineyard



"Leaning on Jesus" A Study of God's Strength. Week 5 'Leaning on Jesus When We Need Comfort', pgs. 141-152

Upcoming Events

- ◇ June 11 – 13, 2026 the 41st Iowa West District Biennial District LWML Convention
- ◇ July 14, 2026 Sioux City Zone Event at Oscar Carl Vineyard
- ◇ August 5, 2026 (Wednesday) LWML Woodbury County Fair – Food Booth
- ◇ October 2026 - Sioux City Zone Fall Rally at Faith TBA
- ◇ September IWD Fall Retreat – Mission Central TBA
- ◇ July 8 - 11, 2027 42nd Biennial LWML Convention Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

All women of the congregation are invited to participate in any of the events. Please join us as we "Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalms 110:2

Come Join Us
Jesus & Java

Saturday, May 2nd 2026

9:00 a.m.

Grab a cup of your favorite morning starter and stay for devotion and fellowship time together.

Council Oak Coffee Parlor
101 W 3rd St. Sioux City, Iowa



41st Biennial Convention • June 11, 12, 13, 2026 at Camp Okoboji



If you are unable to attend the convention, but would like to contribute to the servant activities/ingathering. The following items can be brought to church by June 7 and will be taken to camp Okoboji:

For Swaddling Clothes Organizations across the District

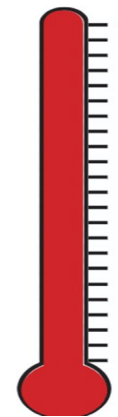
1. Any size and brand infant/toddler disposable diapers (Not adult)
2. Baby wipes (any brand)

For Camp Okoboji

1. Dish Towels
2. Rugs of all sizes
3. "Gain" brand laundry soap
4. Bleach
5. Paper Towels

**LWML Iowa West District
Mission Goal
2024-2026 Biennium**

\$223,217.43



ATTENTION PLEASE

**WE DID IT!
THANK YOU!**

It is with great joy that I, as your Financial Secretary, can report we have collected enough mites to send our 25% of eligible mites to National and keep the 10% for inreach as well as cover all of our grants for the 2024-2026 biennium and even have extra funds for the next biennium. To God be the glory!

Are you having difficulty getting to monthly meetings but still want to support LWML grants? Now you can register for automatic mites donated from a bank account either monthly or as one-time donations. You can type in this link <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXXP> or use this QR code



Welcome Our New Members



Hunter Hordusky by *Adult Confirmation* on January 25, 2026, wife Jessica, and sons Elijah and Levi.



Renae Burow & Brett Harms by *Transfer* on February 22, 2026.



Gillian Simrell by *Adult Baptism* on March 29, 2026. Parents are Thomas & Gina Simrell



Jackson Fowler by *Baptism* March 22, 2026. Parents are Tyler Fowler & Marina Jackson, also big sister Presley.

Camp Okoboji



Camp Okoboji is still in need of staff for the Summer 2026 camp season. Youth 16 years and older and college students are encouraged to explore opportunities to serve on the Camp Okoboji team. Individuals interested in serving at Camp should begin by completing a NLOMA profile. This is the first step in the application process for summer positions. Fill out a profile online at <https://nloma.org/employment/summer/serviceprofile/>



On a Mission
to Support
Christ's Mission!

May 2026

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 www.idwlcms.org
Contact email: emilie@iowadistrictwest.org



Oddly enough, the impetus for this little paragraph came directly from a fortune cookie, as I was wrapping up a working lunch at the Hibachi Grill in Des Moines.

For me, fortune cookies are just a bit of fun, but this one seemed a little profound. It read, “Encourage others to make a positive impact in the lives of those in need.” That is a statement that we can all use to motivate ourselves, family members, and friends.

As we're gearing up for summer volunteer work, start looking around. Can you help out with your VBS in some way? We are now up to 10 congregations involved in Swaddling Clothes Outreach—would you like to make a donation to help? Meals from the Heartland packages every month and would love to have your hands and energy involved. Or can you reach out to Orphan Grain Train, who supplies and supplement so many needs? Do you know someone 16 or older who would make a great summer staff person at Camp Okoboji? Take a peek around your community and see how you can make a positive impact in the lives of those around you.

Julie Mann, IOWAY Coordinator

julie@iowadistrictwest.org

In Loving Memory of Maly “Bibi” Sangho

Bibi was born on January 19, 1960, in Timbuktu, Mali, West Africa. Bibi lived a life defined by faith, compassion, and an unwavering commitment of serving others. Bibi passed away on March 28, 2026, in Bamako, Mali, West Africa.

From a young age, Bibi's heart for people was shaped by both hardship and love. After losing her father early in life, she was raised by her mother, a strong and compassionate woman who cared for vulnerable children in their village—especially twins and triplets. This example deeply influenced Bibi and ignited in her a lifelong passion of caring for others. She carried that love into her own family, becoming a devoted mother to seven children and a proud grandmother to six grandchildren.

Bibi was a woman of great intelligence and determination. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Hostelry and Tourism from the International Institute of Tourism and Hostelry in Bamako and later achieved a Master Laureate in Childhood Development and Human Resources from TechnoLab Institute in Bamako. Gifted in communication, she was fluent in five languages, allowing her to connect with people from many backgrounds.

In 1993, Bibi founded the Niaber Orphanage (ASE-Mali), a ministry that would become her life's work and her greatest legacy. Through this orphanage, she cared for thousands of children, providing not only food, shelter, and education—especially in a place where schooling is not free—but also the love and dignity every child deserves. She had a special place in her heart for children with disabilities, including Alamako, who was blind and deaf, and Ladji, a young boy with cerebral palsy.

Bibi's compassion extended beyond the walls of the orphanage. She made sure that people in urgent need received medical attention, often covering the cost herself. She also served mothers in crisis—women who had been cast out of their homes—offering them shelter, nourishment, and employment until they could rebuild their lives.

Bibi was honored by Mali as both a Knight and later an Officer of the National Order of Mali. She also received the “Mother of the Year” award in Istanbul, Turkey. Well-known throughout Bamako, she spoke at rallies, appeared on the news, and used social media to advocate for the vulnerable. Her reputation was so trusted that local police would often bring abandoned children directly to her orphanage.

In 2012, Jake Stephens, a Marine from Sioux City, Iowa, stationed in Bamako, learned of her work and organized a clothing drive in Sioux City, Iowa, to support the orphanage. In 2013, Bibi traveled to Sioux City to express her gratitude, forming a lasting bond with the community at Redeemer Lutheran Church. The church established a committee, "Bibi's Hope," to continue supporting her mission. The following year, she returned to Sioux City, completed adult instruction, and was confirmed as a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church. She became a beloved ambassador between Bamako and her church family in Iowa. Over the years, members of Redeemer visited the orphanage, witnessing firsthand the incredible work Bibi so proudly carried out.

Bibi was a devout Christian woman whose life reflected the love of Christ in action. In a country where she often faced persecution for her faith, she remained steadfast and bold. She lived out the words of Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Bibi's legacy is one of profound impact and enduring love. She made every person she encountered feel seen, valued, and cared. She inspired others to live with generosity and purpose, serving as a true example of what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ.

Though she will be deeply missed, we hold fast to the promise that we will see her again in Heaven. Her work continues through the lives she touched, the children she saved, and the love she so freely gave.

Bibi is survived by her seven children: Oumou Traoré, KaFoune Aissata, Fatoumata Traoré, Dansenly Monzon Traoré, Sidi Kalil Monzon Traoré, Tenin Doumbia, and Diaminatou Doumbia; six grandchildren; the devoted workers and beloved children of the orphanage; the members of Bibi's Hope Committee—Pastor David Zirpel, Kyle and Stephanie Schutte, Jan Null, Jenny Stephens, Jerry Von Ehwegen, Sharleen Schlotman, Ann Schauer, Hannah Duff, and Gary and Jerry Judd; and the countless individuals in Bamako and around the world whose lives were forever changed by her love and service.

Well done, good and faithful servant!

May 2026 Bible Verse

"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 15:56-57 (ESV)

May Missionary:

The Rev. Adam and Christine Lehman serve the Lord through the (LCMS) as missionaries in Puerto Rico, based in Ponce. Redeemer is one of their major supporters. They'll be at Mission Central on May 23, at 1:30 pm.

March 2026

Baptism:

✠ Jackson Fowler

Adult Baptism:

✠ Gillian Simrell

Transfer to other

LCMS:

✠ Nathan Bowman

Play Ecclesiastes Charades

Here is what you need:

- Sheet of paper
- Scissors
- Hat, bowl or basket
- Stopwatch, wristwatch or clock
- Friends or family members

Here is how to play:

1. Divide the players into two even groups.
2. Write the following words from Ecclesiastes 3 on your sheet of paper:

- everything
- season
- heaven
- born
- die
- plant
- uproot
- kill
- heal
- tear
- build
- weep
- laugh
- mourn
- dance
- scatter
- gather
- embrace
- refrain
- search
- give up
- keep
- throw away
- mend
- silent
- speak
- love
- hate
- war
- peace

3. Cut the words into strips. Fold them in half and put them in a hat, bowl or basket.
4. Each team chooses one person at a time to pick a word and act it out without speaking. That team has to guess the word.
5. Decide on a time limit. If the word hasn't been guessed when the time is up, the other team gets to guess.
6. Keep score. The team with the most correct guesses wins.
7. When all the words have been guessed. Have someone read Ecclesiastes 3 out loud. Listen for the words you acted out. What do they mean in God's plan?

March 2026 Statistics

Date	Church Attendance	Communion Attendance	Bible Study	Sunday School	Sudanese Attendance
3/01	262	233	23	29	N/A
3/08	280	N/A	22	26	N/A
3/15	190	168	7	10	N/A
3/22	283	N/A	25	26	N/A
3/29	500	N/A	25	36	N/A
TOTAL	1515	401	102	127	N/A
AVG.	303	201	20	25	N/A
POTENTIAL	1,377	1,007	1,007	370	N/A
PERCENT	27%	18%	2%	3%	N/A
PRIOR YR.	26%	22%	2%	3%	1%

Treasurer's Report Jan.1– March 31, 2026

Actual income: \$209,879
 Budgeted Income: \$214,007
 Difference: \$4,128
 Percentage: 98%
 Actual Expenses: \$198,919

Membership:	3/2025	3/2026
Communicants	943	885
Baptized	272	225
TOTAL	1,215	1,110

Change from prior year: Loss of 105 people (9%)

Serving in May 2026

ACOLYTES:

May 3: 8:15 AM– Camden Doscher & Evan Shrauner.

10:45 AM– Bruce Bailey & Eliana Engel

May 10: 8:15 AM– Camden Doscher & Evan Shrauner

10:45 AM– Bruce Bailey & Eliana Engel

May 17: 8:15 AM– Camden Doscher & Evan Shrauner

10:45 AM– Bruce Bailey & Brody Goldsmith

May 24: 8:15 AM– Jase Fisher

10:45 AM– Bruce Bailey & Eliana Engel

May 31: 8:15 AM– Evan Shrauner

10:45 AM– Jeremiah Jessen

SUNDAY GREETERS:

May 3: 8:15 AM– Aaron & Tawnya Becker

10:45 AM– Scott & Beth Bowman

May 10: 8:15 AM– Dick & Deanna Braun

10:45 AM Marty & Marcy Delperdang

May 17: 8:15 AM– Scott & Brenda Ernst

10:45 AM– Jayne Edward

May 24: 8:15 AM– Paul & Cindy Fleckenstein

10:45 AM– Jackie Krueger

May 31: 8:15 AM– Dale & Nadine Henningsen

10:45 AM– Dale & Tina Revell

COUNTERS:

May 3 & 31–Team 1 (Buckley & Lessmann)

May 10–Team 2 (Mack & Hermelbracht's)

May 17–Team 3 (Bobolz's & Schmith's)

May 24–Team 4 (Fink & Buckley)

PROP. CHECK: Scott Ernst

ELDERS: Brett Lyon & Terry Gottburg

Altar Guild: Pam Naylor & Eileen Bumsted

USHER TEAMS: Thurs. 6:30

PM: Harlan & Mary Feddersen (Al & Melissa Joens, Shelly Fergan, Mike Searls)

Sundays: 8:15 AM-Team 2

(Scott Ernst, Brian Duff, Roy Olsen, Lamont Onken, Phil Schauer)

10:45-Team 6 (Mark Shapiro, Jim Phillips, Jeremy Schram, Aaron Scutt)

SUNDAY COFFEE & ROLLS:

May 3: Paul & Cindy Fleckenstein

May 10: Paulette's 'Going Away' Party

May 17: Dave & Lori Albrecht

May 24: Steve & Ann Peterson

May 31: TBD


THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Sioux City, IA 51106
Permit No. 919

Redeemer Lutheran Church
3204 So. Lakeport St.
Sioux City, Iowa 51106

"Return service requested"

WORSHIP AT REDEEMER

Thursdays - 6:30 PM
Sundays

8:15 AM Traditional

10:45 AM Contemporary

1:00-3:00 PM Sudanese Worship

Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month

Adult Bible Study: 9:45 AM Sunday

Youth (9-12 grade) Bible Study: 9:30 AM Sunday

ROCK Sunday (2yr-8grade) 9:30-10:30 AM Sunday

Phone: 712-276-1125

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Redeemer
Lutheran Church

Family Friendly, Outward Reaching

