



“Our Salvation is a Big Deal to God”

I said to myself, "I have labored in vain. I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing. Yet a just verdict for me rests with the LORD, and my reward is with my God." (Isaiah 49:4)

"I have labored in vain." This sounds rather glum. It almost sounds as if Jesus has given up, as if there is no point in working so hard. The next phrase is even worse: "I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing."

Have we had days where we have worked so hard but there seems to be no return? Do we have dark days of hopelessness? Is despair a frequent but unwelcome guest in our hearts and heads? Even doing a simple thing such as going to the doctor can make us feel gloomy!

We are not alone. Read again these words from the Servant of the Lord. Follow him to the hills outside Jerusalem, where Jesus sat down and wept over the people of the city. Sit by Jesus, Peter, James, and John in Gethsemane, and hear his anguished lament: "My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death" (Matthew 26:38).

Jesus feels these very real, human emotions. He expresses the struggle in very real terms. Yet, we must hold the truth that he never gives in

to despair. He never gives up on his mission to rescue humanity. He never caves in to sinful thoughts, words, and deeds.

After expressing the very real struggle he will face, bearing the weight of the world on his shoulders, Jesus puts his hope and trust in the Lord. Things would work out in the end. The author of Hebrews puts it this way, regarding Jesus, "In view of the joy set before him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame" (Hebrews 12:2).

Unpleasant moments lead up to and happens at the cross. But Jesus knows his just verdict is with the Lord. His reward is with his God. The struggle is worth it from God's perspective because it means winning our salvation.

We may have dark days. Our life may be a struggle. We can say with Jesus, "My just verdict is with the Lord." It truly is. Our right to heaven is with the Lord, freely won by him and freely given to us. There will be no struggle in heaven.

Lord Jesus, you labored for our salvation. You spent your strength on the cross. It was all for us. May we treasure your work on this earth, always. Amen.

~~ Pastor Zirpel

Midweek Lenten & Holy Week Worship Services at Redeemer

Ash Wednesday, February 18

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Soup & Pie

hosted by LWML

Wednesday, February 25

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Soup & Sandwiches

hosted by Bibi's Hope

Wednesday, March 4

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Hot Dogs & Loose Meats

hosted by KinderCottage Preschool

Wednesday, March 11

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Spaghetti

hosted by Confirmation

Wednesday, March 18

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Taco Bar

hosted by High School

Wednesday, March 25

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

*Meal: Lasagna

hosted by Handbells / Choir

Palm Sunday, March 29

**Worship 6:30 PM Thursday,
March 26; 8:15 & 10:45 AM
Sunday, March 29**

Maundy Thursday, April 2

**11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship with
Holy Communion**

Good Friday, April 3

11:30 AM & 7 PM Worship

Easter Sunday, April 5

6:30 AM, 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

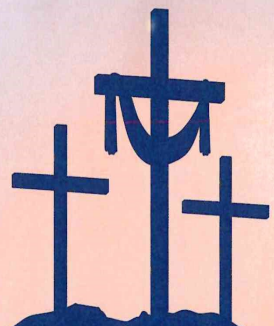
Worship with Holy Communion

*7:30-10 AM Redeemer Youth serve
Easter Breakfast*



DYING HIS DEATH LIVING HIS LIFE

SERVICES FOR LENT



Ash Wednesday
and the 5 Weeks of Lent

FRED NIEDNER

Donations to Mission Projects in 2025

**** amount includes Jams, Jellies, Pickles and Bake Sales ****

Non-Budgeted

John Wolf Missionary Family	12,025.00
Adam Lehman Missionary Family	2,790.00
Her Health, Baby Bottle Fundraiser	610.00
Mission Central	1,900.00
Lutheran for Life	460.00
Redeemer's Food Shelf	2,389.00
Bibi's Hope	32,660.00
Bibi's Hope Sponsorship	8,936.00
Morningside Country Estates (Fire Victims)	5,257.00
Woodbury County Fair	30,843.13
LWML Mites	6,073.82
St. Paul Lutheran School	1,725.00
St. Paul's Golf Outing (including Steaks)	26,500.00
TOTAL	\$132,168.95

Redeemer News. . .

"The Lutheran Witness"

Magazine is available to all members. If you would like to subscribe or be taken off the list, please stop in the office.
(If you already subscribe, no action is necessary.)

"2025 Giving Statements"

2025 giving statements for all members have been mailed. If you did not receive one, if you need an additional copy, or if yours has errors or omissions, please see Angie in the office. Thank you!

2025 Meals with a Mission Report

Altar Guild	400.00
Bibi's Hope	1,200.00
CMD	800.00
Food Bank of Siouxland	800.00
Good Shepherd Hour	400.00
Hope Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	800.00
Lamplighters	400.00
LWML	800.00
Main Street Living	1,200.00
Mercy Meals	800.00
Mission Central	400.00
Missionary Adam Lehman	800.00
Missionary JJ Wolf	1,200.00
Orphan Grain Train	800.00
Redeemer Sound System	400.00
St. Paul Lutheran School	2,000.00

Total \$13,200.00



Redeemer Family News & Events

FEBRUARY

Contact DCE Jonathon Bailey with any Questions or Concerns!

Calling All High School Students! You're invited to a **Half Lock-In** on **Friday, February 13th, from 6:00 PM–Midnight**. Join us for a night full of food, fun, games, and crafts. **Supper will be provided.** Bring a friend and don't miss out on a great night together!

Next Mission Trip Meeting: If you are planning to attend the Mission Trip, please make plans to join us for the next **Mission Trip Meeting on February 15th at 12:30 PM**. We will be talking about upcoming fundraisers—your input is important!



Musketeers tickets- If you would be interested in joining us for a Musketeers game, please stop by the back of the Sanctuary and sign up. The game will be on **Friday March 13th at 7pm**. Tickets cost \$13 each.

Siouxland Youth Connect and **Iowa District West** invite you to **"The Slow Down"**—an evening of music, poetry, and hope featuring **Tanner Olson** and **Matt Doering**.

 **Thursday, March 26**  **6:30 PM**

 **Redeemer Lutheran Church**
(3204 South Lakeport Rd, Sioux City, IA)



Tanner Olson is a spoken-word poet and speaker who travels the country sharing poetry and stories of grace and hope. He was one of the nightly speakers at the Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Matt Doering is a singer/songwriter based in Georgetown, Texas. He travels across the U.S. sharing music that offers a kind, restful reminder that—even in life's ups and downs—beauty and love are always present.

Come and slow down. Be encouraged. Find hope. A meal will be served from 5:15- 6:00 pm. **Please follow the link in the QR code to RSVP!**

Valentine's Day Bake Sale

(Benefit Bibi's Hope)

Order by: Thursday, February 5th

Pick-Up at Redeemer: February 9th – 13th

PLEASE ADD PICK UP DATE DOWN BELOW

**Alternate Pick-Up Date/Time-Call Pastor Zirpel

Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes and Cookies (per doz.) - \$20



- _____ White Cake Valentine Icing
- _____ White Cake XOXO Icing
- _____ Chocolate Cake True Love Icing
- _____ Dozen Chocolate Cupcakes
- _____ Dozen White Cupcakes
- _____ Dozen Mixed Cupcakes
- _____ Dozen Valentine Cookies
- _____ German Chocolate Cake
- _____ Coconut Cream Pie
- _____ French Silk Pie

Name: _____ Phone: _____

PLEASE PUT PICK UP DATE: _____

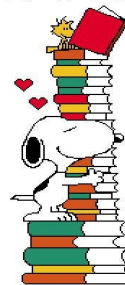
**Alternate Pick-Up Date/Time: _____

(Call Pastor Zirpel to schedule alternate date/time)

Cash or Checks Written to 'Redeemer Lutheran Church'

Credit Cards and Venmo also accepted

I LOVE
READING



Redeemer Library, Sharing the Love of Christ

Redeemer Library Committee:

Michelle Callahan, Lisa Gottburg, Jeannette Johnson,

Sylvia Johnson, & Andrea Van Peurse



When Love Comes My Way

by Lori Copeland

A tale of love, redemption, and faith set in Michigan's Upper Peninsula during the lumber boom. After a wagon accident in 1873, Tess Wakefield awakens with no memory—and soon loses her heart to rugged lumberjack Jake Lannigan. But Jake believes she's the spoiled timber heiress he resents. As secrets unravel and emotions deepen, both must confront pride and pain to discover if God's plan can unite them.



The DNA of Relationships for Couples

by Greg Smalley

This book shows readers the steps to take to strengthen and rebuild their marriage relationship. The practical solutions are built on the basic steps that are explained in *The DNA of Relationships*. Smalley uses fictional couples (based on real client experience) who are grappling with real-life problems ranging from work and family priority balance issues to extramarital affairs. Through the telling of the stories of real couples going through the step-by-step counseling process, the book provides a tool to help both partners identify destructive relationship habits and explains how to begin the rebuilding process.

Winter Turns to Spring: Four

Seasons of Marriage, Book #4

by Catherine Palmer, Gary Chapman

A young newlywed couple who are facing their first season of winter. Opposite work schedules, differing views on finances and when to start a family, and Brad's selfish and immature habits are forcing the young couple apart, causing them to question why they ever got married in the first place. It will take a whole lot of help—mostly from their nosy but well-meaning neighbors — for Ashley and Brad to pull their marriage out of the winter blues and into a hopeful spring. As usual, the residents of Deepwater Cove will pop in and out of the story to delight readers.

The Photograph

By Beverly Lewis

Life. There are so many decisions. So much to think of, remember, plan, do, be, and accomplish. If only there was someone with wise words, a plan, some "direction" for our lives. Luci finds reason for laughter in the midst of tears. She also knows—from experience—the importance of listening, learning, laughing, and loving her way through life. Between laughing with friends and adopting humor as a basic lifestyle, Luci brings balance and wisdom your way as she openly shares her life. For more than 60 years, she's maintained a joyful spirit, a grateful heart, and a rich, purposeful relationship with God.

Christ in the Passover

by Cecil Rose, Moishe Rosen

Through Christ in the Passover, you'll trace God's involvement through the history of this holy day-From the first Passover, all the way to the modern seder. The authors show you how the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah are forever interwoven with the Passover and its symbolism



The Carpenter's Journey:

To the Cross and Beyond

by Sigmund Brouwer

Sigmund Brouwer offers an intimate, vivid journey through Jesus's final week before the crucifixion, bringing these pivotal moments to life with the urgency and imagery that define his popular thrillers. Newly repackaged for wider appeal, *The Carpenter's Journey to the Cross and Beyond* invites both adults and young readers to rediscover the wonder of Christ's sacrifice. This is an audio-book on CD.

A Love Worth Giving: Living in the Overflow of God's Love

by Max Lucado

Finding it hard to love? Someone in your world is hard to forgive? Is patience an endangered species? Kindness a forgotten virtue? If so, you may have forgotten a step -- an essential first step. Living loved. God loves you. Personally. Powerfully. Passionately. Others have promised and failed. But God has promised and succeeded. He loves you with an unending love. And his love -- if you let it -- can fill you and leave you with a love worth giving.

Special Books to Honor President's Day

The Bicentennial Almanac: 200 Years of America 1776-1976

by Calvin Darlington Linton

1776 through 1976 reviewed with engaging, informative text, accompanied by black and white photographs and illustrations—many color palettes on glossy paper; table on contents according to year; and a topical index. In light of the upcoming 250th celebration of our country, this is a beautiful book to take a look back on the history of America,

The Faith of America

by Fred Bauer

Illustrated by the talented Norman Rockwell, this rare and vintage book is a perfect addition to any bibliophile's collection.



Just a reminder...

We are missing a few books from our library. If you have checked one out or picked one up off the table without writing it down, please return them to the library as soon as you can.

And don't forget to sign out books on the clipboard on the Library desk. Thank you!

Donating Books to Our Library?

Look for the form near the "donation" basket and complete one form for each book you donate!

Thank you for your generosity!



We *LOVE* because He first loved us.

1 John 4:19




FEBRUARY 2026

Mon. Feb. 2, 6:00 PM—LWML Board Mtg-Confer. Rm
All are invited to attend!

Wed. Feb. 11, 10:00 AM—Women's Bible Study-Confer. Rm
"Forgiveness" Lesson 7; 'Forgiving Your Prodigals' pgs. 210-218;
Lesson 8 "Forgiving like Jesus, Our Good Shepherd" pgs. 221-228

Wed. Feb. 11, 5:30 PM—Women's Bible Study-Oscar Carl Vine.
"Leaning on Jesus" A Study on God's Strength. Week 4 -
'Leaning on Jesus When We're Weak', pgs. 101-115

Wed. Feb. 18, 12:00 PM & 5 PM—Soup & Pie*-Fellowship Hall
 Signup sheet for **Ash Wednesday** 'Soup & Pie' meals at the back of the sanctuary. Sign up if you are able to provide a pie or help serve either meal.

Thur. Feb. 19, 1:00 PM—Women Serving in Christ-Fellow Hall
Bible Study: "WHAT-IS_HA-PEN-ING?" pg. 18, Winter 2025
Quarterly. Bible Study Leader: Yvonne Pedersen.
Hostess (s): Eileen Bumsted



Sat. Feb. 21, 8:30 AM—LWML IWD Board Mtg-Carrol, IA

Wed. Feb. 22, 1:00 PM—Service Project-Lower-level Center Rm
Tying Blankets for Unity Point child Advocacy

Wed. Feb. 25, 10:00 AM—Women's Bible Study-Confer. Rm
"Forgiveness" Lesson 8; Lesson 8 "Forgiving like Jesus, Our Good Shepherd" pgs. 229-249

Wed. Feb. 25, 5:30 PM—Women's Bible Study-Oscar Carl Vine.
"Leaning on Jesus" A Study of God's Strength. Week 5- 'Leaning on Jesus When We Need Comfort', pgs. 116-124

Save the Date!

- ♦ March 30, 2026 at 6:30 PM—The Word, Fellowship, Flower Arranging.
- ♦ April 11, 2026 at 9:00 AM—Sioux City Zone Spring Gathering at Calvary—HER Health Women's Center
- ♦ June 11-13, 2026—the 41st Iowa West District Biennial District LWML Convention
- ♦ October 3, 2026—Sioux City Zone Fall Festival at Faith
- ♦ 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 100:2



Gary Thies – Guest Speaker


Thursday, Feb. 5th, 6:30 PM and
Sunday, Feb. 8th, 8:15 & 10:45 AM
Bible Class – 9:45 AM

Gary will give an exciting and interesting presentation on what is happening in the Mission Field. Don't miss this chance to invite a friend! You, too, are a missionary!

Gary Thies
Mission Development
Counselor for LCMS

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
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: redeemersiouxcity.com; Facebook: RedeemerLC Youtube: Redeemer Lutheran Church Sioux City		
1 † SEE EVERY SUNDAY Super Bowl Sub Orders Due! 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 1:00-3 PM Sudanese Worship	2 9 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:00 PM LWML Mtg 6:30 PM Pickleball	3 10 AM Devotions w/Pastor Zirpel at Bickford Assist. & 10:45 AM Bickford Memory 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 7:00 PM 'Life Light' Bible Study at Whispering Creek
8 SEE EVERY SUNDAY *7 AM Youth Meet to Build Subs Pick Up Super Bowl Sub Orders 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services w/Gary Thies 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 1:00-3 PM Sudanese Worship	9 9 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball	10 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5 PM Aktion Valentines Meal/MWM 7:00 PM 'Life Light' Bible Study at Whispering Creek
15 † SEE EVERY SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 12:30 PM Mission Trip Mtg 1:00-3 PM Sudanese Worship	16 No Preschool 9 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball	17 11 AM Retired Educators Meal/MWM 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 7:00 PM 'Life Light' Bible Study at Whispering Creek
22 SEE EVERY SUNDAY FOOD SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM ROCK Sunday 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Adult Confirmation 1:00-3 PM Sudanese Worship 1:00 PM LWML-Service Project	23 9 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6:30 PM Pickleball 4-8 PM Pizza Ranch Fundraiser on Floyd Blvd.	24 1:30 PM Staff Bible Study/Mtg 5 PM Aktion Meal-MWM 7:00 PM 'Life Light' Bible Study at Whispering Creek

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday, February 8th Super Bowl Sub Fundraiser -Subs ready for pickup! Youth be in the gym by 7:00 AM to assemble the Subs!			
4 9:30 AM Lamplighters at Redeemer 5-5:40 PM Midweek Meal– Pancakes 5-7 PM Midweek/ROCK Wednesday 5:30 PM Midweek Bible Study 6:15 PM Handbells 7:15 PM Adult Choir 7:30-9 PM Youth Group	5 5:30 PM- Adult Fitness 6 PM BSF Bible Study 6:30 PM-Worship w/Gary Thies	6 9-noon Food Shelf	7 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
11 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study - in Conference Room 5-5:40 PM Midweek Meal– Concession Stand 5-7 PM Midweek/ROCK Wed.– Movie Night 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study - at Oscar Carl Vineyard 5:30 PM Midweek Bible Study 6 PM Handbells / 7:15 PM Adult Choir 7:30-9 PM Family Movie Night	12 5:30 PM Adult Fitness 6 PM BSF Bible Study 6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion 7:30 PM Leadership Council Mtg	13 9-noon Food Shelf 6 PM–12 AM High School 1/2 Lock-In	14
18 Ash Wednesday 10:30 AM Devotions with Pastor Senstad at Whispering Creek 11:30 AM Lenten Service 12:15 PM Soup & Pie Meal *hosted by LWML 5-6:45 PM Meal* 5-7 PM Midweek	 19 10 AM Thrivent Choice 1 PM 'Women Serving in Christ' 5:30 PM Adult Fit. 6 PM BSF Bible Study 6:30 PM Worship	20 9-noon Food Shelf	21 8:30 AM LWML Board Mtg. - Carol, IA
25 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study-Conf. Rm 11:30 AM Lenten Service 12:15 PM Soup & Sandwich Meal *hosted-Bibi's Hope 5-6:45 PM Meal* 5-7 PM Midweek 5:30 PM Midweek	26 1 PM Altar Guild 5:30 PM Adult Fit. 6 PM BSF Bible Study 6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion 7 PM Elders Mtg	27 9-noon Food Shelf	28

Thrivent Members An Opportunity to Make a Meaningful Impact

Thrivent members have a wonderful opportunity to make a difference through our monthly **Meals with a Mission** program. This initiative provides meals for retired educators, mentally and physically challenged individuals, and the Girls of '68. For a small cost, participants receive a delicious meal, fellowship, and occasionally an activity. All proceeds are then donated to a charity of your choice from a curated list of organizations.

As we look ahead to **2026**, we want to share that we *truly need additional help* to keep Meals with a Mission thriving. Your time, participation, and support make a tremendous impact, and we warmly invite anyone who feels called to lend a hand.

This program is a heartfelt way to give back to our community while supporting causes that matter to you. If you're interested in participating, volunteering, or would like more information, please reach out to **Pastor Zirpel** or **Kristy Fisher**. We would be thrilled to have your support in this meaningful mission!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent has been actively giving back to Redeemer for many years. Since July 2010 (over 15 years) over \$286,000 has been dispensed to Redeemer (averaging \$19,000 per year). This past year, \$10,511 was given. Redeemer Choice Dollars in 2025 were given for food for carolers; six Lenten meals, fundraiser for a member; Mother/Father's Day gifts; special Sunday School/you request; Baptismal medallions; Confirmation reception; six college scholarships (\$500/each per semester); staff gift cards; and 26 wreaths for shut-ins. This does not include money donated through Action Cards.

During the last few years, the amount received has declined due to a variety of reasons: 1. Failure to apply for Thrivent dollars; 2. Failure to apply for Action cards (each Thrivent member can apply for 2-\$250 action cards for specific projects or events per year). 3. Decline in Thrivent members. If you any questions, please contact of the Choice Dollar Committee members: Shirley Barth, Pam Bales, Harlan & Mary Feddersen or Marge Lessmann.



Thrivent Members Who Have Choice Dollars

IF YOU HAVE 2025 CHOICE DOLLARS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN DIRECTED, YOU MUST DIRECT THEM BEFORE MARCH 31, 2026, OR YOU LOSE THEM. THEY DO NOT CARRY OVER! YOU HAVE MORE CHOICE DOLLARS TO DIRECT AFTER EACH QUARTER (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31). MARK YOUR CALENDAR!! **To direct your Choice Dollars, call the Home Office at 1-800-847-4836, or you can direct them online at www.thrivent.com.**

Who Are the Lamplighters?

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a Light to my path."
Psalm 119:105*

Please support the Lutheran Service Auxiliary and the work of its Lamplighters ministry. Make a donation to become a member of one of the most caring Lutheran organizations in the Siouxland area. Lamplighters:

- ✝ Visit residents in skilled nursing and assisted living care facilities in our area.
- ✝ Monthly share the Word of God through devotions, song, and prayer.
- ✝ Are dedicated volunteers from LC-MS circuit congregations.
- ✝ Include 7 volunteers who are members of Redeemer.

Your gifts help supply devotional materials that assist Lamplighters in their visits and purchase beautiful Christ-centered calendars and cards they distribute in the care facilities served. Contributions, large and small, are valued and greatly appreciated. Your prayers are also requested.

February 2026 Bible Verse

"For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

Galatians 6:8 ESV

February Missionary:

Rev. Steve Schulz and our old missionary friend, Gary Theis. Please continue to pray that God would watch over and protect our wonderful missionaries that service with us right here in Iowa District West. Gary will be with us Feb. 5th & 8th

December 2025

Death:

- ✝ Christy Newman
- ✝ Ryan Ohl



Sometimes we resist the light of Christ. But when his light touches us, we can then share it with others. Play this fun game on a summer night to remember how Christ's light shines in the world.

What you need:

- Friends
- Safe open space outdoors
- A flashlight for each player

How to play:

1. Choose one person to be the Tagger, known as the Light. Only that person can have his or her flashlight on.
2. The Light tries to shine his or her flashlight on other players, who run around and try to hide in the darkness.
3. Once players have been touched by the Light, they turn on their flashlights and join in, trying to shine on others.
4. Play until everyone has been tagged by the Light. Repeat, giving everyone a turn to be the Light.

December 2025 Statistics

Date	Church Attendance	Communion Attendance	Bible Study	Sunday School	Sundanese Worship
12/7	254	204	21	42	N/A
12/14	311	N/A	N/A	29	3
12/21	296	253	19	36	6
12/28	89	N/A	21	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	950	457	61	107	9
AVG.	238	229	20	36	5
POTENTIAL	1,401	1,021	1,021	380	N/A
PERCENT	22%	21%	3%	3%	1%
PRIOR YR.	23%	17%	2%	3%	1%

Treasurer's Report Jan. 1– Dec. 31, 2025:

Actual income: \$796,684
Budgeted Income: \$818,156
Difference: -\$21,471
Percentage: 97%
Actual Expenses: \$792,637

Membership:	12/2024	12/2025
Communicants	948	885
Baptized	268	221
TOTAL	1,216	1,106

Change from prior year: Loss of 110 people (10%)

Cooking with Pastor Senstad

~ ~ STUFFED POTATO PANCAKES ~ ~



I recall a year from my teenage days when my dad thought we should raise potatoes, 3 acres of them. It's a long story, but we never did become potato farmers. We did, however, have a one-year stock pile of potatoes. My mom tried every conceivable potato recipe that year. And you know, there are some creative ways to use potatoes. I recently saw this recipe and it brought back good memories. I thought I'd share this recipe in case you want to make stuffed potatoes pancakes.

Ingredients:

1/2 lb. mashed boiled potatoes	1 lb. of minced meat (any meat you prefer)
Salt to taste	1/2 tbsp red chili powder
1 tbsp black pepper	1 tbsp black pepper
1 egg	salt as per taste
1/2 cup all purpose	1 cup tomato puree
2 tbsp oil	(You might want to chop up a few others peppers that you enjoy eating.)
1 cup chopped onions	
2-3 tbsp ginger garlic paste	

Step 1: In a bowl add mashed boiled potatoes, salt, black pepper, egg and all-purpose flour knead it well then keep in refrigerator.

Step 2: In a saucepan add 2 tbsp oil and onions then sauté for 2-3 minutes then add 2-3 tbsp ginger garlic paste and sauté for minutes then add minced meat then fry for 5 minutes then add red chili powder, black pepper and salt then fry for 5 minutes then add 1 cup tomato paste and cook for few minutes then turn off the flame and let it cool then add a few chopped peppers of your choosing to meat and mix.

Step 3: Divide the potato mixture into 8. Roll each into balls. Flatten with hands and place 1 tbsp meat into the center of the round dough. Gather the edges to cover the filling. Roll the dough into a ball and flatten. Continue with the remaining balls.

Step 4: Heat a non-stick frying pan over medium heat and once it is heated, add a thin layer of oil. Place several pancakes on the pan and make sure to leave some distance each. Cook until the bottom is golden brown and flip the pancakes. Once they are perfectly golden brown on both sides, transfer them to a paper-lined dish to remove the excess oil. Serve and enjoy!

God Bless, Pastor Senstad

Dear Redeemer Members & Friends!

Thank you to everyone for the kind words, cards, and calls at the sudden passing of our nephew Scott Bumsted. Also, a very big thank you for the prayers and well wishes for our grandson Jarrod. He rang the bell on last Friday to celebrate being cancer free! We give thanks for our church family at Redeemer for remembering Jarrod in your prayers these past few months. God's blessings to you all.

~~ Gary & Elieen Bumsted

I would like to thank everyone involved in helping make the soup supper/caroling event a tremendous success! It was certainly a chilly evening, but we were still able to gather 5 different groups of carolers who went out to sing to 20-25 different people in their homes. What a great way to kick off the Advent season and get into the Christmas spirit, sharing God's Love, Peace, and Joy!

Thank You to everyone who gave to the Angel Tree. Your gifts are very much appreciated! ~~ Ida Milligan.

We want to thank everyone for the cards prayers, money, and food that was served for Christy Newman's funeral by the Ladies of Redeemer. Sincerely, ~~ son Jason, wife Honey and their three girls Porsha, Natalie, & Bristol, son Jesse, Christy's mom Yvonne, and uncle Curtis Pedersen. God Bless You All!

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped in 2025 with Thrivent Action Team Cards! Your generosity and support are truly appreciated, and you've made a wonderful difference in our church and community. If you'd like to help with next year's projects, please reach out to Pastor Zirpel or Kristy Fisher. Thank you again for sharing your time, energy, and caring hearts!

The Staff would like to extend a HUGE thank you to our loving members of Redeemer. The financial gift, and other gifts, were truly appreciated during the Christmas season.

Thank you for the prayers, texts and calls that were made when I was having my testing. Thankfully, all tests came out good. Thanks~~ Pam Limoges



KinderCottage Preschool

February 2026

Where has the month of January gone!! We definitely haven't gotten much snow at the writing of this newsletter but very weird temperature variations! **Please remember to have a seasonally appropriate change of clothes in your child's backpack in case of any accidents!**

The MWF classes will be working on the letters, "R", "B", "N" and "F", as well as the colors black and brown, the numbers 5 and 20 and the shapes of a circle and an oval. The T/Th classes will be introduced to the letters, G through M.

We will celebrate Valentine's Day with class parties on Thursday, February 12th, for the Tuesday/Thursday class (15 kids) and on Friday, February 13th for the MWF class (11 kids) If you would like to send Valentines with your child that is fine but it is **NOT** required! We ask that if you do send something with your child, **have your child sign their name to the cards and not address them to specific children.** This makes it much easier for them to pass out!

As a reminder to all parents, KinderCottage Preschool follows the Sioux City Community Schools for weather cancellations. If they have a 2 hour late start our morning class is cancelled and extended day will start at 10:45 AM, if there is a 2 hour early out our extended day students would be out at 1:15 PM. If they are closed for the day so is KinderCottage Preschool.

Both classes will hear the Bible stories David & Goliath, Best Friends, Fisherman's Net and Jesus feeds 5000.

Blessings* Tara & Jazmin

February Dates to Remember

12 & 13 Valentine Parties

16 No Preschool

February Birthdays

1 Carsyn Seaton
2 Charlie Larson



Fall 2026 Enrollment

We are now taking enrollment for our Fall 2026-27 classes!

You may pick up a form from one of our staff at the preschool, call us at 712-224-2273 OR you can go online to the church website, redeemersiouxcity.com and click on the link to the preschool for a form. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you know looking for a preschool!

SUMMARY OF MINUTES LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Thursday, January 8th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 P.M. Opening devotion was led by Pastor Senstad.

Financial report reviewed. We finished the year up about \$4,700. Door lock system will be added to the budget: \$2600.

Pastor Senstad: Recommends downloading the church app; it has good information. Good meeting Monday the 5th to talk about the vision/mission statement. There was a small committee formed that is putting together example statements for the larger group to review.

Pastor Zirpel: Some new ideas for the fair, working on improving the air conditioner. Will be confirming another adult soon.

Jonathon Bailey: Had a great Christmas season, handed out just over 100 bags to youth on Christmas Eve, a lot of exciting things coming up in the next couple months. Looking to upgrade the pop machine.

Elder's Report: No Report.

Sound panels need to be done; we need to figure out how to hang them.

We will be looking at updating our constitution and bylaws to allow a female to be Vice Chairman of the Leadership Council.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

February 2026 Bibi's Hope Update

Christmas Gifts from Redeemer

The children were excited to receive Christmas gifts provided by Bibi's Hope.



Visit from Turkish nationals

The orphanage had visitors from Turkey who generously donated meat and gifts for the children. Praise the Lord for people who help make it possible for Bibi to take care of the children.



If you have any questions about Bibi's Hope Committee or the orphanage, please feel free to contact President Kyle Schutte at (712) 635-3834 or Pastor Zirpel at (712) 276-1125.

Bibi's Health

Please pray for Bibi's health. She is bedridden and needs prayers for healing and prayers for the doctors to have wisdom in how they treat her.

Please include the orphanage in your daily prayers...

Please send prayers for the health of Bibi and everyone at ASE-Mali orphanage. Please pray for the spread of Christian faith in Mali, in the United States, and all over the world. Please pray for peace and God's will in the US and around the world.

In Christ, Bibi's Hope Committee #HopefortheChildren

Welcome Our New Members



Sean Miller by *Adult Confirmation* on January 2, 2026.



Dual Chuol Deng by *Transfer* on December 14, 2025.



Waylon Spreng by *Baptism* on January 3, 2026. Parents are Nick Spreng & Karissa Langseth.



Charlotte Carnes & Cannon Malloy by *Baptism* on January 3, 2026. Parents of Charlotte are Sam & Ashley Carnes. Parents of Cannon are Dillan Mallory & Ashley Carnes.



Logan Samplers by *Adult Confirmation* on January 4, 2026.



Serving in February 2026

ACOLYTES:

Feb. 1: 8:15 AM— Ian Beougher & Jake Beougher

10:45 AM— Jeremiah Jessen & Caleb Amick

Feb. 8: 8:15 AM— Liam Behrens & Jase Fisher

10:45 AM— Madi Schutt & Kennedy Robinson

Feb. 15: 8:15 AM— Ian Beougher & Jake Beougher

10:45 AM— Dominic DuBois & Logan Cain

(Ash Wednesday) Feb. 18: 7 PM
Brody Goldsmith & Bruce Bailey

Feb. 22: 8:15 AM— Ian Beougher & Jake Beougher

10:45 AM— Kennedy Robinson & Kate VanMeter

(Lenten 1) Feb. 25: 7 PM—
Dominic DuBois & Rhyss Dolphin

ELDERS: Marty Delperdang & Russ Warner

COUNTERS:

Feb. 1—Team 4 (Fink & Buckley)

Feb. 8—Team 1 (Buckley & Lessmann)

Feb. 15—Team 2 (Hermelbracht's & Mack)

Feb. 22—Team 3 (Bobolz's & Schmith's)

GREETERS:

Feb. 1: 8:15 AM— Aaron & Tawnya Becker

10:45 AM— Dale & Tina Revell

Feb. 8: 8:15 AM— Dave & Lori Albrecht

10:45 AM— Shirley Stokes

Feb. 15: 8:15 AM— Justin & Emily Wulf

10:45— Jackie Krueger & Jayne Edwards

Feb. 18 Ash Wednesday:

7 PM— Justin & Emily Wulf

Feb. 22: 8:15 AM— Lorelee Fink & Shirley Barth

10:45 AM— Jayne Edward

(Lenten 1) Feb. 25: 8:15 AM—
Dave & Lori Albrecht

USHER TEAMS: Thurs. 6:30

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

Sundays: 8:15 AM: Team 3

(Gary Flammang, Mitchel Bauman, Paul Fleckenstein, Bob Naylor)

10:45: Team 7

(Doug Stucky, Loren Field, Rick Lieber, Julie Madden, Jason Madden)

ALTAR GUILD: Feb. 23 - 1 PM

PROPERTY CHECK:

Feb. 1-14: Anita Mack

Feb. 15-28: Brett Lyon

COFFEE & ROLLS:

Feb. 1: Lorelee Fink / Karen Vock

Feb. 8: Dave & Lori Albrecht

Feb. 15: Steve & Ann Peterson

Feb. 22: John & Anita Stansell



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

"Return service requested"

WORSHIP AT REDEEMER

Thursdays - 6:30 PM Informal Traditional Service
Sundays

8:15 AM Traditional

10:45 AM Contemporary

1:00-3 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

Fax: 712-276-1146

www.redeemersiouxcity.com

E-mail: redeemerchurchsc@gmail.com



Redeemer
Lutheran Church

Family Friendly, Outward Reaching

FEBRUARY
2026