

Crosstalk

*"I love to tell the story of unseen things above:
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true.
It satisfies my longings as nothing else could do."*

The Bible comes to us not as a systematized series of doctrines, nor as a list of moral absolutes - it comes to us as story. Oh, sometimes I wish the Word of God as found and proclaimed in scripture was a bit more like a 'manual' on how to address each and every situation in life - and indeed lots of churches and good intentioned pastors preach exactly that sort of understanding of scripture. You know what I'm talking about: Have trouble with your teen - check out Proverbs. Need a faith jump start - go to Ephesians. Not sure where to invest that \$100,000 - go see your pastor!

No, this way of looking at scripture as a manual has never worked for me - I love scripture too much to reduce it to a kind of instruction booklet that I might get in a box of Legos. Scripture is story. It is the story of God's people and how they've seen and understood God to be at work in themselves, their neighbor and the world. It is the story of ordinary broken people who struggle with issues of faith, vocation, obedience and what it means to *be* God's people. It is the story of how God continually comes to us - especially in Jesus Christ - and is at work to bring light from darkness and faith from fear.

The Word of God is not meant to be distilled into some kind of 'super-condensed elixir,' a kind of spiritual moonshine that goes directly into the bloodstream. No, the Word of God is more like a fine meal that is to be digested morsel by morsel, an extravagance of texture, sight, taste and sound. Scripture at its best calls us into the story and so we begin to see ourselves as the reluctant Moses, the murmuring Israelites, the tentative Peter, the courageous Ruth, the receptive Lydia. In the midst of it all we see the promise of God.

During Holy Week and throughout the Easter season you are invited into the greatest story ever told! What does it mean that God has called you to be a part of this story? What does it mean that Jesus emptied himself, even to the point of being crucified on the cross? What does it mean that he is risen, and continues to show himself in the breaking of the bread? How does the story of scripture help you to continue living out your story as a beloved, forgiven child of God?

Peace! Pastor Jeff

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Worship

Holy Week

The week before Easter is called Holy Week. Our Lenten preparations and repentance deepen as we focus on the events of Jesus' life from his entrance into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) until his death on the cross and burial in the garden tomb. On Maundy Thursday the church gives thanks to Jesus for the giving of the Lord's supper - Holy Communion. Maundy Thursday ends with the 'stripping of the altar' which reminds us of Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. Good Friday is the most solemn of all days in the Christian church, as we pause to remember his suffering and death - which is good, as it is the means of our salvation. Easter Sunday, the day of Resurrection is the beginning of 50 days of feasting and joy as we remember Christ's victory over death.



HOLY WEEK AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Holy Week Schedule

April 1st: First Communion, worship at 6:00 pm

- for families of 4th & 5th grade students who completed First Communion instruction

April 1st: Maundy Thursday, worship at 7:00 pm

- reservations required or you may live-stream

April 2nd: Good Friday, worship at 7:00 pm

- reservations required or you may live-stream

(Sanctuary is open for personal prayer and meditation from Noon to 3:00 pm - no reservation needed)

April 4th: Easter Sunday, 8:00 am (Traditional); 9:30 am (Contemporary); 11:00 am (Blended)

- reservations required or you may live-stream

Sunday 8:30 am - Traditional Worship

Sunday 10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

~ Sunday mornings - same message, different music styles ~

Wednesday 6:00 pm - Wednesday Worship

Refresh your spirit! Join us Wednesday evenings for a casual gathering with its own message, celebrating music from a range of worship styles.

Resurrection worship services are held:

In-Person - *NEW IN APRIL - 50 seats available at every service!*

Reserve your spot on SignUpGenius (link on our website) or by calling the church office.

Livestream - Links available on our website (lcrmarion.org) and on our social media sites.

You can sign up for **email alerts** from LCR about worship and other news. Scroll to the bottom of our homepage and sign up under "E-Newsletter" or email us (office@lcrmarion.org) and we'll sign you up.

Text Notifications - Worship services and other events are subject to change with circumstances.

If you would like text notifications of schedule changes / cancellations, call the church office

(319.377.4689) and give us your name & cell number ~OR~ you can sign yourself up at -

<https://share.hsforms.com/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwI3ZiDQ44ay4>

Ministry



Churches of Marion Food Pantry

Feel free to bring your food donations to the church on Sunday mornings or during the week from 9 am to 4 pm. (No clothing at this time, please.) Thank you for your generous gifts of time, food donations, and checks that allow the pantry to continue serving! The Pantry is at 864 - 12th St. in Marion; it is open for distributions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 pm.

Volunteers: We're always looking for strong people with trucks who would be able to haul large loads of food during the daytime. Please contact Cari at the church if you can help.

Sanitizing Sprayer

As we move forward with in-person worship, we are looking for volunteers who would like to be trained to use our electrostatic sprayer in the sanctuary between worship services on Sunday mornings. If you are willing to help, please contact Marcia in the church office.

2021 Time & Talent

This year we are continuing to use the Time & Talent sheets you filled out in February of 2020. If you want to change any of your choices, the catalog is still posted on the LCR website and there are print copies in the office. As this year goes by, please be alert for new ways to serve. In 2022 we'll issue an updated Time & Talent catalog. Thank you so much for all the work that has been done in the last year; we are grateful for you all! - *Marcia Edwards*

marcia@lcrmarion.org

March & April Mission Envelopes

....will go to Matthew 25, a Cedar Rapids west-side ministry that empowers people to transform neighborhoods. M25 divides their work into three categories: Food, Housing, and Education.

Seeking Tech Booth Volunteers

We invite you to learn about our new technology! Come observe a service, and we can talk through what we are doing. Depending on your comfort level, you can even get hands-on with the system. Right now, the way we are operating the system works well with three people, but we may be able to team you with others if there are only one or two of you.

- One person runs the **CAMERAS**, sets up the livestream, runs the video switcher (the livestream), and monitors the online chat.
- One person sets up, monitors, and adjusts the **SOUND** for the livestream and the in-person attendees.
- One person runs the **SLIDES**. If you were familiar with running the slides before, there is not much change.

If you would be interested in observing a service, please let us know a date and which service. We will just do one family/person at a time, since there is not a lot of room in the tech booth. Please email cari@lcrmarion.org with any questions.



EWALU Spring Work Day

....will be held on Saturday, May 1st. Volunteers are invited to Camp Ewalu to help with a variety of outdoor service projects. The day starts at 9:00 am and a sack lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to camp@ewalu.org or call 563-933-4700. Thanks for your support of Camp Ewalu!



In-person Sunday School

In-person Sunday school options on Sunday mornings are available: Preschool-1st grade and 2nd-5th grade. Sign up on the LCR website or email Jessi with questions. Online Sunday School is still available from the church website every week.

Important Date: Sunday School, both online and in-person options, will end on May 16th.
Stay tuned for details on summer opportunities!

The Psalms

We have had so much fun with our series on Psalms at Sunday School, both online and in person! One week we read a psalm for when we can't sleep and everyone got to make a nice little bed to watch the lesson for the week.



WNL will continue in-person assigned small groups at 6:00 pm. If you would like your child assigned to an in-person group, please email Jill - jill@lcrmarion.org

For their latest service project the WNL students made 29 fleece blankets for the Cedar Valley Humane Society. Thank you to everyone who donated fleece to make this project possible, and to the Schaldecker family for helping to cut them out!



EWALU SCHOLARSHIPS

Please let Jill know if your child will be attending camp at EWALU this summer and you are interested in having your child receive a scholarship.

The church will be offering \$150 scholarships for full-week campers and \$75 for mini-camp and various ranch camps. Please include your child's name, camp program (Trailblazers, Pioneers, etc), and the week they will be attending.

It is important to have all their camp information so it gets sent to the camp at the appropriate time and gets credited to the right camper.

Feel free to contact Jill with any questions.

Adult Faith & Outreach

LCR History Project

Sharon Hill and Cari Redondo have started work on a history project for LCR, to be displayed on the fellowship hall bulletin boards. Do you have some wonderful stories or photos to share with us? All pictures/mementos will be returned. We would like to have our items collected by Sunday, April 11th. Feel free to send stories or digitized images to cari@lcrmarion.org



or drop them off at the church office. We are excited to see your memories!

Stewardship Education Series

During April and May there will be a series of adult education opportunities related to stewardship. These sessions will be scheduled for either Wednesday or Sunday evenings and will be held via Zoom. Anyone interested will have the opportunity to sign up for any of the sessions that are of interest. We will be adding to the list as additional topics are finalized.

Wednesday, April 21: The first Wednesday night, 1-hour session via Zoom of 4-part series on **Christian environmental stewardship**. The initial topic will be basic principals and motivation. Other topics for later sessions will include energy, water, and soil conservation.

Sunday, April 25: The LCR Trust Fund will offer a repeat of the **Wills & Trust** class that was provided last fall. Join us from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom. Our expert will be Don Johnson who is a member of LCR and an attorney with experience in estate planning and administration. Don will be covering powers of attorney, health care directives, wills, and trusts.

If you are interested in joining the above sessions, please sign up so we will have your email to use on the Zoom invite. Only one participant per household needs to register.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CA8AD2EA7FA7-lcradult>

Stay tuned to the announcements and Cross-Talk for other topics that will be covered.

Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor Jeff leads us on a weekly reflection of the upcoming lessons for Sunday morning. There is no better way to prepare for worship than to be in conversation with the scriptures. Feel free to come whenever it works into your schedule, or become a regular! Your thoughts and insights will help enlighten the weekly sermon and prepare you to get more out of worship. This is an in-person study at the church, so bring your mask and we will social distance.

Christ In Our Home Devotionals

...for April, May, and June are now available in the church entryway. If you aren't able to pick one up, we can mail it to you or drop off at your house. Give us a call!



Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

Check out Pastor Jeff's brief, thought-provoking videos online. You can access them through the church website or at this link - <https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

Holocaust Days of Remembrance

The United Nations General Assembly designated January 27 - the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Berkenau as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. There is also a day of remembrance called 'Yom Hashoah' that is remembered on the 27th day of Nisan (Hebrew calendar) by many of our Jewish friends. By an act of Congress this is also to be a part of the Days of Remembrance, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers & liberators. This date corresponds to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, and in 2021 falls on April 8th. As Christians it is fitting for us to remember the inhumanity of the Holocaust, especially against our Jewish neighbors, and to pray for peace and the well-being of all people.

Stephen Ministry

The Story Behind Stephen Ministry

Dr Kenneth Haugk, pastor, clinical psychologist, and founder and Executive Director of Stephen Ministries tells how the ministry began...

It was the mid-70's and Ken was pastor of a congregation. He found pretty quickly that he couldn't do it all! He remembers one Holy Week when he had a bunch of worship services to offer and lots of people in the hospital. He was going back and forth from the hospital to working on sermons, from working on sermons to visiting the hospital.

A second reason Dr. Haugk decided to start training lay people to carry out one-to-one caring is that he was stretched so thin, he couldn't provide the quality of care that people really needed. The third reason is that there were lay people in his congregation who had gifts for one-to one and wanted to use their gifts.

Why was it named Stephen Ministry? The name comes from Acts 6:8. Stephen was commissioned by the apostles to do acts of pastoral care. At that time, the church was growing and the apostles were doing all sorts of different things. They didn't have time to do the caring that they really wanted to do, so they appointed seven lay people and Stephen was one of them. He did great work, not only caring but also witnessing to his faith, which is what Stephen Ministers still do today.

A Stephen Minister is an active listener, someone who is there, who leans forward with you and asks good questions, who says at times, "Tell me more." A Stephen Minister doesn't try to solve people's problems, but gets people to tell their stories and really listens to and cares for them, which is healing in itself.

We are so blessed to be able to offer this ministry at LCR. We are called to live out the gospel. Stephen Ministry is an example of doing that.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this one-on-one care, call the church. We have ministers ready and trained to walk with you and listen to you.

Mary Hajek

(information from www.stephenministries.org)

Fellowship

Candy Bar Bingo

Join us after worship on Sunday, April 11 for family-friendly Candy Bar Bingo. We'll meet from 1:00-2:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring your own lunch or snacks and get ready for friendly competition and laughter! There is no charge - we will be playing for fun and candy! Sign up in advance to save your seat at: LCRMarion.org.



LCR Book Club

We'll get together Tuesday, April 20 at 6:30 pm (3rd Tuesday) and meet in the sanctuary. Our book this month will be "The Turner House" by Angela Flournoy, about a family with 13 children living on Detroit's east side. An email will be sent when the library tote is in the church office. *New people are always welcome in our group.* Contact sherrillamorrison@gmail.com to get on our email list. Don't forget your masks!

Summer Car Show

We are hoping to have a car show here at LCR this summer. Imagine the parking lot full of classic cars, new cars, rust buckets - whatever folks want to bring - and the whole neighborhood invited to enjoy. Maybe we'll have hot dogs or burgers, some activities for the kids.....the possibilities are only limited by our imagination! We need a couple more folks to step up and help make this happen. It promises to be a great event that might just become an annual LCR tradition.



Contact the church office or Pastor Jeff if you are interested in helping to make this event happen.



I hope you are all well and at peace. I am eternally grateful for your patience as we navigate our way through such crazy times. I know it feels like we are disconnected and I will always regret that I'm not better equipped to offer the full Confirmation experience you may have expected for your kids. We are all learning how to manage during difficult times, and I also suspect we are all beginning to appreciate the gift of community that we have had in our congregation and that we look forward to re-establishing. You are showing incredible strength and perseverance, and your commitments to your kids' spiritual journey will serve as an example to each of them as they become adults in the Faith! *God bless each one of you.*

If you ever need me, please don't hesitate to call @ 563.320.3995 - Pastor Nate

A quick reminder that we have removed all the typical requirements for Confirmation due to the Covid restrictions. We are looking forward to celebrating Affirmation of Baptism with ALL our 8th graders, even if they were not able to attend all our gatherings. This year has been an opportunity to show grace upon grace to one another and we are living out our reliance on grace this year as we celebrate the free gift of God given to us through Jesus Christ. Rest assured that all our kids will be Confirmed on October 31!

We have scheduled a **parents planning meeting** for our 8th graders' Affirmation of Baptism service at the end of October. We'll meet on Wednesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm.

Confirmation students gather in-person on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm, alternating each week between 7th grade and 8th grade classes.

We also have **on-line Confirmation videos**, posted on the LCR website - <https://lcrmarion.org/ministries/youth-ministry/lcryouthminportal.html>



EDGE Youth

EDGE youth are studying 1st John as we move into April.

1st John:
Love comes from God and God gives eternal life to those who believe in Jesus. The proof of spiritual regeneration is a life of active righteousness.



There are two great ways to participate in our youth ministry at this time:

- * You can track our in-person small group schedule on Instagram (@edgeatlcr)
- * Teaching videos are available each week online at <https://vimeo.com/lcrprogramming>

Contact coordinator Katie Kascel for details - katie@lcrmarion.org

Neighborhood Nights

Coming Soon: A monthly community event to be held this summer at LCR on the last Saturday of every month. Join us beginning May 29th as we bring the community together with outdoor movie nights, paired with different activities for each month! Stay tuned for more information :-)



Prayers

Prayers
are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized in February:

Clark Gull, Kären Wilson

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(Resurrection members) Steve Reck, Ed Ohl, Andy Carter, Harry Walton, Betty & Paul Bendixen, Marilyn Carstens, Pam Miller, Janice Berridge, Dan Tegtmeier, Lyle Bischof, Ken Meisinger, Andy McRoberts, Deanna Harding, Eugene Henry, Bernadean Spilde, Rick & Penny Siefken, Arvis Hahn

(family and friends) Roger Vogel, Linda Baurley, Carl Richardson, Warren Stoner, John & sister Rebecca, Terry on Boyson Rd, brother Tom & Carole, Tim Pefferman, Will Springer, Steve Durspek, Bob & Denise Osborn, Jeri Warnke

Those living in care facilities:

Lee Schoon, Vera Olson, Martin Winch (The Views); Larry Wogahn (Bickford Cottage); Barb Schierholz (Willow Gardens)

Those in military service:

Taylor Sutton, Taylor Johnson, Paul & Chrystal McDonough, Aaron Moose, Steven Anderson, Jake Anderson, Haley Eickstaedt, Will Fritz, Todd Kopperud, Michael Berridge, David Berridge

Please let the office know about prayer needs or when you wish to have a name removed.

The names of friends and family who are dealing with illness will be listed for 2 months.

Pastoral Care - With rules about confidentiality at our hospitals, we will not know that you or your family member is sick or in need unless you call the church office (319-377-4689).

Those who celebrate...

Youth receiving communion for the first time:

- Tyler Bendixen, Raegan Chappell,
- Jace Edaburn, Madilyn Feltes, Grace Fisher,
- Reese Fleming, Ainsley Johnson,
- Torie Johnson, Jackson Koehn, Brynn Larson,
- Kara Lovseth, Ava Meier, Kyanna Unruh

Those who mourn:

- Brian Clymer and family on the death of his father, Harley Clymer, Jr., on 3/24
- Family & friends of Doris Anderson, who passed away on 3/8
- Bill Thompson and family on the death of his wife Audrey on 2/26

Those in transition:

- those affected by the Covid-19 virus and the August derecho

Prayers for those serving on the frontline:

Our hearts are with all those who are working hard hours in stressful environments to help others. If you are willing to serve them through prayer, go to http://lcrmarion.org/prayer_team/ and type in this password - LCRPrays.

Altar Flowers

Now that we're meeting in-person again, you can help us beautify our worship space by commemorating people or events in your life through flower displays. The sign-up sheet can be found on our entryway bulletin board or you can call/email the church office. You are welcome to take your flowers home after Sunday morning or Wednesday evening worship.



Stewardship

Treasurer's Report for February 2021

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$ 50,263	\$129,926	\$126,528
General Fund Expenses	\$ 61,160	\$117,023	\$115,874

<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>02/28/21</u>	<u>02/28/20</u>
General Fund	\$112,524	\$ 32,573
Clearing Accounts	\$ 81,422	\$ 59,479
Property Reserve*	\$ 20,000	\$ 46,392
Building Residual*	\$ 18,229	

*Our 'Growth & Outreach' fund became two new accounts in 2021: Property Reserve and Building Residual.

Thank you, Resurrection givers

\$873 was sent to ELCA synods in Texas in March.

The Southeast Iowa ELCA Synod will be matching this gift!
Thank you for your generosity to our friends in need.

\$1,225 was sent to FLY (Feeding Lunches to Youth). In March
Thank you for supporting the children of Marion!

Church Council

The Council met on Tuesday, March 16th. Secretary's & Treasurer's reports were approved. The General Fund balance was \$112,524 at the end of February.

Pastors: Jeff - Increasing worship attendance to 50 beginning 3/28; 13 kids will take First Communion on 4/1. Nate - planning for Confirmation Ceremony on 10/31; cherishing in-person worship opportunities at LCR.

Treasurer: High month of expenses in Feb. due to building repairs/improvements + snow removal; insurance payouts both received and forthcoming.

Stewardship: Giving towards pledges at 105%; planning Christian Stewardship series this spring.

Governance: Reviewed Graduation Party Building Use guidelines; will check with insurance company about attendance numbers and liability; Policies & Procedures to be centralized for congregational access.

General Fund Summary

After two months in 2021:

- ◆ Receipts are 114% of our anticipated income, pro-rated through February
- ◆ Expenses are 93% of the 2021 budget, pro-rated through February.

Digital Giving

* **Simply Giving** - Join over 90 LCR members who give regularly through automatic drafts from their checking or savings accounts. You can elect to give weekly, monthly, or quarterly. Enrollment forms are available in the info rack by the Welcome Center.

* **PayPal** - On our website there is a DONATE button that you can click for online giving.

* **Give+ Mobile Phone App** can be downloaded from Google Play or iTunes.

Outreach: Team will assist "Neighborhood Nights" being planned by youth team for this summer; budgeting for fall events was discussed; thinking ahead about visitor give-away bags and Light-Bearers volunteer acknowledgment program; monthly Candy Bar Bingo events will begin 4/11.

Property: Submitted insurance claim for heating units damaged in derecho; black mold mitigation completed by team; outdoor derecho repairs nearly complete; outdoor security cameras installed; light fixtures all converted to LED by team; electronic sign operating erratically.

Old/New Business: Council approved establishment of the Trust Fund according to clause ratified at the Annual Meeting; minor amendment approved.

Next Meeting: April 20th, 2021

Agenda items should be submitted by 4/12.

Copies of Council minutes and Treasurer's reports are in the church office binder.

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of the RESURRECTION
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HOLY WEEK AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Holy Week @ Resurrection

April 1st - Maundy Thursday @ 7:00 pm

April 2nd - Good Friday @ 7:00 pm

April 4th - Easter Sunday

@ 8:00 am - Traditional

@ 9:30 am - Contemporary

@ 11:00 am - Blended

In-Person Worship by Reservation -
sign up on our website or call the church office.

All services will be live-streamed.

CONTACT US!

office hours:

Monday–Friday,

9 am–4 pm

phone: 319-377-4689

fax: 319-377-4680

email: office@lcrmarion.org

www.lcrmarion.org

Senior Pastor Jeff Frohner - jeff@lcrmarion.org
Interim Pastor Nate Montover - nate@lcrmarion.org
Children's Ministry: Jessi Lau - jessi@lcrmarion.org
Social & Ch. Ministry: Jill Hansen - jill@lcrmarion.org
Youth Ministry: Katie Kascel - katie@lcrmarion.org
Communications: Cari Redondo - cari@lcrmarion.org
Volunteers: Marcia Edwards - marcia@lcrmarion.org
Office Manager: Evelyn Beck - evelyn@lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org
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