

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 2 & December 3, 2017

A blessed Advent to all! **Welcome** to worship as we prepare for Jesus' birth and second coming. Please introduce yourself to **Pastor Allison** and **Pastor Akers**, and complete the information in the Rite of Fellowship pad located on the pew. **Large print services** and **assistive listening devices** are available from the ushers or at the Welcome Center. For **Pastoral Care** please call **Pastor Allison** or **Pastor Akers** at the church or at home. A **Sitting Room** [in the east wing] and a **Nursery** [in the west wing] are available for infants through age three during each worship service. **If little ones become restless during the service and are disturbing other worshippers, please take them out of the service until they have settled down. Thank you!** "The Lutheran Hour" can be heard every Sunday at 8:00 AM on WIOU 1350 AM, sponsored by Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. **Please note that the deadline for bulletin announcements is Wednesdays by noon. Thank you.**



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER / REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL 705 SOUTHWAY BOULEVARD EAST, KOKOMO, INDIANA 46902

Church Phone: 453-0969
Church Fax Number: 864-6470
Rev. William Allison, Pastor
Rev. Barry Akers, Associate Pastor
Jonathan Guse, DCE
Ruth Lavrenz, RLS Principal

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SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE: 5:30 PM
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:15 & 10:45 AM
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 10:45 AM [1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS]
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS: 9:30 AM

WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

	<u>SAT. 5:30</u>	<u>SUN. 8:15</u>	<u>SUN. 10:45</u>
Preacher	Pastor Allison	Pastor Allison	Pastor Allison
Liturgist	Pastor Allison	Pastor Akers	Pastor Akers
Organist	Juanita Martin-Davis	Florence Moeller	
Acolytes	Madison C	Jacob T Jonoah T	Kate H
Sanctuary Stewards			Marietta Adelsen Marie Harvath

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE - MUSIC

Saturday-5:30 PM - 78 / Sunday - 8:15 AM - 90 / Sunday-10:45 AM - 168 = 336

Prelude - "The King Shall Come" - arr. C.W. Ore / **In His Service** - "Who Will Make Him Welcome" & "Prepare Ye the Way" / **Offertory** - "The Advent of Our King" - arr. Jan Bender
Postlude - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - arr. Paul Manz

ALTAR FLOWERS

Jim & Marcia Hudson are placing flowers on the altar this weekend in celebration of their 52nd wedding anniversary on **December 4**; in memory of the birthday of Marcia's mother, **Dorothy Hobson**; and in thankfulness for **God's blessings**.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING, STRENGTH, PEACE AND COMFORT

We remember **Marty Akers, Darlene Foesch, Opal Hartman, Lois Grotrian, Sharon Lecher, Carl Swift, Adalee Alexander, Violet Slifka, Ben Vandenburg, Dick Bryan, Cena Benziger, Doris Temme, Robert Molkentine, Jayne Frey, Nancy Jones, Heather Hartman, and Delia Overia.**

Bless a Redeemer Lutheran School family in need this Christmas...



Redeemer Lutheran School serves a wide population of families, many of whom come from single-parent homes with multiple children. Christmas time can be an overwhelming burden for families with limited resources. Nearly 20 R.L.S. families are in greatest need of our support this year.



With your monetary donation, Ruth Lavrenz can purchase SCRIP gift cards for these families. There will be a "GIVING BASKET" after each worship service the weekends of December 3rd and 10th. If you need a contribution form for tax purposes, a giving envelope is available at the welcome center. Please include your name and address for a tax form to be mailed to you. Checks can be written to REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL (Memo: Christmas Blessing).

*Thank you for Supporting the RLS Christmas Blessing Collection
-- Organized by the Lutheran Women in Service Ministry --*

If you have further questions, please contact
Tracy Brandenburg at 210-4978 or Ruth Lavrenz at 864-6466

SHUT-IN OF THE WEEK BETTY VANOGDEN

This week, our honored shut-in is **Betty VanOgden**.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE TO BE PICKED UP IN THE EASTWING HALLWAY. PLEASE NOTE THE ENVELOPES ARE RENUMBERED!

"REDEEMER REPORTER" DEADLINE IS THIS THURSDAY!

ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE – THIS WEDNESDAY – 7:00 PM

Please mark your calendars for **this Wednesday – December 6**, at 7:00 PM for our first Advent Service. The theme for this year's Advent series is, "**Behold the Light**". This first Advent offering goes to **Bethesda Lutheran Communities**. Advent service offerings for 12-13 and 12-20 will go to **Our Redeemer's general fund**.

ADVENT DINNER PLANNED FOR WEDNESDAY – DEC. 6 – 5:45 PM

An Advent Dinner is planned for **this Wednesday, December 6** at 5:45 PM in Fellowship Hall, prior to the service at 7:00 PM. **Chicken – rice casserole, green beans, assorted salads, dinner rolls and cookies** are on the menu. To aid in meal planning, please complete the inserted Advent Dinner Reservation Sheet and return it to an usher or white box in the Narthex. A free-will offering will be taken at the door to support **RLS 7 /8 grade class trip** to Cincinnati. As an added bonus, **Kathy Tucker** will be showing videos of her trip to China.

REMAINING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Advent Worship Service - Wednesday - December 13 - 7:00 PM

Advent Worship Service - Wednesday - December 20 - 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 23, 5:30 PM service and Sunday, December 24, 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM services are being **replaced** with evening Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on Sunday, December 24 at 4 PM, 6 PM and 8 PM.

Christmas Day Communion Service - Monday - December 25, 10 AM

Saturday, December 30, 5:30 PM service and Sunday, December 31,

8:15 AM and 10:45 AM services will be held as scheduled.

Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve evening service will not be held.

A LITTLE SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS YEAR...

Join your fellow Redeemed for an hour of sharing in the wonder and joy of the Christmas Story through acting, caroling, games, refreshments and fellowship. All ages ... children and adults ... are invited, **Sunday, December 17, 9:30 AM** during the Sunday School Hour in Fellowship Hall. Join us! Invite a friend!

Next year, 2018, will be a year of celebration for Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Our church will be 100 years old! We are looking for individuals who would like to help plan various events and activities to commemorate the century of blessings our Lord has granted to our congregation. The next planning meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 7, at 5:30 pm** in Mission Hall. If you are interested or have any questions, contact **Dave Baird**.

SERVICE SUNDAY THANK YOU!

A special thanks to all who participated in the Service Sunday projects last Sunday. **150 stockings** stuffed with items and personalized notes; **23 scarves** made and over **10 dozen cookies** baked for Kokomo Rescue Mission; **23 blankets** tied for C.A.M; **42 placemats** personalized for Meals on Wheels. Thanks for sharing your time, efforts, and messages of Good News and Hope with the Kokomo community. Thank you to the many who contributed items to complete the projects, as well as gift cards and cash to purchase needed items. **Don't forget! Warm, new/gently used outer clothing will be gathered throughout the Advent/Christmas Season to share with those in need in Kokomo. Look for the clothing rack in the narthex.**

9:30 AM ON SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE SUNDAY - WELCOME TO ALL!

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TEACHER[S]</u>
<u>2's and under w/parents</u>	Church Nursery	Jonathan & Breanna Guse
This class will discuss the current Adult Bible Study topic.		
<u>Pre-School, Pre-K, Kdg.</u>	RLS Kindergarten Room	Ashley Schneider
<u>1st - 2nd Grades</u>	RLS 3 rd Grade Room	Sheryl Hartman
<u>3rd - 4th Grades</u>	RLS 4 th Grade Room	Sharon Mugg
<u>5th - 7th Grades</u>	RLS 5 th / 6 th Grade Room	Stephanie Gross

"God's People Go Home" is the focus for this week's Sunday School lesson. God used unbelieving kings to restore His exiled people to Jerusalem according to His will. God sent Jesus, the King of kings, to Jerusalem to restore His wayward people to Himself forever. As a family, discuss, "What preparations did the people need to make before they returned to Jerusalem? How can you prepare for worship each week?"

8th Grade Confirmation

RLS 7th/8th Grade Room

Pastor Akers

High School

Youth Room (top of stairs)

Zack Conner

**This week's topic: "How Can I Follow a God That Would Let Christians Do Such Bad Things?"
from the Bible Study, Can I Ask That? 8 Hard Questions About God & Faith"**

Adult Bible Class

Mission Hall

Pastor Allison

Today, we're continuing with lesson 3, "Discipling Grace-Filled Servants". If time allows, we'll begin our next discussion, lesson 4, "Discipling Grace-filled Givers."

DO YOU...

1. Love your Lord? 2. Want to share this love with others? 3. Have a special fondness for children? 4. See the need to use your God-given abilities? YES? Then maybe Sunday School teaching is in your future! Redeemer's Sunday School program is looking for YOU! We are searching for individuals who see the need to be a part of building the faith foundations for our church's children. We need men and women wishing to share their love for the Lord with the children participating in Redeemer's Sunday School program. If you feel the Spirit calling...or even nudging you, please do not hesitate to talk to **Debbie Street, Sheryl Hartman, or Jonathan Guse**. New semester of classes begins **Sunday, January 7**. We will be glad to tell you about our program and how you can serve! Looking forward to talking with you!

The honor of your presence is requested at the marriage ceremony of **Kaila Claucherty and Pastor Barry Akers** on **Sunday, December 31st**, at **2 PM**. See the pink bulletin insert for more details.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Come **this Sunday** and check out the youth room! There will be pictures of the transformation to give you an idea of how far it has come! The room will be open after early service (keep in mind that Sunday School will be meeting so keep your visit brief during this time) and it will be open again after late service with a slide show running in the room! If you're unable to manage the stairs, pictures will be posted on a board in the Narthex as well!

NEW LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

A new Ladies' Bible Study is starting **Sunday, January 7th**. "**The Armor of God**" from LifeWay is based on Ephesians 6:10-19. The study includes video, discussion and homework components. "As we gird ourselves in the armor of God, we are going to close each week by giving you an opportunity to develop a prayer strategy to promptly put the enemy in his place", Priscilla Shirer. Facilitated by **Renee Young**.

LWIS CARAMEL CORN BAKE - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Anytime between 10 am and 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.

Bake caramel corn / Make Christmas ornaments and crafts / Make Christmas cards for shut-ins

Take some caramel corn home (first gallon bag is free) and make some to share with others (small donation for additional bags). Enjoy fun and fellowship with other women. Come for a few hours or bring a sack lunch and stay all day. Please RSVP to **Jill Lowden** or sign up at the Lutheran Women In Service bulletin board in the Narthex.

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Our Redeemer has a food pantry collection for the Fort Wayne Seminary. There is a plastic tub in the Narthex that needs more food and hygiene products. Where you shop, look for 2 for 1 items. Buy one for yourself and give the other one to the pantry. A lot of the seminary students are married and have children, so all kinds of household items are needed. Please help us fill the cupboard. For more information, please call **Caroline Howard**.

LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT GOOD SHEPHERD - TUESDAY - DEC. 12

Our sisters in Christ at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites the ladies from Our Redeemer and Zion to their annual Christmas luncheon, on **Tuesday, December 12, 2017**. The day starts at **11:30 AM** with social time followed by a carry-in lunch beginning at **12:00 noon**, and then a program. This year the Southern Sounds - Band, Kokomo, IN will be the entertainment. They are a group of retired people who play/sing traditional country, gospel and more. Their program will include songs of the season, as well.

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSICIANS

Those students / musicians in **grade school, high school** and **college** who would like to do a sacred seasonal solo or ensemble at the **4:00 PM Christmas Eve** service may sign up with **Debbie Street** or **Florence Moeller**.

YOUTH CENTRAL

PATHWAYS AND GROUNDS- MS & HS YOUTH GROUPS

Join us **tonight [Sunday]** for Bible Study, hang out time, and games! Hope to see you there!

	PATHWAYS	GROUNDS
Sunday, Dec. 3 rd	4-6 pm	6:30-8:30 pm
Sunday, Dec. 10 th	4-6 pm	6:30-8:30 pm
Friday, Dec. 15 th	6:30-9:30 pm	---
Sunday, Dec. 17 th	4-6 pm	6:30-8:30 pm
Christmas Break Dec. 24 th and Dec. 31 st !		

If you have any questions about any student ministry activities, please see Jonathan Guse.

SHHH...by RLS Principal Ruth Lavrenz

"Be still and know that I am God..." Psalm 46:10

SCRIP by Michelle Engelder

Giving gift cards this Christmas? Stop in the Extended Care room and Shop with SCRIP. I have over 100 gift cards to choose from. I have recently added many \$5 and \$10 gift cards. Give a SCRIP gift card and give back at the same time. If you have any questions please stop in and see me. Hope to see you soon.

BUILD-A-BEAR BUDDIES UPDATE

Erin Jorgensen is excited to report that we have collected enough money for 82 bears! We will still be collecting until **Wednesday, December 20**. Thank you to all who have helped make this project a great success so far. Only 18 more to go! Bears cost \$12 to make. Donations of any size are GREATLY appreciated! Thank you!

CALLING ALL BOOKS!!

Have you ever borrowed a book from the church library? Could you check your home up and down, far and wide, to see if you forgot to return them? Please place any "missing" books on the small table in the library. Thank you ☺ The Library Staff.

MORE BOOKS!

We are still finding more duplicate or outdated books. Please help yourself to the books on the table outside of the library. The Library Staff.

ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Come, join friends for the annual New Year's Eve get-together, **Sunday, December 31st at 6:30 PM.** Location to be decided. Contact **Juanita Martin-Davis.**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

1 Corinthians 1:9 "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." The faithfulness of God is our great comfort. He has made promises to us and He will keep them. He is kind and loving toward us and will not break faith with us. This gives us the confidence to step out in faith, to leave fear behind. So when it comes to following the Lord's commandments for our daily lives: we know His will is best for us because our God is faithful.

Volunteers are needed to staff the nursery for the 10:45 am worship service.
If you are interested, please sign-up at the Welcome Center! Questions, see Jonathan Guse.

SIMPLY GIVING - A WAY TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY!

Visit the church web site at www.lcorkokomo.org and select the **On-line Giving** link in the left column to set up your account. Once set up, you can also use a smart phone and the QR code image here to go directly to the giving page.



THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TITLE / EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Sat.	5:30 PM	Traditional Communion	Sanctuary
Sun.	8:15 AM	Traditional Communion	Sanctuary
	9:30 AM	Sunday School / 8 th Grade Confirmation	Nursery / RLS / Youth Room
	10:45 AM	Contemporary Worship	Sanctuary
	4:00 PM	Pathways	Youth Room / Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Grounds	Youth Room / Fellowship Hall
Mon.	9:00 AM	Room Occupied	Mission Hall
	1:00 PM	Hands of Love	Turner's Home
Tues.	7:30 AM	Men's Bible Study	Mission Hall
	5:45 PM	Bell Choir	Choir Room
	6:00 PM	Cub / Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Tuesday Evening Bible Class	Mission Hall
	7:00 PM	Choir	Choir Room

Wed.	8:45 AM	RLS Chapel	Sanctuary
	4:30 PM	Board of RLS	School Conference Room
	5:45 PM	Advent Dinner	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Advent Service	Sanctuary
Thurs.	9:30 AM	Quilting	Choir Room
	9:30 AM	Ladies' Koinonia	Mission Hall
	5:30 PM	100 th Anniversary Planning Committee	Mission Hall
	6:00 PM	Deaf Bible Study	Church Library
Fri.	6:00 PM	Duo Club	Mission Hall
	6:00 PM	Christmas Decorating / Potluck	Adult Ed Room / Sanctuary / Narthex
Sat.	10 - 5	LWIS Carmel Corn Bake	Fellowship Hall
	5:30 PM	Traditional Communion	Sanctuary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
Teresa Keller - Dec. 13
Lois Grotrian - Dec. 14
Clara Burnett - Dec. 16
Joelene Boyles - Dec. 30