



Stir us up...

“But they were insistent and said, ‘He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.’” *Luke 23.5*

The traditional prayers of Advent begin with the provocative two words, “Stir up.” It is an image that may seem out of place in our culture, when it appears that this is just the problem - everything is all stirred up. But the wisdom of Advent is not to agitate for the sake of anxiety but to stir up within us those qualities and traits that tend to sink to the bottom.

I wonder when it comes to our spiritual welfare what is it that needs to be stirred? I’m not suggesting a kind of faith based “attack ad” blitz like we experienced leading up to the elections - that is simple agitation. No, I’m thinking about those deeper longings; what the carol writer called “the hopes and fears of all the years.”

You may have your own list, but here is mine.

Peace. I am going to be intentional this Advent to take some quiet moments to be with God. All the decorations even the tree can facilitate this. I have a spiritual habit of focusing on one ornament, on one image and allowing that image to help me slow down and hear the voice of God that often comes in the “sound of sheer silence.” (1 Kings 19.12)

Empathy. With all the bad news: atrocities, wars, rancor, and discord, I have found it easy to suffer from empathy fatigue. There are moments when it feels like just too much to care. This Advent I am going to intentionally try to feel, pray for, and connect with one individual - outside my usual tribe - each and every day. It might seem strange, but I want my heart to ache again in the midst of the suffering of others.

Joy. I am planning to seek out joy this Advent. To create moments where my spirit can sing. To put myself in position to feel the wonder of God’s love and to let that wash over me.

Stir up in me, O Lord, peace, empathy, and joy. - Pastor Jeff

Christmas Eve Worship
1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm, and 10:00 pm

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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>

Christmas Eve Worship

We'll have worship at 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm, and a late evening service at 10:00 pm.

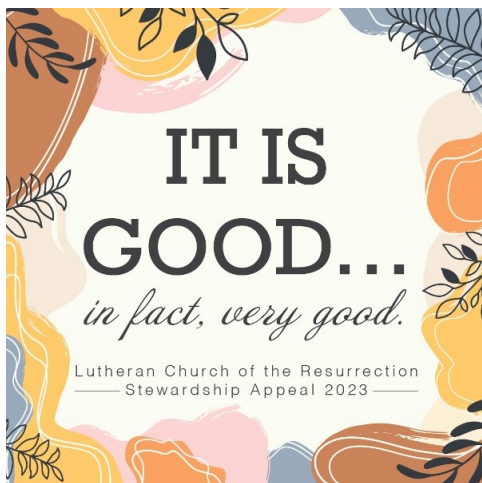
There will be one service only on Sunday, Dec. 25th and Sunday, Jan. 1st, both at 10:00 am.

Advent Hymns from Around the World

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) member churches expectantly await the coming of Jesus Christ this Advent. LWF will mark the period with a 28-day calendar of Advent hymns. This is the fifth year that Advent hymns are shared by LWF Member Churches and Country Programs.

“Advent: A Singing Communion has been a creative expression of our shared Lutheran identity and the diverse contexts of the member churches,” said LWF General Secretary Rev. Anne Burghardt. “For five years, the hymns have shown us how we share in our tradition of ‘expectant waiting’ for Christ’s coming into the world. This witness of ‘expectant waiting’ brings us together as a communion built on God’s promises.”

The churches offering hymns this year include Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia, the Church of Norway, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic, and The Church of Lippe (Lutheran Section), Germany. Hymns will also be shared by two LWF Country Programs in Poland and Ethiopia. In Poland, the hymn is performed by Ukrainian refugee staff, while the Ethiopia hymn was recorded in an LWF Member Church in Mekelle, Tigray. You can find the hymns daily on social media using #LWFadvent or at www.lutheranworld.org



It Is Good!!

Thank you for those who have returned their estimate of giving for the upcoming year to support our ministry at LCR. We need our members and friends to stand with us and please consider turning in your estimate of giving sheet to the church office as soon as possible. IT IS GOOD! And your gifts allow us to continue reaching out, up, and around. If you need the information it is available on our website or simply ask for a packet.

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

Ministry

Holiday Giving Project

This year, Resurrection has committed to sponsoring 10 local families for the Holiday Giving Project. If you are donating money this year, please give by **Dec. 4th** so we have time to purchase the gifts. If you are purchasing gifts, please have them back to the church before or by **Dec. 11th**, with a tag attached showing who the gift is for. Thank You for caring for those in need in our community!

Nov. & Dec. Mission Envelopes

Your giving will go to the Catherine McAuley Center in Cedar Rapids, which serves immigrants, refugees, and women experiencing crisis. CMC's programming helps people achieve stability in their personal lives and inclusion into the wider community. Find out more at <https://cmc-cr.org/>

Thank you to everyone who gave through our September and October mission envelopes. Your donations added up to \$970 for ELCA World Hunger. Then..... our \$970 donation was matched! YAY!!

Job Opportunities

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection is currently **hiring several part-time nursery staff** for Sunday mornings, 8:15 am to 11:45 am. We are looking for responsible, caring, and faithful people to serve with our precious little ones (infant through age 5). These are paid positions - \$15.45 per hour. Applicants must be 21 or older.

If you are interested, send your resume to Evelyn Beck at evelyn@lcrmarion.org or mail it to:

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
3500 - 29th Ave. / Marion, Iowa 52302



Stir Up! Reverse Advent

The Reverse Advent Project will support the Churches of Marion Food Pantry. Each day of Advent, there is a suggested food donation. We have special Christmas boxes at the church you can pick up to store your purchased items in. You may return your filled box whenever is convenient for you before the end of the year.

Thank you for blessing our community through your donations! In addition, LCR's Living Legacy Fund will be donating \$1 for every item donated, up to \$1,500!

November

- 27 - Canned Vegetables
- 28 - Peanut or Nut Butter
- 29 - Soap | 30 - Canned Meat

December

- 1 - Paper Product | 2 - Dry Pasta
- 3 - Hand Sanitizer | 4 - Baby Wipes
- 5 - Canned Soup | 6 - Dried Beans
- 7 - Instant Potatoes
- 8 - Canned Pasta/Pasta Sauce
- 9 - Jello or Pudding | 10 - Canned Fruit
- 11 - Rice | 12 - Granola Bars
- 13 - Microwave Popcorn | 14 - Jelly
- 15 - Ramen Noodles
- 16 - Canned Protein Beans (black beans, etc.)
- 17 - Mac & Cheese
- 18 - Canned/Shelf Stable Milk
- 19 - Pantry Staple (Sugar, Flour)
- 20 - Condiment | 21 - Household Cleaning Item
- 22 - Personal Care Item
- 23 - Cake/Cookie/Brownie Mix
- 24 - Salt/Pepper/Spices

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR



lcr children's ministry presents

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

a christmas program featuring all the ingredients of a sweet christmas

december 18th | 4:00pm
cookie reception to follow



Upcoming Dates:

December 4 – Regular Sunday School
+ Program practice

December 7 – Regular WNL

December 11 – Regular Sunday School
+ Program practice

December 14 – Christmas Party at WNL

December 18 – Regular Sunday School
+ Final Program practice

December 18 – Christmas Program @ 4:00 pm

Dec. 21 – No WNL

Dec. 25 – No SS

Dec. 28 – No WNL



Kids Sing!



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

Adult Faith Development

LCR Advent Devotionals

We are grateful to Pastor Jeff for providing daily Advent devotionals to celebrate the season. Printed Advent devotional booklets are available at the church. The Advent Devotionals are also available online: <https://lcrmarion.org/mt-content/uploads/2022/11/advent-2022-devotional-booklet-web-friendly.pdf>
Stop in and pick up your copy, and a box for our Reverse Advent Project!

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, December 1st and 15th, 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 taking December off and then will start a new monthly study in January; date & topic to be determined. Feel free to contact me at mkpink6@gmail.com.

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! Get on our email list at maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com. Our current study is "Why" from Adam Hamilton.

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - We meet once a month at the church. Our next date is **December 7th at 1:00 pm**. In addition to bible study, our group takes part in service projects through Lutheran World Relief. Contact Harriet Van Gilder at tvangee@q.com.

JAM Women - Our current study is "Why? Making Sense of God's Will" by Adam Hamilton. We'll meet at the church on **Monday, December 12th at 1:00 pm**. 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.

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 typically meet twice a month, but this month we'll meet on **Friday, December 9th only, at 12 noon**. Light refreshments are offered; our topic will be "Charity Begins at Home, but Where Does it End?"

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. (*will not meet on 12/28*)

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. (*will not meet on 12/28*)

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Stephen Ministry

In the month of December our Stephen minister trainees are learning...

Process Versus Results in Caregiving-

God is the Caregiver - the Stephen Minister is the caregiver. The key understanding is that they do not have to (and, indeed, cannot) fix whatever problem it is that the care receivers are facing.

Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly (Parts 1 and 2)

Stephen Minister trainees learn skills, practice them in classroom settings, and try out their newfound skills in real-life.

Trainees have read the book:

“Christian Caregiving - A Way of Life”
...and they are in the process of reading:
“Speaking the Truth in Love:
How to Be an Assertive Christian”

Our supervision group continues to work with their care receivers. Our supervision group has had speakers for their continuing education. They learned about caregiving to people with dementia and giving care to people who have lost a child.

Please pray for our trainees and Stephen Ministers as they learn and walk with their care receivers; please pray for our care receivers.

- Mary Hajek



Wednesday Night Live kids decorated boxes for our Reverse Advent project. Nice work, crew!

Fellowship

Candy Bar BINGO

Get the gang together and join us in the fellowship hall on **Sunday, December 4th @ 1:00 pm** for free bingo-playing, free popcorn, and free fun! We're meeting on first Sundays of each month this winter.

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. (no games on 12/23 or 12/30)

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 skip our December meeting and resume on **Tuesday, January 17th**. Contact Sherrill to get on our email list; new people are very welcome!

sherrillamorrison@gmail.com

Confirmation

I'm excited to be leading a new Youth Group gathering every **Sunday morning** for students in grades 7 through 12. We are meeting from **9:45 to 10:15** in the high school youth area (YAC). These informal gatherings are intended simply as an opportunity to connect and reflect on our faith life together.

Looking back... I am so honored to have been part of our Affirmation of Baptism event on October 30th. The kids in the 2022 Confirmation class have been through so much in recent years and have shown such care and commitment to their faith life that they now serve as an inspiration for me in my own faith journey. This Confirmation service was a wonderful celebration in the life of our congregation.

Let me also take a moment to once again thank all the folks who organized the reception and photos on the day of Confirmation!! I am so grateful that you all stepped up to make the event memorable.



LCR Confirmation - for 7th & 8th graders - meets weekly from **7:15 to 8:00 pm on Wednesday evenings**. We always welcome new participants in our program. *Peace - Pastor Nate*

call or text me at: 563-320-3995 (best)
emails: nmontover@gmail.com
lcr.confirmation@gmail.com



Our program is open to students in 9th thru 12th grade from any school or church. We meet on **Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm**. You can register in person. For more information, contact director Katie Kascel at: katie@lcrmarion.org

Follow EDGE on Instagram to get the latest info
<https://www.instagram.com/edgetlcr/?hl=en>

Fall Update

Our middle and high schoolers have been taking part in a number of fellowship gatherings recently, including pumpkin-carving in October and bowling at Spare Time in November. *(photo below)*

In addition, LCR youth had a great time with Tony Jones at Pizza Ranch! With great food and engaging conversation, we are grateful for the time he spent with our students and the insight he shared. *Props to Living Legacy Fund for his visit.*

EDGE 2022 Christmas Party will be **Wednesday, December 21st** at 7:30 pm. Feel free to bring friends from school, work, or another church to take part in our gathering.

Pastor Nate's Sunday Youth Group for students grade 7 through 12 meets in the YAC from **9:45 - 10:15 am**. All are welcome, bring friends!



Prayers

Prayers are requested...



Those hospitalized in November:

Paul Bendixen, Linda Christiansen

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Donna Morrissey, Harry Walton, Sheryl Knodle, Ryan Corrigan, Arlene Lang, Julie Brandt, Eloise Heppler, Jenni Ringwald, Gene Henry, Marlene Pasker, Deanna Harding

(family and friends) Cecil Bearden, grand-niece Lydia, Cheryl & Eric Hodgson family, Harry Naughton, Mark Jacobs, Susie Borsheim, Bob & Denise Osborne, Joan Spilde, Merlin Moser, Leslie Petersen, Jo & Jay Moore

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:

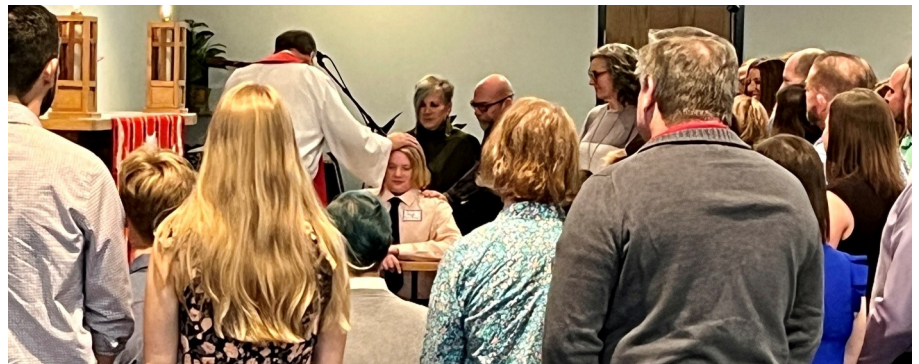
Wyatt Ochs, Taylor Johnson, Will Fritz, Aaron Moose, Steven Anderson, Jake Anderson, Todd Kopperud

Those who mourn:

- Family and friends of Glenn Jensen, on his death on 11/7

Those who celebrate:

Our 2022 Confirmands - Josiah Berryknoop, Jenna Butz, Fynn Christopherson, Alexa Clymer, Kael Edaburn, Carter Fleming, Malena Koehn, River Newton, Tori Sletteland, Esme Walker, Elliott Zrudsky



Confirmation Worship and All Saints Worship



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 October 2022

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$63,006	\$618,729	\$576,164
General Fund Expenses	\$55,875	\$579,848	\$538,982
<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>10/31/22</u>		<u>10/31/21</u>
General Fund	\$163,946		\$135,974
Clearing Accounts	\$ 89,351		\$ 83,554
Property Reserve	\$ 37,917	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 101.5% of pledges at the end of October.

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, November 15, 2022. October Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: Pledged giving back to 105.1% - back to August level. On track to surpass pledged amount by ~\$20,000

Pastor Jeff: Lots of fall activities, including speaker Tony Jones on Nov. 18, 19, 20. New members to be received Dec 11.

Pastor Nate: A lot of fellowship happening - connecting with junior high and high school kids

Outreach: Looking at options/gauging interest for raised beds. Will continue BINGO once per month. Cinnamon rolls & chili this Sunday. Mom's Group continues weekly.

Stewardship: Team being pulled together to assist with 2023 budget.

Governance & Property: No meetings

Old Business: Annual Meeting date set for January 29th in between services

Sign update (Bob Wolter) - approved by council. *That LCR enter into a contract to purchase a new electronic messaging center as proposed by CR Signs. The purchase to include the proposed sign, new electrical hookups, and sales tax for a total of \$46,339.56. Initial funding of the first payment of \$23,170 will include the \$20,120 in the New Sign Clearing Account. The remainder is to be added to the 2023 budget plan. The contract to be signed only after the congregational forum scheduled for November 27, 2022.*

New Business: Will be working with nominating committee to find replacements for council members whose terms are up.

Next Meeting: December 20, 2022.

Agenda items should be submitted by 12/12/22. 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)



Join us for
Christmas at LCR!
ALL ARE WELCOME!
More information at
LCRMarion.org

Saturday, December 24
Traditional Christmas Eve
1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Late Evening Service - 10:00 pm
.....
Sunday, December 25 - 10:00 am



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Saturday, December 3 at 4 pm
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Joy
The Music of Christmas



lcr children's ministry presents
**CHRISTMAS
COOKIES**
a christmas program featuring all the
ingredients of a sweet christmas

december 18th | 4:00pm
cookie reception to follow



CONTACT US!

office hours:
Monday - Friday,
9 am - 4 pm
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fax: 319-377-4680
email: office@lcrmarion.org

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Pastor Jeff Frohner - jeff@lcrmarion.org
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

