



PARISH PARCHMENT



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

www.holyredeemer.church

Growing to and for Christ!

December 2018

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And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn (Luke 2:7).

In this verse we read of that which is so common—birth, diapers, and manger. Birth and diapers are common, but, you say, what about the manger? True, that is not a common place to lay a new born in our society, but then we are wealthy. For how many people in our world would this be true? If they do not lay their newborns in a manger, then what they lay them in is probably not too far removed. He came in poverty even as so many in our world live in poverty. This birth was so common that hardly anyone noticed. Certainly, it was not a birth like that of a king, was it? Remember when the first child of Prince Charles and Princess Di or any of the “royals” was born. It was heralded by the world’s media. But this birth, who cared? A few shepherds, wakened from their sleep, went to the stable. Sometime later some “crazy” magi who followed a star showed up. If someone told you today that they were following a star, what would you call them? Yet, it is this birth that we are about to celebrate. This birth is so important that we now spend a month in preparation for the coming of this son of Mary. This birth changed history.

While we spend most of our time during the coming days preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus we also celebrate His coming to us both today and in the future. We begin with Advent, which begins on December 2 this year. In the Holy Gospel Jesus reminds us that we *will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory*. He warns us that we are to watch. While that may be read as a warning, it is better read as a promise. It is the promise of our Lord that He will come at the end of all time. Even as we prepare to celebrate the beginning of the story with the birth in the manger, we are reminded that the One who was born in the manger has promised that He will come again at the end of all time. Thus, even before we begin the story, we know the end of the story. It ends in Christ. No matter what we experience between now and then we know that all ends in Christ. That is His promise to us. It is a promise that gives us hope in the midst of the chaos and despair in our lives. The next two weeks we will read of John the Baptist proclaiming that One is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. And again, we celebrate that the One who was born in that manger continues to come to us today in the Word that He proclaims to us and through the Holy Sacraments. The living Christ is present in us and among us yet, even now. When we hear the Word proclaimed, He is present with us. When we receive the bread and the wine, His very body and blood, He is present in us and with us. When the water of Holy Baptism washes over us He is present. Thus, it is that in Advent that we prepare not just for a Christmas celebration of His birth and coming to our world thousands of years ago, but for the coming of our very Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who has promised that He will come to us at the end of all time and who comes to us even today and every day. Advent and Christmas is indeed the celebration of the presence of God through Jesus among us. Thanks be to God!

How wonderful it is to give thanks and praise to our God who has chosen to come to us in that which is so common—a birth, words, water, bread, and wine. These are things of everyday life. God came down to us at Christmas, but He has also drawn us up to Himself. He has redeemed that which rejected Him. He has given dignity to His rebelling creation through re-creation. Life begins again because of that birth, the diapers, and the manger. May you have a Blessed Christmas!

In Christ’s Name,
Pastor David A. Aanonson

Outreach

GRATEFUL GRANNIES

Take a gift tag off the tree in the narthex and join us December 2, at 10:30 a.m., as we Christmas shop at Target. We will be shopping for Grateful Grannies. Target will have 1 checkout line dedicated to HRLC. The Grateful Grannies will be there



to assist in packaging and tagging the presents. Target will provide snacks and drinks in their coffee shop. HRLC members purchasing gifts for the Grateful Grannies will be given a 10% discount on those gifts. Suggested gifts will be under \$35.

If you are unable to shop with us December 2, you may still take a tag off the tree. Please bring the unwrapped gift, in a sack with the tag attached, to the church by December 9.

We have been invited to join the Grateful Grannies on Monday, December 17 at the training center for the Plumbers Union on J St SW to wrap packages. Please bring wrapping paper, tape & scissors. Bring a snack to share.

Thank you for participating with us in this wonderful project.

The Outreach Team
Arlan, De, Loretta, Jan and Judy

Mission of Hope Meal

The Mission of Hope Meal will be provided by the congregation on Thursday, December 20.

Scalloped potatoes and ham will be the main entrée.

Judy Toy and DeAnna Braun will prepare the December meal.

Please see the bulletin board to sign-up to help. All donations are needed by Wednesday, December 19.

4th Sunday Offering

In December, our designated fourth Sunday offering will be on December 23. Donations will go to the Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach.

5th Sunday Offering

In December, our designated fifth Sunday offering will be on December 30. Donations will go to the Rise Jail Ministry.

Adult News

Women's Bible Study

Bible Study will meet at the church on **Thursday, December 6, 9:30 a.m.**



The Advent Devotional is entitled, ***Fear Not*** by the Rev. Katie Hines-Shah, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hinsdale, Illinois. The devotional will focus on how this often repeated phrase in the Bible provides comfort to those who hear it.

All are welcome to join us!!

(Copies are available in the WELCA notebook on the shelf under the women's bulletin board.)

Craft Day

The women will not meet for Craft Day in December or January. They are taking a few months off to rest after the busy holiday bazaar. They need time to get ready for the holidays and then recuperate after the holidays! All are welcome to join in February!

Senior Saints Activities

Our next Senior Saints adult coloring is scheduled for Wednesday, December 19 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Scooter's Coffee, Edgewood Rd. SW.

WIGS (Book Discussion Group)



WIGs will meet on **Thursday, December 13, at 9:00 a.m.** at Perkins on 33rd Avenue SW for breakfast.

The book for the month is: ***The Christmas Train*** by David Baldacci.

All are welcome to join us, but **please sign up on the bulletin board for reservations.**

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

We will not meet in December due to Christmas being on the fourth Tuesday, **but there will be two sewing days in January 2019.**

Home sewing is always appreciated after the holidays, too!

Following the Holiday Fair, 20 adult and 4 children's quilts were given to Grateful Grannies.

Let's Do Lunch

The Fourth Thursday Out to Lunch Group
will meet on December 20,
11:30 a.m.

at the Marriot
(Collins Rd. NE)

Address questions to Dianne Torrey.

Please sign up on the bulletin board to
make reservations for this lunch!

Please note this is the 3rd Thursday
in December!

Hanging of the Greens

Do you enjoy decorating and can't wait to get in the Christmas spirit? This is the perfect opportunity for you.

On Saturday, December 1, at 9:00 a.m., we will be having our annual "Hanging of the Greens". Come and help us decorate HRLC in preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth.

We would like this to be an event for all members, young and seasoned. It is important that we continue to have members that are familiar with this process for generations to come. We hope to see you there!



Holiday Fair Thank You

Our gratitude and thanks to ALL who assisted with the 2018 Holiday Fair and Bake Shoppe held in October. Whether you were a vendor, setup/cleanup volunteer fair worker, supplied baked goods (*and what a great variety – you bakers really came through again this year!*) or simply attended, your efforts and your time were greatly appreciated. A special thanks to our chairperson, Shari, (for the maid-rites for lunch, too!)

Proceeds from the 2018 Holiday Fair totaled **\$3,257.39**, which will be divided into thirds for the Holy Redeemer Building Fund, Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity and Chains Interrupted (an organization for reducing human trafficking.)

This was the 25th annual Holiday Fair. Look for information regarding craft days in 2019.

Submitted by Jeri Hansen

Fellowship Line Dancing December 10

The Fellowship Committee has been holding monthly line dancing again at Wild Hogs in Walford.

It is open to all – from children to adults and we will meet on Monday, December 10. Please note, the line dancing has been moved to Monday evenings.

The fun starts at 5:00 p.m. and you can eat at Wild Hogs if you don't want to cook at home. Stay as long as you want – it usually ends around 9:00 p.m.

Poinsettias for Christmas

Poinsettias are a Holy Redeemer Christmas-time tradition. We will order them from Pierson's. The cost is \$11.00 each for a 6" pot with 4-6 blooms. The order forms will be in the bulletins soon.

You may place your order and check in the offering plate or leave it in the office. Orders **MUST** be in by Sunday, December 16.



Christmas Services

We will have Christmas Eve services at 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on December 24.

On Christmas Day, we will have a 9:00 a.m. service.

As you can see from the chart below, we are still needing some Ministry of the Month Volunteers. Please contact the office if you are able to help fill in one of the open spots on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Christmas Eve Ministry of the Month 6:00 p.m.	
Greeter	Jon Singelstad
Ushers	Phil Hansen & Ron Hansen
Comm. Asst	Connie Hansen
Comm Run	Shari Singelstad
Lay Reader	Shari Singelstad
Acolyte	TBD
Counters	Not Needed
Comm Prep	LaVonne Hunter
Christmas Eve Ministry of the Month 9:00 p.m.	
Greeter	Gordy & Jean Stelling
Ushers	Mark & Marti Marz
Comm. Asst	TBD
Comm Run	TBD
Lay Reader	Marti Marz
Acolyte	TBD
Counters	2 Needed
Comm Prep	Marti Marz
Christmas Ministry of the Month 9:00 a.m.	
Greeter	Susan Adams
Ushers	Jean & Gordy Stelling
Comm. Asst	Ron Taylor
Comm Run	TBD
Lay Reader	David Adams
Acolyte	TBD
Counters	2 Needed
Comm Prep	Le & Dick Smith

Call Vote Update

A vote for Pr. Jayne Thompson was held on Sunday, November 11, after the service.

Pr. Jayne Thompson was overwhelmingly voted in as the new pastor at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church. However, the votes were not unanimous.

Paperwork is currently being processed and signed.

Thanks for your patience.

Thank you from Olivia Prochnow

Thank you to the Holy Redeemer family for everyone's donations toward my Girl Scout Gold Award project. The stuffed animals, books and monetary donations are greatly appreciated. I truly believe the comfort care kits will have a positive and lasting effect on all those who receive them.

Thanks again,
Olivia Prochnow



General and Building Fund Income Statement

October 2018 Summary

	Oct. 2018	Year-to-Date	
		2018	2017
General Income	\$10,132	\$130,552	\$144,978
General Expenses	\$9,909	\$100,219	\$139,268
Building Income	\$2,799	\$28,366	\$33,706
Building Expenses	\$3,406	\$34,060	\$34,060
Income vs Expenses	(\$384)	\$24,639	\$5,357
Total Budget	\$18,919	\$189,190	\$182,650
Income vs. Budget	(\$5,988)	(\$30,272)	(\$3,966)

For October, our General Fund income was \$5,381 below budget. Through October, YTD General Fund Income was \$24,578 below budget.

Our October General Fund Expenses were \$5,605 below budget. Through October, YTD General Fund Expenses were \$54,921 below budget.

For October, our Building Addition Income was \$607 below budget. Through October, YTD Building Addition Income was \$5,694 below budget.

\$3,161 was moved from the General Fund to the Contingency Fund since our October income was higher than our expenses.

Our Contingency Balance at the end of October was \$53,161.09.

Our Mortgage Loan balance at the end of October was \$410,799.07.

Food Bank Offering was \$405.

4th Sunday Offering for Willis Dady Emergency Shelter was \$200.80.

5th Sunday Offering from September for Lutheran Campus Ministry was \$165.



Stephen Ministry

An easy yet powerful resource

Holy Redeemer's Stephen Ministry team has become familiar with an easy yet powerful resource. It is available to anyone in the congregation who might know of someone who is grieving the loss of a loved one.

'Journeying through Grief' is a set of four short books to send to grieving people at four crucial times during the first year after a loss. It is an easy way to show you care and to offer God's powerful love to someone you know who is moving through a period of mourning.

The books explain the grief process to help people understand that their experience is normal, natural and necessary. Feelings that typically surface during the first year after a loss are described. There are suggestions for healing and healthy ways to express and deal with feelings.

Grief is looked at from a biblical perspective, gently helping people work through any faith struggles they might be experiencing. Hope is provided that—even when they might not see it or feel it—God is present, working from the inside out to heal a broken heart.

When your neighbor or co-worker or extended family member or anyone in your life loses a loved one, this resource may be a loving way for you to reach out. It may let your grieving friend know that someone is thinking about them, empathizing with their pain, praying for them...that someone really does care.

Jill, a hairdresser from Georgia has said, "The books were so helpful to me, I now give them to customers who've lost someone. It's my way to care beyond the chair."

Copies of 'Journeying through Grief' are available at church or online. If you would like to have a set of them to send to someone in your life, please talk to Marti or David.

"He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds."

Psalm 147:3

Youth News

December 2 - Calling all HRLC youth!

Mark your calendars for a fun afternoon!

On Sunday, December 2, we'd like to invite our youth (and they can invite a friend) to join us for some holiday fun.

We'd like to join the congregation as they go to Target West following church to shop for the Grateful Grannies. The youth can shop together and enjoy the snacks and drinks provided by Target.

Immediately following this shopping extravaganza, depending on showtimes, we'd like to go to see the Grinch movie at the AMC Westdale. Showtimes have not been posted, so more details to follow.

Please provide Lora and Nicole an idea of how many youth are interested in attending so we can arrange enough transportation.

Looking forward to a great time!

Children's Christmas Program

This year's Children's Christmas Program is on Sunday, December 16. Directly following the Christmas Program will be the Cookie Walk!



Parents, if you are interested in having your child participate in the Program, please talk to Nicole Hubbell.

Please mark your calendars and join us in making some fun memories together. See Nicole Hubbell for more information.

Sunday School



In December, we will not have a Sunday School class. We will be having other fun activities for the youth to be involved in during December. On December 2, the youth are invited to help with the

Grateful Grannies Christmas shopping after the service.

We will not hold a Sunday School class on December 16 due to the Cookie Walk and the

Children's Christmas Program that day. Also, Sunday School will not be held on December 30 due to the children being on the Christmas break.

Confirmation Students Deliver Meals

On Wednesday, November 14, our confirmation students and their mentors went shopping at Hy-Vee. They purchased food to provide two families in southwest Cedar Rapids Thanksgiving meals.

On Sunday, November 18, the students and mentors delivered the meals to the two families after the Sunday worship service.

A big THANK YOU to the students and mentors who helped give 2 families a happy Thanksgiving!

Confirmation Students & Mentors Shop for Meals





Advent Services – Youth Needed

We are looking for mentors and confirmation students to volunteer to read and light the advent candles during the church services during Advent.

Because there are only 4 services and because schedules may be challenging, please send Nicole Hubbell an e-mail telling her which days' work best for your child or for each mentor. Nicole will then determine how we can best accommodate all that are interested in participating. The Youth & Ed Committee look for a way for all youth interested in participating to have that opportunity. Nicole Hubbell will work with Pastor Dave on assigning roles during the Advent season.

Below are the Advent dates we would like the confirmation youth to participate in:

- Sunday, Dec 2
- Sunday, Dec 9
- Sunday, Dec 16
- Sunday, Dec 23

You can email Nicole Hubbell at: nmhubbell@gmail.com.

Reformation Roast Thank You

On Sunday, October 28, the youth held a Reformation Roast and Fall Funfest after the Council Meeting.

Good food and fun were had by all who attended.

Thank you to all who helped support the youth by making this a success for the youth!

Reformation Roast



Good Fellowship!



Good Food!



Merry Christmas!!

**Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!**

From the staff at Holy Redeemer

Events

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| January 1: | New Year's Day
Office Closed |
| January 3: | 7:00 pm Committee Meetings |
| January 7: | Stephen Ministry Supervision |
| January 13: | 10:30 am Sunday School |
| January 17: | Mission of Hope Meal
Happy Birthday Pastor Dave! |
| January 21: | Stephen Ministry Supervision |
| January 22: | 9:30 am-1:30 pm DUO Day |
| January 27: | 10:30 am Sunday School |
| January 29: | 9:30 am-1:30 pm DUO Day |



Ministry of the Month

Greeter	Dec. 2	Jon Singelstad
	Dec. 9	Shari Singelstad
	Dec. 16	Judy Toy & Bryan Kisling
	Dec. 23	Judy Toy
	Dec. 30	TBD
Usher	Dec. 2	Greg & Kay Forest
	Dec. 9	Jim Veglahn/ Bob Poundstone
	Dec. 16	Jon Singelstad/Tom Fruehling
	Dec. 23	Mark & Marti Marz
	Dec. 30	Arlan & DeAnna Braun
Com. Asst	Dec. 2	Mark Marz
	Dec. 9	Mark Marz
	Dec. 16	Jeri Hansen
	Dec. 23	Greg Forest
	Dec. 30	Greg Forest
Com. Runner	Dec. 2	Linda Singelstad
	Dec. 9	Jeri Hansen
	Dec. 16	Judy Toy
	Dec. 23	Kay Forest
	Dec. 30	Kay Forest
Lay Reader	Dec. 2	Linda Singelstad
	Dec. 9	Jeri Hansen
	Dec. 16	Christmas Program – N/A
	Dec. 23	Marti Marz
	Dec. 30	Kay Forest
Acolyte	Dec. 2	Quincy Gilbert
	Dec. 9	Keri Ketchum
	Dec. 16	Bryan Kisling
	Dec. 23	TBD
	Dec. 30	Courtney Hubbell
Counters	Dec. 2	2 NEEDED
	Dec. 9	Jim Veglahn & Donna Madsen
	Dec. 16	2 NEEDED
	Dec. 23	2 NEEDED
	Dec. 30	2 NEEDED
Com. Prep	Dec. 2	Le & Dick Smith
	Dec. 9	Jean Stelling
	Dec. 16	Laura Fowler
	Dec. 23	Nicole Hubbell
	Dec. 30	Jean Stelling
Altar Care: Ron & Jeri Hansen		
Visitor Calling Schedule: Judy Toy		

December 2018 at a Glance

Dec. 1 (Fri)	9:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens
	9:00 a.m. Worship
Dec. 2 (Sun)	10:30 am Target shopping w/Grateful Grannies
Dec. 3 (Mon)	6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision
	9:00 am Staff Meeting
Dec. 4 (Tue)	12:30 pm Card Players
	7:00 pm Adult Faith Formation
Dec. 5 (Wed)	5:30-6:30 pm Confirmation Class
	9:30 am Women's Bible Study
Dec. 6 (Thur)	6:30 pm Executive Council Mtg
	7:00 pm Committee Meetings
Dec. 9 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship Food Bank Weekend
Dec. 10 (Mon)	5:00 pm Line Dancing @ Wild Hogs
Dec. 11 (Tue)	7:00 pm Adult Faith Formation
Dec. 12 (Wed)	5:30-6:30 pm Confirmation Class
Dec. 13 (Thu)	9:00 am WIGS @ Perkins on 33 rd Ave.
	7:00 pm Council Meeting
Dec. 16 (Sun)	9:00 am Worship w/Children's Christmas Program Cookie Walk
Dec. 17 (Mon)	6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Mtg
Dec. 18 (Tue)	12:30 pm Card Players
	7:00 pm Adult Faith Formation
Dec. 19 (Wed)	9:00-11:00 am Senior Saints Coloring @ Scooter's
	5:30-6:30 pm Confirmation Class
Dec. 20 (Thu)	11:30 am Mission of Hope Meal served by congregation
	11:30 am Women's Let's Do Lunch @ Marriot
Dec. 23 (Sun)	9:00 am Worship 4 th W/E Offering to Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach
	10:30 am Coffee w/Council
Dec. 24 (Mon)	6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 25 (Tue)	Christmas Day 9:00 am Christmas Service Office Closed Kitchen/FH reserved for the day
Dec. 26 (Wed)	No Confirmation Class
Dec. 30 (Sun)	9:00 am Worship 5 th W/E Offering to Rise Jail Ministry No Sunday School



Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church

720 Edgewood Road NW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

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Church Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – Noon

Worship Services
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.



*If we live by the Spirit, let us also be
guided by the Spirit.*

Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

Join us as we grow to and for Christ!!!