



Volume 64, Issue 1
January 2023

Have you made your New Year's Resolution yet?

I haven't either. In fact, I stopped making resolutions years ago when I discovered how rare it was for me to keep my resolve for more than a week or two. However, I do have new INTENTIONS this year. This year I intend to be more intentional about asking better questions and searching for better answers. In short, this year I intend to reawaken my love for study and specifically the interplay between theology and culture; religious beliefs and ethics; faith and love.

I would love to invite you to join me on this journey as we begin our seminars on Lutheran Theology and the History of the Church at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. Beginning January 8th we will gather for four Sundays in January and dive deep into one of Luther's most important treatises, "Two Kinds of Righteousness."

In our four week conversations we will think critically about Luther's perspective on faith, love, and the power God gives to humans to carry out God's work of love in the world. We will seek answers to basic questions like, "what is love?" and "what are the limits of human love?" We will also dig deep into Luther's understanding of faith and think critically about the concept of sin.

I would love for you to join us as we meet on **January 8, 15, 22, and 29 at noon** in the sanctuary. The content of these sessions will mirror the classes I taught at Augustana College and Wartburg Theological Seminary. We will explore the same questions and read the same texts as you would expect in a religion course - without the homework! Look forward to other offerings throughout the year.

Be well, and Happy New Year!
Pr. Nate



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Worship

~ Sunday morning services - same message, different music styles ~

Sunday 8:30 am - Traditional Worship | Sunday 10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

Wednesday service: casual evening gathering with its own message & music from a range of worship styles

Wednesday 6:00 pm - Evening Worship

Links are available on our website and social media sites for **Livestream Worship**.

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>

Lutheran World Federation - Work in Ukraine

The Lutheran World Federation has committed more than \$12.1 million to respond to the crisis in Ukraine. Included in this effort is ongoing work to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in Ukraine and for Ukrainian refugees. LWF also provides specialized services for people who need treatment for cancer, cardiovascular issues, diabetes, and more by staffing mobile clinics and assisting current efforts including help for those suffering from mental health issues caused by PTSD and trauma. In addition, LWF is supporting hospitals in Ukraine with supplies, including surgical and wound care kits, gauze, IV kits, oxygen masks, defibrillators, stretchers, and medicines, like insulin, morphine, and medications for treating chronic illnesses.

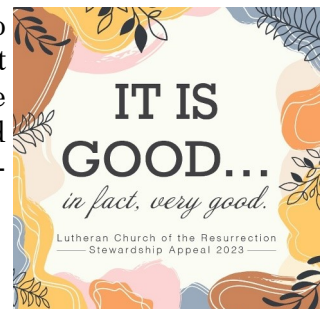
Check and cash donations can be dropped off at the church - please mark "Ukraine" on the memo line.

You may also give through debit/credit card or Venmo at this link - <https://lcrmarion.org/giving.html>

It Is Good!!

Thank you so much to those who have returned their estimate of giving for 2023 to help support our ministries at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. If you have not yet returned a commitment form, please consider turning one in to the church office yet this month. IT IS GOOD! Your gifts allow us to continue reaching out, up, and around. If you are unable to make a commitment at this time, feel free to turn in a commitment form with a note in the comments.

Our campaign report as of 12/14/2022: 189 pledges received for \$626,848, representing 57.3% of our giving units. One-Time Special Gifts current total is \$4,130.



To see all the information and submit your pledge online, go to <https://lcrmarion.org/stewardship.html>



Annual Meeting of the Congregation: Two Important Dates!

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 29th** in between worship services, beginning at **9:30 am** promptly. A forum to introduce the 2023 budget will be held in between services on **Sunday, January 22nd**. We appreciate everyone's faithfulness as we continue to be about the work of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ here at LCR.

Ministry

Holiday Giving Project

THANK YOU for helping us provide Christmas gifts for ten local families!! Each family received a family gift, and each child received three gifts. Thank you for sharing God's love with our community!

Jerry Cochrane & Scott Immerfall deliver gifts



Stir Up! Reverse Advent

Our Reverse Advent Project was an amazing success this year. Every box and bag you see in the photo bottom left is from Resurrection givers, adding up to 1,878 items! Thanks to your generosity, we were able to donate \$1,500 to the Marion Food Pantry from LCR's Living Legacy Fund match (up to \$1,500). Many thanks to the Living Legacy Fund for giving us this additional opportunity to bless Marion's food security community.

Super-duper extra thanks this year go to Erin, Malena, and Jackson Koehn, who did ALL THAT COUNTING, plus toting most of the boxes to the pantry.

Jan & Feb Mission Envelopes

Your giving will go to Feeding Lunches to Youth (FLY), which serves sack lunches to local kids each Monday through Friday during the summer months. The lunches are prepared and delivered by volunteers each weekday to 10 sites around town. FLY aims to spread the message of Jesus Christ through the joy of providing to children. Find out more at...

<https://marionmethodist.org/fly/>



^ Jackson presents the \$1,500 check to Churches of Marion Food Pantry board president Jill Law.

< Fellow board member George Kinnaird was on hand to help find space for so many boxes!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

Sunday School:

January 1 – No Sunday School
January 8 – regular Sunday School
January 15 – regular Sunday School
January 22 – regular Sunday School
January 29 – regular Sunday School

Wednesday Night Live:

January 4 – Movie Night
January 10 – regular WNL
January 17 – regular WNL
January 24 – regular WNL
January 31 – regular WNL



All of the students that participated in our Christmas Program all did a **WONDERFUL** job and have much to be proud of! Special thanks to our middle schoolers for leading the cast so gracefully! (more photos, p. 9)

This month at WNL, we had a visit from Pastor Nate to do “Ask the Pastor” night. All of the students were allowed to ask as many questions as they wanted about the bible, Jesus, God, Christianity or whatever else they had on their minds, and we were blown away by their thoughtful and thought-provoking questions. We will definitely be doing this again in the spring!



Questions? Reach out to Jessi via email - jessi@lcrmarion.org - or by calling the church office.

Adult Faith Development

The Teachings of Luther: Seminar by Pastor Nate

Join Pastor Nate Montover, Luther scholar, and dive deep into a college-level class about the teachings of Martin Luther. Some topics that will be explored include: What is faith? What is sin? What does it mean to be righteous? How do Christians love God and neighbor? Sessions will be held on **Sundays in January at 12 noon**. There is no fee to attend these classes, and no registration required. All are welcome!

Gatherings

...is a place and time to hear stories, share stories, and connect with others in our community. Gatherings is a place where you can feel safe to share what you really think or feel without being judged or rejected. We meet two Fridays a month; on **Friday, January 13th at 12 noon** our topic will be "Ghosts of Resolutions Past." Light refreshments are offered.

Resurrection Small Groups - both Evening and Daytime Opportunities

Donna Dennis - We are beginning a deep study of the gospel of Mark. We meet at the church on **Thursdays, January 12th and 26th, at 7:00 pm**. Contact me at donnakdennis88@gmail.com.

Dan Tegtmeier - Our group jumps around more than some others. Our study is not so much about a story or section of the Bible, as it is with topics such as faith, trust, salvation, etc. We meet off-site - usually at someone's home during the winter - on the **first Monday evening of the month**. Get on our email list at dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.com.

Mary Kay Pinckney - Our small group is starting a new monthly study in January. Feel free to contact Mary Kay at mkpink6@gmail.com for date, location, and new topic.

Loaves, Fishes, & Faith - We meet every **Tuesday for lunch at 11:30 am and lesson at 1:00 pm** in the fireplace room at the church. You are welcome to come to the lunch, the lesson, or both! Our current study is "Why" from Adam Hamilton. Get on our email list at maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com.

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - We meet once a month at the church. Our next date is **January 4th at 1:00 pm**. Contact Harriet Van Gilder at tvangee@q.com.

JAM Women - We'll complete our current study, "Why," on **Monday, January 9th at 1:00 pm** in the church. In February we'll begin a new 5-part study, "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times." Contact Linda at lhayward495@yahoo.com.

Moms Group

Mothers of young children, grown children, and every age in between, the LCR Outreach Committee holds a weekly group to support mothers at every stage of motherhood. Please join us at our gatherings on **Sundays at 9:30 am** in the church lounge (fireplace room). Come enjoy coffee, pastries, and fellowship with other moms. We hope to see you there! Contact Bethany Mast through the office if you have questions.

Biblical Potpourri

We meet weekly to look through the books of the New Testament to gain basic insight into the Biblical narrative and the context of each book. We meet at **9:30 am on Sundays** and on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm**, both in the conference room.

Wednesday Scripture Study

There is no better way to prepare for worship than to be in conversation with the scriptures. Your thoughts and insights will help enlighten the pastors' weekly sermons and prepare you to get more out of worship. We meet **each Wednesday at 11:00 am** in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

Check out these brief, thought-provoking videos online, **at any time** - <https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

Stephen Ministry

Happy New Year!

Our Stephen trainees are busy learning how to care for you. In the month of January they are learning:

Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving

They learn the signs indicating problems with maintaining appropriate boundaries and the consequences of boundary infringements. They briefly explore the difference between servanthood (good) and servitude (bad).

Crisis Theory and Practice: Danger versus Opportunity

Stephen trainees identify what needs people in crisis have, learn appropriate ways to care for those needs, and practice those skills.

Confidentiality

Stephen Ministers take confidentiality with the utmost seriousness. Trainees learn how to apply simple rules that cover most of the situations they will run into in the caring relationship, in supervision, with well-meaning friends, family, and elsewhere.

Telecare: The Next Best Thing to Being There

Caregiving by phone is not as good as caregiving in person, but it's not bad, either, provided you have learned some basic differences in techniques. In this lesson our trainees practice ways to compensate for the shortcomings of caregiving by phone. Note: this lesson was used in the past two years to give care during the pandemic.

Please pray for our trainees, care receivers, and Stephen Ministers. This is your ministry for you.

Peace, *Mary Hajek*



Fellowship

PEP 55+ "Hobbies and Collections"

On **Sunday, January 15th @ 3:00 pm**, please bring a hobby item from an activity you enjoy or something from a collection to share with the group. If you don't have anything to bring, just come and enjoy getting together! Light refreshments will be served.

Candy Bar BINGO

Get the gang together and join us in the fellowship hall on **Sunday, January 8th @ 1:00 pm** for free bingo-playing, free popcorn, and free fun. We're meeting on first Sundays of each month this winter. Bring friends!

Walking Group

We've moved our Thursday morning walks (10 am) to Lindale Mall for the winter. Contact Pam Brown to get on our email list so you'll know where to meet us:

batsllc@msn.com or 319.721.2563

Train Dominoes & Cribbage

Cribbage players meet on **2nd and 4th Fridays**, and train domino players on **1st & 3rd Fridays**, both beginning at **1:15 pm**. We can teach you if you've never played before and non-members are always welcome.

Wood Carvers

Our wood carvers meet **each Thursday evening at 6:00** in the Red Room in the education wing. If you want to learn a really satisfying handicraft, join us some evening and we'll get you started. Experienced carvers are welcome to bring and work on their current projects.

LCR Book Club

We'll get together **Tuesday, January 17th at 6:30 pm**. When our latest book comes in, you can pick up a copy in the church office. Contact sherrillamorrison@gmail.com to get on our email list; new people are very welcome!

sherrillamorrison@gmail.com



Resurrection youngsters got to show off their acting, singing, and kazoo-playing chops at our 2022 Children's Christmas Program



lcr children's ministry presents

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

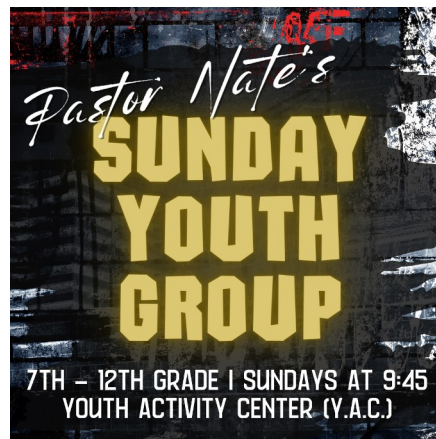


Youth Ministries @ LCR



LCR Confirmation
7th & 8th graders
 meets weekly from
7:15 to 8:00 pm
Wednesday evenings
 Pastor Nate Montover

call or text: 563-320-3995
 emails: nmontover@gmail.com
 lcr.confirmation@gmail.com



Sunday Youth Group
7th thru 12th grades
 Youth Activity Center
 in back of the church
Sundays - 9:45 to 10:15 am
 Informal gatherings
 to connect & reflect on
 our faith life together.



EDGE High School Ministry
9th thru 12th grade
 students from any
 school or church
Wednesday evenings 7:30 pm
 Katie Kascel, director
 katie@lcrmarion.org

latest info available at:
[instagram.com/edgetlcr/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/edgetlcr/?hl=en)

Prayers

Prayers are requested...



Those hospitalized in November:

Marjorie Pierce, Ryan Corrigan

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Harry Walton, Sheryl Knodle, Linda Christiansen, Julie Brandt, Gene Henry, Eloise Heppler, Marlene Pasker, Deanna Harding

(family and friends) Leslie Peterson, grand-niece Lydia, Hodgson family, Harry Naughton, Susie Borsheim, Joan Spilde, Bob & Denise Osborne

Those living in care facilities:

Kay Mase (Hiawatha Care Center); Vera Olson (Anamosa Care Center); Paul Bendixen (Northbrook Manor); Larry Wogahn (The Views); Bernadean Spilde (Garnett Place); Bill Thompson (Emery Place); Marilyn Carstens (Grand Living)

Those in military service:

Wyatt Ochs, Taylor Johnson, Will Fritz, Aaron Moose, Steven Anderson, Jake Anderson, Todd Kopperud

Those who mourn:

- Family & friends of Donna Morrissey, on her death (11/30)
- Barb Hazelton and family, on the death of her father, Cecil Bearden
- Mitch Hediger and family, on the death of his mother, Arlene Hediger
- Joan Christiansen and family, on the death of her brother-in-law, Mark Jacobs
- Pam Kacena and family, on the death of her uncle John Barta

Those who celebrate:

- Kirsten Corrigan, for son Ryan Corrigan's recovery from serious illness
- Larry Pierce, for Marge's successful surgery
- Linda Christiansen, for friend Sara Harbutte's successful surgery
- Ed & Sharon Hill, for grand-daughter Reyna Hill's successful surgery
- Larry & Shari Sue Tenney, on their wedding (12/20)
- Malory & Benjamin Torres, on the baptism of their daughter, Xiomara
- Rachel & Taylor Sutton on the baptism of their son, Luke

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 contact the church office.

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.



Stewardship

Treasurer's Report for November 2022

	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$ 57,041	\$675,770	\$631,638
General Fund Expenses	\$ 52,862	\$632,709	\$588,384
<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>11/30/22</u>		<u>11/30/21</u>
General Fund	\$163,893		\$142,697
Clearing Accounts	\$ 87,709		\$ 70,457
Property Reserve	\$ 38,958	Building	\$ 20,000
Building Residual	\$ 20,780		\$ 20,280

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your generous gifts in support of our 2022 LCR budget. Giving was at 100.8% of pledges at the end of November.

Digital Giving

Simply Giving - Join 77 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 in the gathering space.

* **PayPal** - Click DONATE button on our website for online giving.

* **Give+ Text** - Find out how it works on the 'Giving' page of our website.

* **Venmo** - Smartphone app for sharing money @LCRMarion

Church Council

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. November Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: 100.8% of pledged giving received in November; down from October, but overall about \$88,000 ahead of budgeted amount. Will catch up with tithing at the end of December.

Pastor Jeff: 15 family units joined in December. Five services are scheduled for Christmas Eve and one for Christmas Day. Adult Education trip to Holy Land will be February 1st to 21st.

Pastor Nate: Have built a relationship with Mt. Zion Church and recently came together for worship. Figuring out how to better utilize our sound equipment.

Outreach: Will continue with BINGO in January. Working on a plan for raised beds in the spring. Staff Appreciation Breakfast provided in December.

Governance: no meeting

Property: Electronic sign has been ordered, but no install date yet. Getting quotes for carpet.

Stewardship: Working on budget for 2023.

Old Business: *Audit Team Update* - working on figuring out how to best report financials. Will have council members serve as check-signers going forward. *Nominating Team* - Bob is working with team to secure council members for the next term.

New Business: *Salary Discussion* - Pastor Jeff proposed some salary increases; approved by the council. *2023 budget* - Approved as presented in addition to salary increases.

Next Meeting: *January 17, 2023.*

Agenda items should be submitted by 1/9/23. Copies of council minutes and treasurer's reports available in the church office binder.

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the RESURRECTION
3500 - 29TH AVENUE
MARION IA 52302

(address service requested)



The Teachings of LUTHER

A Four-Week Seminar led by
Dr. Nathan Montover,
author of "Luther's Revolution"
Sundays at 12 pm
January 8, 15, 22 and 29

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Marion, IA - LCRMarion.org



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CONTACT US!

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Pastor Nate Montover - nate@lcrmarion.org
Children's Ministry: Jessi Lau - jessi@lcrmarion.org
Youth Ministry: Katie Kascel - katie@lcrmarion.org
Volunteers: Marcia Edwards - marcia@lcrmarion.org
Communications: Cari Redondo - cari@lcrmarion.org
Office Manager: Evelyn Beck - evelyn@lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org
Custodians: Dave Cosgrove, Jim Snyder

