

Redeemer Lutheran School Messenger

December 16, 2024



School Theme

John 1:16

“Grace upon Grace.”

Mission Statement: *Redeemer Lutheran School Partners with parents in providing a Christ-centered education that prepares students for this life and eternity.*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec 17 Kindergarten Full Day
Dec 18 Advent Worship 3:30 & 6:30pm, Meal 4:15pm
Dec 19 Bible Basics 6:30pm
Dec 20 Buddy Gift Exchange/Classroom Party
Dec 20 Children's Christmas Service 6:00pm PreK 3-8th
Dec 23-Jan 5 Christmas Break
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 4 & 6pm
Dec 25 Christmas Day Worship 9:00am
Jan 6 **School Resumes 8:05am**
Jan 9 Bible Basics 6:30pm
Jan 10 School Chapel 8:25am
Jan 10 End of 2nd Quarter
Jan 12 T.I.M. meeting 9:15am
Jan 15 Moms & Tots Sessions 8:30 & 10am
Jan 16 Preschool Chapel 8:25am
Jan 16 Bible Basics 6:30pm
Jan 17 School Chapel/Hornet Cafe 8:25am
Jan 20 No School
Jan 22 Preschool Bible Hour 1:30pm
Jan 23 Bible Basics 6:30pm
Jan 24 School Chapel 8:25am
Jan 26 3-4 Sing in Church 8:00am

Look at the end of the Messenger for the Athletic schedule!

General News

A. Mission offering project for the second quarter mission offering is Christian Aid Relief Fund, hurricanes Helene and Milton. Last week's total: \$94.31. Total for the second quarter: \$544.86.

- B. The Church Extension Fund (CEF) Stamps can be purchased this Wednesday, in the kindergarten room. Please contact Mrs. Schwefel if you have any questions.
- C. The children's Christmas break begins this Friday, December 20 after the Christmas service. The children should be in their classrooms by 5:45 that night. School resumes on Monday, January 6, 2024.
- D. Mark your calendars: Today is the absolute last chance to sign-up for the free hot lunch for grades 1-8 that will be served this Thursday & Friday, Dec. 19th & 20th, 2024. If your child had already signed up and paid for hot lunch for those days, you will be reimbursed. Please see the Yellow sheet attached to last week's Messenger.
- E. Christmas Worship: We have lots of wonderful opportunities to celebrate our Savior's birth together at Redeemer this coming weekend. A Christmas Eve Candlelight worship service will be held on Tuesday at 4 and 6pm. A Christmas Day service on Wednesday, including Scripture lessons and beloved Christmas carols, will begin at 9am. Join us as we rejoice in the miracle of Christmas, God becoming man for our salvation.
- F. Dear band families at Redeemer, students received their end-of-semester evaluation at their lesson today. Our next lesson will be on Jan. 6.

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- G. Beginning January 22, a **WEDNESDAY** afternoon Bible Hour will run for 5 weeks, from 1:30-3:00, in the Kindergarten room. Bible Hour is for incoming Kindergarten students, to teach them simple Bible truths as they become familiar with the classroom, the teacher, and, most importantly, their Savior.
- H. Advent worship services continue this week. Worship will be on Wednesday, Dec. 18th at 3:30 & 6:30pm. A meal will be served from 4:15-6:00pm for all those who stay after the early service or come early for the late. A free will offering will be available to cover the cost of each of these meals.
- I. Buddy Gift Exchange Planning Note: This Friday, Dec. 20, we will have our final day of school before the Christmas break, and we will also have a gift exchange with our school buddies. Gifts should be around \$10. See Mrs. Schwefel with any questions.
- J. **Strengthening Parent-Child Connections:** This four lesson, self-guided, online course from Christian Family Solutions has been made available for free for 10 of our Redeemer families. A certified parenting coach shares ways parents can make a deeper connection with their children, which is an important step toward reducing negative behaviors and the need to correct them. You can find more information, including a video summary of the course, here <https://tinyurl.com/d47wxhn7>. Contact Pastor Rathje if you are interested in participating.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Preschool: It's our final week before Christmas! This week will be filled with plenty of fun and excitement. Please make sure to read this Messenger thoroughly and be aware of everything going on. And do your best to maintain regular schedules and bedtimes to help your child handle all the activity.

Our week culminates with our Christmas service on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. We have been working so hard and can not wait to be like the shepherds and proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to everyone! **Please have your child arrive in our classroom by 5:45 on Friday night. Make sure they've used the bathroom before coming to the**

classroom. Our portion of the program is early in the service. After we have finished, the preschoolers will exit and sit with their families for the rest of the service. The gym will be full on Friday, so please don't hesitate to stand up and help us locate you



so we can make sure your preschooler finds you! **We will be exiting the bleachers and walking toward the towards leading to the fellowship hall.** You can walk over if needed to get your child. Remember, dress for the service is Christmas best! Dresses, dress pants and shirts are appropriate!

We will spend a portion of each day practicing and preparing for Friday's service. Along with practice, this is also gingerbread house week! We'll be constructing our houses early in the week and put all the final decorations on them at our class party on Friday. A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated supplies! Your generosity is so appreciated!

Friday is our class Christmas party and a WHOLE preschool day! We'll look forward to having all 22 of us in attendance on Friday. Please let me know ASAP if your child will not be attending on Friday. This will be our only opportunity to practice for our service as a whole group so we hope to everyone here! We'll also be finishing our gingerbread houses and doing our class book exchange. Please remember to send a gift-wrapped book to school this week. You can label the book "TO: a preschool friend, FROM: *your child's name.*" If your child's book is more a girl or boy specific book, please label "TO: a preschool GIRL or BOY" so we can make sure to exchange appropriately. Books can come to school anytime this week.

Snack note for Friday: I will be providing popcorn for everyone on Friday as part of our Christmas party. There is no need to send a snack that day unless you feel like your child needs something more.

Friday pickup: because we will have a lot to carry on Friday I am asking parents to COME IN to school to pick up your child at the end of the day. Please park in the stalls as marked. We will unlock the doors at 11:10 and you can wait by your child's coat hook until they are dismissed.. We'd appreciate your help getting them packed up and ready to go! We'll aim to be out of the parking lot ASAP so that kindergarten families can pick up their students.

Finally, I want to wish you all a blessed Christmas as we celebrate our newborn King! I hope to see many of you in worship and pray that amidst all the excitement and activity, you take the time to slow down and marvel at the miracle of our Savior born for us. Have a wonderful Christmas break!



Kindergarten: Friday is our long-anticipated Children's Christmas Service!! **Your child MUST make a trip to the bathroom before reporting to the classroom that evening.** Please help him/her get tucked in or rearranged and then report to



the classroom no later than 5:45pm. Please note that this last evening before Christmas break will be so much more than a “concert.” The children will be *leading* us in a worship service. Please have him/her dress up as if we were sharing worship in the sanctuary instead of in the gym. :-)

Tomorrow is a full day of school with dismissal at 3:05pm. Please have your child bring a Christmas Show-and-Tell. It should be a decoration or other important Christmas item with a significance your child can tell us about.



On Friday, we will do our Buddy gift exchange and enjoy a fun morning together. Please send THREE Christmas cookies to share for snack!

Popcorn cans will go home for the break. Two weeks can be a long time for a growing brain, so please take several opportunities to review the words and make sure you keep up your regularly scheduled reading times! Congratulations to Ziva and Carson – they have completed their Pattern Block Challenges! Way to work hard!

December Reading Records are due by Friday.

Have a wonderful Christmas break!

Thursday Snack – Noah

Friday Snack – ALL (3 Christmas cookies)

Grades 1-2: This Friday at 6:00 pm is our Children’s Christmas Service. **The children should be in their classrooms by 5:45 Friday night.** Please dress appropriately with nice church clothes. Use the bathroom before entering the classroom please! After the service, please pick up students promptly at our classroom door. We will be working very hard this week to polish our recitations and songs, so keep reviewing them at home!



Be sure to send your Buddy exchange gift anytime this week. Please also send about 6 cookies/treats on Friday for us to share during our Christmas party. Thank you for providing plates and juice boxes already, we are set with those!



We will work hard on Science activities, English nouns, Christmas projects, and learning about the classical Christmas “Nutcracker” story! There will be no regular reading or spelling units, but please practice any reading activities/books that come home!

Reading logs for December are due this week! Please be sure they are signed, and continue to just read for fun during Christmas break.

Have a blessed Christmas break, celebrating Jesus with family and friends. Get rested and recharged, ready to get back to work in the new year!

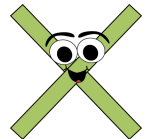
Grades 3-4: A big thank you to everyone who helped with Christmas for Kids, what a wonderful Morning!

This Friday at 6:00 pm is our Children’s Christmas Service. **The children should be in their classrooms by 5:45 Friday**

night. Please dress appropriately with nice church clothes. Use the bathroom before entering the classroom please!

After the service, please pick up students promptly at our classroom door.

Please check in with your 4th grader to see how they are doing with memorizing their multiplication facts. They need to become very, very quick with them! It takes some extra work at home, but this will be a very good lifelong skill and really important when we get to long division!



It’s also a good time to check in with your student to see if they have all the supplies they need. We’ve been seeing some pretty short pencils in the room, rulers have disappeared, might need an eraser as well.

Looking ahead, we will have a small class Christmas party on December 20 after our Buddy gift exchange. Gifts can come to school the week of December 16 (be sure to have a labeled gift tag!) Please plan to send 3 cookies/treats to put on a big platter to share.

Grades 5-6: Wonderful job putting on the Nativity play this past Saturday for Christmas for Kids! It was great to see all of your hard work put into sharing the message of the Christmas story! Thank you especially to baby Jimmy Bloch for acting in his first role as baby Jesus!

This is our final week of school for the year 2024. There will be minimal homework as we will spend a great deal of time putting together our final touches for the Christmas Service and running through all the recitations and songs in preparation for this Friday.

Wednesday is the final Advent Worship Service for the season. Please join us at 3:30 pm or 6 pm, and you are welcome to stay/come for the pulled-pork meal offered at 4:30pm.

On Thursday afternoon, Grades 5-8 will go to Eden Vista Nursing Home on Pioneer Parkway, to sing our Christmas Songs and do some caroling. Students should dress appropriately - no sweatpants, please. Also



be sure to bring warm winter wear as we will be walking there.

Buddy Gift Exchange gifts can be brought into the classroom anytime this week, but for sure by Thursday. Friday we will have our exchange and spend time together with our buddies! Also, on Friday we will have our classroom party. Snacks, cookies, or treats of any kind for 17 people should be brought on Friday, so we can share the goodies with each other!

Friday evening is the much anticipated Children's Christmas Service! **Children should dress appropriately with nice church clothes.**

IMPORTANT

Please no jeans or sweatpants. Parents, please have your child use the restroom before dropping them off in their classrooms by 5:45. The Children's Christmas Service begins at 6:00 pm with student's playing preservice piano music in the gym. The service will be live-streamed. Parents are welcome to find a seat in the gym and enjoy the preservice music. The 5th-6th graders will be seated on the top and far southeast side of the gym. When the service is completed, please promptly pick up students from their classrooms.

Thank you in advance for all your prayers and support throughout the first half of the school year. I am truly blessed to have you all as partners in your child's education. I pray you all have a wonderful faith, family, and fun filled Christmas and New Years!

Grades 7-8: It's the final week before Christmas! Please read the schedule and make note of dates and times to be prepared for all that is packed into the days ahead.

Top of the list is our Christmas Service this Friday, December 20. Our class has been hard at work memorizing songs and recitations, and it culminates at the end of the week! The service begins at 6pm, but we have piano students playing preservice music that you won't want to miss. **The children should be in their classrooms by 5:45**

Friday night. Church attire is appropriate for this special worship service. Afterward, the student body is dismissed for the Christmas holiday break.

Working backwards, we will have our Buddy and Classroom Gift Exchanges on the morning of Friday, Dec. 20. Please be sure to bring in gifts by Thursday. They can be placed under our classroom tree. Ask your student about the details of our Grade 7-8 Gift Card Exchange. (If you are unable to supply one please let us know). Snacks will be discussed this week and kids can bring them in on Friday morning.

On Thursday afternoon, Grades 5-8 will walk to Eden Vista Nursing Home on Pioneer Parkway, to sing our Christmas Songs and do some caroling. Students should dress appropriately - no sweatpants, please.



We will have our final test for our class novel, The Black Cauldron, on Wednesday. It should be noted that the second quarter book report will be due the week we come back from Break. Students are to bring their book into class this week, to be sure it is approved and also to have on hand for freetime reading. Check in with them on this - thank you!

Wednesday is also the final Advent Worship Service for the season. Please join us at 3:30pm or 6pm, and take advantage of the meal offered at 4:30pm.

Finally, a huge thank you to all the kids who helped make Christmas for Kids a big success! And thanks to parents for the encouragement and wheels necessary to make that happen. We couldn't make it happen without you.

ATHLETICS

Practice Schedule and games:

Monday, Dec. 16, we play at St. John's, Mayville.

Address: 450 Bridge St., Mayville

- Dec. 16** @ St. John, Mayville (GB, BB,GA,BA) 4:15 pm
- Dec. 17-27** No practices unless your coach lets you know.
- Jan. 6** Girls 'C/B' practice 3:30-5:00
Boys 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 7** Boys 'B' practice 3:30-5:00
Girls 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 8** Girls 'C/B' practice 3:30-5:00
Boys 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 9** Boys 'B' practice 3:30-5:00
Girls 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 10** @ St. Paul, Mt Calvary (GB, BB,GA,BA) 4:00 pm
- Jan. 13** Girls 'C/B' practice 3:30-5:00
Boys 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 14** Girls 'A' practice 3:30-5:00
@ St. Stephens, Horicon (GB,BB,BA) 4:15 pm
- Jan. 15** Girls 'C/B' practice 3:30-5:00
Boys 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 16** Boys 'B' practice 3:30-5:00
Girls 'A' practice 5:00-6:30
- Jan. 18** vs. CALA (C, B,GA) 1:00 pm