

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER
REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

"Come Unto Me"

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January 17, 2013

Friends in Christ,

The senseless violence in Connecticut and the stories we continue to hear about safety in schools is of vital concern for us at Redeemer Lutheran School. We have spent time discussing our own school safety. This letter is to inform you of changes that will be taking place at Redeemer, **beginning Tuesday, January 22** and will be carried out throughout the remainder of the school year. This will also inform you of our current practices. Please read this carefully and completely because this will impact you and your entry into the school.

We are working on new security measures. As we begin to implement these security measures, (some will take a while to occur because of change in facility) we ask for your patience and understanding. This will be an inconvenience for you, but it is a necessary inconvenience. **Beginning next Tuesday, January 22 and until we make necessary changes, the following will be implemented:**

1. The main fire doors at each end of the entryway will be closed and locked from 8:30-3:30 during the school day. (The left side fire door heading to the office will be unlocked, but closed.) If you need to come in, you will need to buzz the buzzer at the front door, come in the lobby and then come through the left fire door directly to the office to check in. This includes *anyone* going to preschool or extended care at any time during the day, once the fire doors have closed at 8:30 AM. (New)
2. We ask that you DO NOT let people in the front door. They need to buzz the buzzer. **It will seem odd and feel strange that someone may be standing out front, and the people on the inside will not move to let them in. You MUST use the buzzer! This is what alerts the office that you are in the building.** (New)
3. All volunteers in the building must wear a volunteer badge, as well as check in and out at the office. (Current)
4. If a child arrives late, you must come in with them to check them in. (Current)
5. If you need to pick your child up early, you will need to come into the office to sign them out, at which time the office will call the classroom and ask for all students to be sent to the office. (current)
6. If a child forgets something and it is brought in, please bring it to the office to be delivered. (Current)
7. If you are here to pick up a child at Extended Care, you will follow the same procedure as stated in number 1 above. (New)
8. Preschool children who arrive early for afternoon class will wait in the lobby until the teacher or aide comes to the fire door to pick them up when it is time to start school. (New)

Currently our intruder procedure involves getting classroom doors locked, closing blinds and getting students to a place of safety in the classroom. We announce over the intercom and the students and staff follow the procedures that are outlined and practiced. This drill is conducted monthly.

Our lockdown procedure simply means that classroom doors are locked, students can still move around in the classroom, but are not allowed into the hallways or restrooms until it is determined to be clear. ***During a lockdown, tornado or intruder drill, no one will be allowed into the school or allowed to leave the school.*** (If you do happen to be in the parking lot at the beginning or end of the day and we are under a tornado warning, we will ask you to come into the building for your safety.) We practice tornado drills during the spring and fall, as well as fire drills monthly.

We love each one of the children here at Redeemer Lutheran School. We love the families we are privileged to serve each day. We will continue to do our very best to provide a safe and secure environment where the children come to be embraced unconditionally with the love of Jesus Christ.

Give your children an extra hug today. Give them another hug from all of us at Redeemer. Remind them that in all circumstances God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose. (Rom. 8:28)

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Partners in Ministry,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miss Lavrenz".

Ruth Lavrenz, Principal

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL, TOGETHER WITH OUR CONGREGATION, EXISTS TO: WELCOME CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES TO A CHRIST-CENTERED ENVIRONMENT; EQUIP THEM WITH FOUNDATIONS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SEND THEM FORTH IN LIFELONG SERVICE FOR THE LORD.

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