



PARISH PARCHMENT



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

www.holyredeemer.church

Growing to and for Christ!

August 2026



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It is with joy and gratitude that I write to thank you, the people of Holy Redeemer, for your support with this year's Peace Camp. It has been a busy week here at Holy Redeemer. Although our numbers are limited (a total of 11 youth from grades 2 - 8) the enthusiasm and energy are great. Youth are learning what it means to celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion and that there is a difference between equality and equity!

Our song at the end of each day (sung to the tune of "Coming Around the Mountain") is:

The world will be changing when we come

The world will be changing when we come

The world will be changing, yes the world will be changing, yes, the world will be changing, when we come.

2. We'll be fighting for fairness when we come....

3. We will love ourselves and others when we come....

4. We'll be standing for the people when we come....

There is no doubt that our youth can make a difference and we are so grateful for everyone that participated, including their teachers, the support staff and the folks from Holy Redeemer that provided snacks and meals.

The trip to the African American Museum was a highlight as we learned more about African American history in the US and also the people from Cedar Rapids who stood up and made a difference including Dr. Harris and his daughter Ann Carter Harris who is the new museum director.

I am also looking forward to our partnership with Gloria Dei for National Night Out! It is a wonderful opportunity to partnership in ministry. Without a doubt I believe we will be able to do more together than alone. When God closes one door another opens and new relationships begin.

Truly it is a privilege to be your interim pastor. I could not do it without the support of Jeff, Pastor Kasch, Pastor Borleske, the council and you the community of Holy Redeemer. A favorite scripture passage for me in the midst of the redevelopment work I have done is from Ephesians 3:16-21.

"I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God's Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine, to God we the glory.

Pastor Franzenburg

Council Corner

Council did not meet in July but approved financial reports via email. Highlights of the financials include:

Finances: For the month of June, we did not meet our monthly goal of \$15,220. We had a **general fund shortage of \$6,999** and a **building fund shortage of \$1,033** for a total shortage of \$8,032. Our year-to-date shortage is \$19,382. Our end of May contingency fund balance dropped to \$34,447 and our mortgage balance is \$212,245. Year-to-date giving is down approximately 10% over last year.

Our next Coffee & Council is scheduled for **Sunday, August 9, 2026, at 10:30 am.**

Synod News

Conscience & Conversation

Zoom Study with Bishop Current

All are invited to take part in a two-session study led by Bishop Current as part of the ELCA's Social Statement reconsideration process. "Conscience and Conversation: A Study During the Reconsideration of *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*" will meet via Zoom on **Wednesday, August 12, and Wednesday, August 19**, from 6:30–8:00 PM.

Participants will have the chance to study, learn, pray, and share their own voices in this important churchwide conversation. Click [\[here\]](#) to learn more about the study from Bishop Current or [\[here\]](#) to join the Zoom session.

Lutheran Disaster Response

US Severe Storms Fund Donations

With recent severe storms hitting our neighbors in Iowa and throughout the United States, you are invited to consider a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response's U.S. Severe Storms Fund. LDR uses donations to this fund to "coordinate immediate needs while also preparing for the long road ahead — debris removal, repair and rebuilding, case management, and the ongoing emotional and spiritual care so many survivors need." Click [\[here\]](#) to make a donation.

Additional Synod Information

For other information from our synod, visit <https://seiasynod.org/> to find weekly newsletters (<https://seiasynod.org/news>), messages from Bishop Current, and other information about our synod.

ELCA News

Bishop Curry Issues Statement

Bishop Curry has issued a statement on recent decisions made by the U.S. Supreme Court in regards to immigration. [\[Read the full statement here.\]](#)

Congregation News



Tuesday Euchre Canceled

Card playing on the first and third Tuesdays of the month is canceled until fall or such time that someone would like to restart and coordinate it.

National Night Out

Holy Redeemer will join with Gloria Dei Lutheran for National Night Out – **August 4** from 6:00-8:00 pm. The event will include fellowship, community conversation, food, yard games, and a visit from local law enforcement (perhaps a K-9). Gloria Dei will be hosting the event and are in need of a few volunteers from Holy Redeemer. Please check the bulletin board.

Chair Yoga

Chair yoga sessions are scheduled each Wednesday at 11:30 am. All sessions are held in the narthex –chairs are moved to provide ample space. All are welcome to give it a try. The cost is \$10.00 per session – you may pay at the end of class. Talk to Jeri Hansen or Shari Singelstad for more information.



Book Discussion Group

Book Discussion Group will meet at the home of Loretta Shannon, 5809 Decatur Street SW, on **Thursday, August 6** at 9:30 am. The book for August is *House Rules* by Jodi Picoult. All are welcome; come even if you haven't read the book.

Women's Bible Study

Bible Study will meet on Thursday, **August 13 (9:30 am)** at the church. The summer Bible study is entitled *I Am Worthy* by Sarah Olson-Smith. Session #3 is entitled *I Am Worthy – I am because you are*. The focus verse for this lesson is: "For just as the body is one and has many members...so it be with Christ." (1 Cor. 12:12). Come join us for the hour-long study.

Let's Do Lunch



The next Let's Do Lunch will be held on **Thursday, August 13** at **Whiskey River** (Palo) at 11:30 am. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

Check with Linn Co Roads to see if Covington Road is open; if not, use Blairsferry Road.)

Adult Coloring

Adult coloring is scheduled for **August 19 from 9:00-11:00 am**. This month the group will meet at Villas at Stoney Point.

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

DUO will meet at the church on **Tuesday, August 25**, from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Come help tie or pin quilts together. Bring your lunch! If you wish to purchase a quilt, contact Jeri or DeAnna after church.

Outreach

Linn Community Food Bank

With the help of worship attendees and our youth who enjoy gathering quarters, our quarter tube was completely filled in July. Between the quarters and regular Food Bank donations, we were able to contribute another \$150+ to Linn Community Food Bank.

Linn Community Food Bank is always grateful for our contributions. Donations to the quarter tube and loose and designated offerings on the second Sunday of each month all go to the food bank.

Our next designated Food Bank Sunday is **August 9**.

For more information about Linn Community Food Bank, refer to: <https://linncommunityfoodbank.org/>.

Mission of Hope

We served 100 people in July on a very hot day. Thanks to all the people who shopped, cooked, transported and served. Thanks also to Mission of Hope staff who helped serve.

Our next meal will be goulash and green beans on **Thursday, August 20**. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

Fourth Sunday Offering

The proceeds of our **August 23** fourth Sunday offering are designated for **HOPEwalk**.

The Cedar Rapids HOPEwalk is a local community walk supporting awareness and education on suicide prevention and those affected by this national health crisis. The walk includes an opening presentation and a lap around Cherry Hill Park.

We believe that every life matters and want to gather to remember those lost, support survivors, raise awareness, and help prevent suicide in the Cedar Rapids community. Funds raised at the walk will be spent locally in the community to raise awareness and help prevent suicide. [\[More information\]](#)

A note from Jeff: If you or someone you know has been affected by suicide, please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. If you'd like to come for the walk, you are welcome to join my family and I.

Loose and designated offerings on August 23 will be delivered to the HOPEwalk on Saturday, Sept 26.

The Neighbors' Table

The Neighbors' Table was held July 30. While attendance numbers for the July meal were not available at the time of print, we have consistently fed 100 or more neighbors.

Our next scheduled Neighbors' Table is **Thursday, August 27, 2026**. The menu includes walking tacos, cottage cheese, fruit cocktail, salad, and brownies along with beverages.

Fifth Sunday Offering

The proceeds of our **August 30** fifth Sunday offering are designated for **Willis Dady Homeless Services**.

Empowering all experiencing homelessness to build futures of self-sufficiency through advocacy, housing, and employment. [\[More information\]](#)

Loose and designated offerings on August 30 will be sent to Willis Dady.

How to Give to Special Offerings

Donate to HOPEwalk, Willis Dady, Linn Community Food Bank, Mission of Hope, Neighbors' Table, or other community partners by simply indicating on your offering envelope, the memo line of your check, or in a separate note. Counters will ensure your donation gets designated properly and funds will be distributed to the organizations. Thank you for your generous support.

On July 16, Shari attended a Habitat Home dedication and presented a quilt made by our DUO ladies. The family of Milan and Clemence appreciated the quilt. (The baby is just 5 days old.)



On July 24, a group from Holy Redeemer served lunch to the workers at the Habitat for Humanity Faith Built home. Thanks to Jeri, Ron, Dave, Linda, Jan, and Shari for providing lunch and to Shari for sharing a couple of pictures. The house is far from finished, but once completed, the DUO ladies will donate a quilt to the family.



Many adults put off making a will, believing they have plenty of time or that they don't have enough assets to need one. While surveys vary, they consistently show that more than half of American adults have not created a will, leaving their families without clear guidance when the unexpected happens.

If you have already included Lutheran Services in Iowa in your estate plans, thank you for your vision and generosity. If you are considering a legacy gift, we would be honored to answer your questions and help you explore options that align with your wishes and charitable goals. There is never any obligation—only the opportunity to create a lasting legacy of hope. You can reach out to us at 866-584-5293 or philanthropy@lsiowa.org.

In Our Family

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy birthday wishes to:

Larry Doehrmann, Colleen Brown-Singelstad, Jan Millett, Marcia Prochnow, Jackie Murphy, Eileen Seichert, Jessica Cones-Renn, Jeri Hansen, Marlyn Davidson, Hazel Meyocks, Michelle Beyer, Rob Heathman, John Millett, and Steve Ketchum!

Happy anniversary to:

Peg & John Quandt and Tracy & T.J. Kisling!

Thank You

“Thank you for helping open the door to opportunity. Your support is opening doors – one family, one future, one home at a time.”

— Brittany Scanlon, Executive Director
Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity

(\$10 sent prior to July 4th weekend offering.)

“Thank you for your contribution to Linn Community Food Bank on June 10, 2026. Your donation of \$245.76 allows us to continue our mission of helping individuals and families with food insecurity. We could not operate our food bank without the generous support of our donors.”

— Brian Westphalen, Board President
Linn Community Food Bank

“Today, you are wearing love. Your contribution to Ewalu’s campership fund is an act of love. It might not seem so significant, but when you boil it down to one child – and one life changed – it is world-changing. So, THANK YOU! Children you will never know are benefiting from the love you are wearing. Soon, they will be wearing that love for others to see as well.”

— Frank Johnson, Executive Director
EWALU Camp & Retreat Center

(\$100 sent from June 4th weekend offering.)

Ministry of the Month

August 2	Greeter	Loretta Shannon
	Reader	Loretta Shannon
	Communion Asst	Loretta Shannon
	Counters	Loretta/1 needed
	Communion Prep	Laura Fowler
August 9	Greeter	Evelyn Neal
	Reader	Donna Kasch
	Communion Asst	1 needed
	Counters	2 needed
	Communion Prep	Sarah C/Ronna K
August 16	Greeter	1 needed
	Reader	1 needed
	Communion Asst	1 needed
	Counters	2 needed
	Communion Prep	Jeri Hansen
August 23	Greeter	1 needed
	Reader	1 needed
	Communion Asst	1 needed
	Counters	2 needed
	Communion Prep	Laura Fowler
August 30	Greeter	1 needed
	Reader	Tony Dehl
	Communion Asst	1 needed
	Counters	2 needed
	Communion Prep	Sarah C/Ronna K
Altar Care (August): Gwen Ehler		

Peace Camp Cooks



Peace Camp Pictures



(Photo and layout credits: Ashley Fries)

Bits & Pieces

"August is like the Sunday of summer."
— Unknown



"August is the slow, gentle month that stretches out the longest across the span of a year. It yawns and lingers on with the light in its palms."
— Victoria Erickson

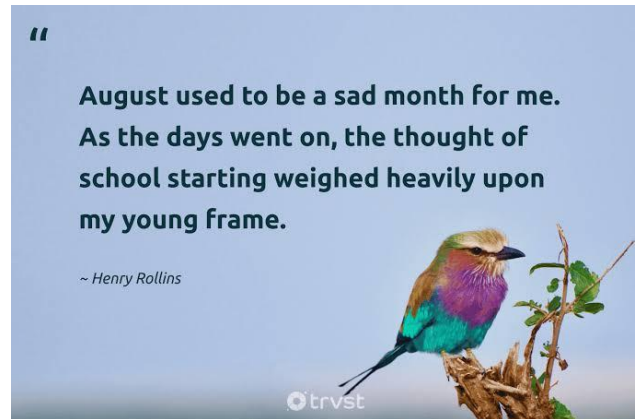
"August is the bridge between summer and autumn – between how the year has been and how the year will end." — Dani Dippiro



"Any day in August is better than a day in January."
— Keith Vik

It was August, and the fields were high with corn."
— Melanie Gideon

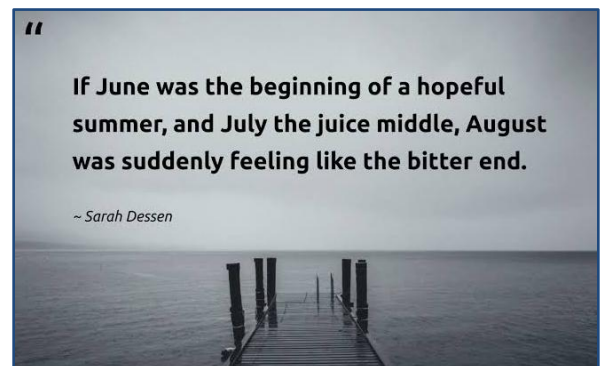
"A golden afternoon of August: Every breath from the hills so full of life that it seemed whoever respired it, though dying, might revive."
— Emily Bronte



"August is the time of growing up, of forgotten forever's, full of the sweetest intent."
— Meka Boyle



"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."
— Milton Berle



Future Events

(All Events Tentative and Subject to Change)

August 2026

Aug 2 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 10 Pentecost**
Aug 4 (Tu) **6:00-8:00 pm - National Night Out at Gloria Dei**
Aug 5 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 6 (Th) 9:30 am – Book Club (L. Shannon)
Aug 9 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 11 Pentecost**
 Food Bank Sunday
 10:30 am – Coffee & Council
Aug 12 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 13 (Th) 9:30 am – Women’s Bible Study
 11:30 am – Let’s Do Lunch @ Whiskey River (Palo)
Aug 16 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 12 Pentecost**
 10:15 am – Outreach committee meeting
Aug 19 (We) 9:00 am – Adult Coloring @ Villas
 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 20 (Th) **Mission of Hope Meal**
 11:59 pm – Newsletter Deadline
Aug 23 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 13 Pentecost**
 4th Sunday Offering
 10:15 am – Neighbors’ Table meeting
Aug 25 (Tu) 9:30 am – DUO Day
Aug 26 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 27 (Th) **4:30 pm – Neighbor’s Table**
Aug 30 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 14 Pentecost**
 5th Sunday Offering

September 2026

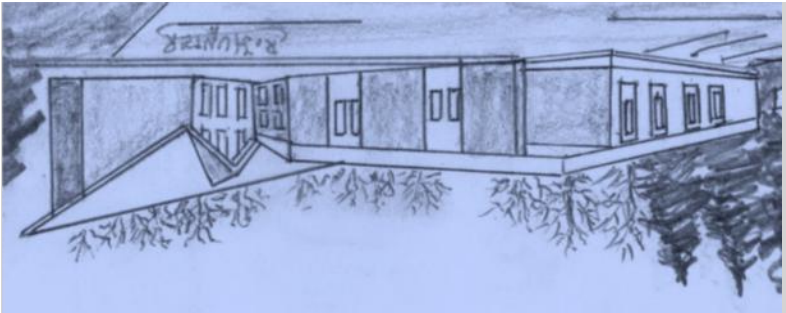
Sep 2 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Sep 3 (Th) 9:30 am – Book Club
Sep 6 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 15 Pentecost**
Sep 7 (Mo) **Labor Day** (offices closed)
Sep 9 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Sep 10 (Th) 9:30 am – Women’s Bible Study
 11:30 am – Let’s Do Lunch @ TBD
Sep 13 (Su) **God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday**
 9:00 am – Worship: 16 Pentecost
 Food Bank Sunday
 10:30 am – Coffee & Council
Sep 16 (We) 9:00 am – Adult Coloring @ TBD
 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Sep 17 (Th) **Mission of Hope Meal**
Sep 20 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 17 Pentecost**
 10:15 am – Outreach committee meeting
 11:59 pm – Newsletter Deadline
Sep 22 (Tu) 9:30 am – DUO Day
Sep 23 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Sep 24 (Th) **4:30 pm – Neighbor’s Table**
Sep 26 (Sa) **9:30 am – HOPE Walk @ Cherry Hill Park** (Registration at 8:30)
Sep 27 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 18 Pentecost**
 4th Sunday Offering
 10:15 am – Neighbors’ Table meeting
Sep 29 (Tu) 9:30 am – DUO Day
Sep 30 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga

Wednesdays – Admin out of office
Friday mornings – Cleaner Image (Mike)

October 2026

Oct 1 (Th) 9:30 am – Book Club (R. Tegatz)

Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church
 720 Edgewood Road NW
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405



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Cleaner Image

Custodian(s)

Worship Services
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
(In Person and FB Live)



Holy Redeemer
 Lutheran Church

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



*If we live by the Spirit, let us also
 be guided by the Spirit.
 Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)*