



May will be a full month of joy and celebrations here at LCR. We'll have a council sponsored pancake breakfast on the first Sunday of May; Mother's day celebration on the second Sunday of May; Confirmation on the third Sunday in May; and Pentecost Sunday (commemorating the Holy Spirit being poured out on the early church) on the fourth Sunday of May.

All of these different celebrations and especially Confirmation have gotten me to reflect on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. How are we to live out our faith in the world? Do pancakes and family celebrations relate to discipleship? I think the answer is yes! As our faith calls us to approach all that we do with joy and appreciation. I understand that there are times when life is difficult and it is hard to muster up even an ounce of gratitude; nevertheless we are given this incredible opportunity to live and love in response to what God has first given us.

I can still see the faces of hundreds of Confirmands who have been asked during the Rite of Confirmation: "Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?"

I have often told confirmands to think very carefully about what they are about to answer. In other words, are you willing to let the light of Christ guide all that you do and how you live your life each and every day. This is a powerful affirmation to make and one that reminds us that every day is holy. That every moment is sacred as we are encouraged not to separate our faith from the rest of life; but incorporate it into the very core of who we are.



So here's to discipleship! Here's to confirmation Sunday. Here's to pancakes and family celebrations. Here's to little league games and dance recitals. Here's to chats with good friends and common tasks. And here's to all the ways we are called to live out the faith each and every day. Never forget, each and every moment is sacred.

Peace! Pastor Jeff

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Worship

~ two 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>

The DAY of PENTECOST - Sunday, May 28th - Wear Red!

There are three great festivals (days of celebration) in the Christian faith: Easter, Christmas, and Pentecost. Pentecost, from the Greek *pentekostos*, meaning fifty, is celebrated fifty days after Easter. Our Jewish friends call this day Shavuot, a festival commemorating when God gave them the Torah. It was on the day of Pentecost/Shavuot that followers of Jesus were gathered together and the Holy Spirit descended upon them like ‘tongues of fire.’ (Acts 2:2-11)

The miracle of Pentecost was that everyone could hear the Good News being proclaimed in their own language; but the impact of this was a church that found its voice and has been proclaiming the love of God through Jesus Christ ever since. As we gather on Pentecost Sunday may we remember that our voice is still important today - proclaiming God’s love and reconciliation through the cross of Jesus. Red is the color of the Holy Spirit and we invite you to wear as much red as you can on Pentecost Sunday!



A Sign from God!

Our new sign out front is seen by over 8,200 cars on average per day. This means that the message of God’s love at work here at LCR is being shared 24/7 with everything from worship times, to fellowship groups, to special programs. You might even see the picture of someone you know!

Your special gift toward paying off the sign would be a tremendous help as we navigate our budget this year. We have 12 payments of approximately \$2,000 (interest free) that will be made monthly. Would you consider a gift to cover one of these payments, or a partial percentage? You’ll find special envelopes in the Gathering Space or you can contact the church office.



Synod Revival Event

Saturday May 20 @ Grand View University in Des Moines

This one-day event presented by the Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA designed to nourish and connect people to each other and to reimagine our relationships in and with the church. This event is free of charge and intended to be a joyful fun gathering for all ages full of inspiration, worship, and prayer. You are invited to bring your friends, neighbors, family, or anyone and watch what God does! (There may be a transportation option from one of our local churches, contact the church office if interested.) For more information:

www.synodrevival.org



Ministry

Start School Right Shoe Drive

Please consider participating in the Marion Independent Shoe Drive. We can use your help in making sure that students have tennis shoes for recess and gym classes in the fall. There are two ways you can participate:

Contribute Money - Checks in any amount may be written to LCR or to the Marion School Foundation. On the memo line, please note: Start School Right Shoe Drive. You may also give online at <https://lcrmarion.org/giving.html>

Donating Tennis Shoes - Purchase NEW athletic tennis shoes in the sizes listed below. Deliver the shoes to the church, where they will be picked up by Diana Zrudsky for distribution.

Girls: 9K, 10K, 11K, 12K, 13K, 1Y, 2Y, 3Y, 4Y, 5Y, 6Y, 7Y

Boys: 9K, 10K, 11K, 12K, 13K, 1Y, 2Y, 3Y, 4Y, 5Y, 6Y, 7Y

Womens: 5, 5.5, 6, 6.5, 7, 7.5, 8, 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10, 10.5, 11, 11.5, 12

Mens: 7, 7.5, 8, 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10, 10.5, 11, 11.5, 12, 12.5, 13, 14

Thank you in advance for your help in providing for children whose families need a little assistance!

Spring Landscaping Work Day

The Landscaping Team will meet from 8:30 to 11:00 am on **Saturday, May 6th**. Bring your work gloves and favorite garden tools; we'll have a little snack break during the course of the morning.

If you can't come on Saturday morning, feel free to drop by any time during the week when outdoor working conditions are good and work on your section. Yard waste can be placed in the yard out by the garage. Thank you for helping keep the church campus beautiful! Contact team leaders through the church office if you have any questions.

LCR Free Water Pantry

As sunny days return we have more and more activity around the church and our LCR Free Water Pantry becomes a popular place! We welcome donations of water bottles or monetary donations to help stock the pantry. Please drop off your water bottles at the church office. Thank you!



May & June Mission Envelopes

Your giving will go to Community Free Health Care in Cedar Rapids, which provides free medical, dental, vision, and prescription services for those without access to or the ability to pay for healthcare. CHFC never charges for their services and is funded through the generosity of individuals in our community.

"Bucks to Buy Beef" appeal was held in April to purchase hamburger for people at Mission of Hope. *Thank you so much for your donations!*

Freedom Foundation

Our Comforting Hands Quilters are proud to have added the Freedom Foundation to their ministry list. In April Brenda Krause delivered 8 lap robes and 10 quilts to their new Cedar Rapids location.

In addition to other services, the Foundation provides a food pantry and a free Thursday lunch for active duty, reserve, and honorably discharged military veterans. The Freedom Foundation is run through donations rather than government funding. The Quilters invite you to find out more at...

<https://usfreedomfoundation.org/>



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL: MAY 7

LAST DAY OF WNL: MAY 10

VBS & DAY CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 11 - 14, FROM 9:00AM TO 11:30AM

ELEMENTARY DAY CAMP

JULY 31 - AUGUST 3, FROM 9:00AM TO 2:00PM

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

Vacation Bible School is for those entering Pre-K - 1st Grade in Fall of 2023 **If your student is entering preschool for the first time in the fall, they must be fully potty-trained to attend VBS.*

Elementary Day Camp is for those entering 1st - 6th Grade in Fall of 2023

April was full of wonderful Easter festivities and family activity at LCR. We had our Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, celebrated first communion with several excited 4th graders, and had a special movie day in Sunday School while the WNL students got to bake cakes and play some tricky games with eggs in the nice weather!



COMING SOON...

**Summer
Verse
Challenge**

Starting May 21, each Sunday morning I will post a new memory verse, you learn it with your family and come in

before/after service the next week for a prize and the chance to enter for our monthly grand prize!

Also coming soon... there will be a new Children Ministry Kiosk in the gathering space! It will be equipped with new activity bags, resources for families, and all the info for upcoming events in children's ministry!

Adult Development

Resurrection Small Groups - *both Evening and Daytime Opportunities*

Mary Kay Pinckney - Our women's group meets at my Cedar Rapids home **one Sunday evening** a month. Contact Mary Kay at mkpink6@gmail.com for details.

Donna Dennis - We do a deep study of each book of the bible at a time. We meet at the church on **Thursdays, May 11th and 25th, at 6:30 pm**. Contact Donna at donnakdennis88@gmail.com.

Dan Tegtmeier - We meet off-site - usually at someone's home - on the **first Monday evening of the month**. Get on our email list at dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.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.

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle women meet for bible study once a month at the church.

Our next date is **Wednesday, May 3rd at 1:00 pm**. Contact Harriet Van Gilder at keyboreder1@gmail.com.

JAM Women - On **Monday, May 8th at 1 pm** we'll continue our new study, "*Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times*," from Adam Hamilton. Contact Linda at lhayward495@yahoo.com.

Pastors 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.

Biblical Potpourri

We meet weekly at **9:30 am on Sundays** to look through the books of the New Testament, gaining basic insight into the Biblical narrative and the context of each book. *We will not meet on 5/7.*

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Pastor Nate's "Teachings of Luther" 4-part series

...is available on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@lutheranchurchoftheresurre4195/featured>

Moms Group

Mothers of young children, grown children, and every age in between hold a weekly group to support each other 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.

Bonus event for May: Moms meet at Uptown Coffee in Marion on Saturday the 6th at 9 am!



Gatherings @ LCR

...is a place and time to hear stories, share stories, and connect with others in our community through topical conversations. We meet at **noon** on two **Fridays** each month - **May 12th and 26th**. Light refreshments are offered and topics will be announced in the weekly news.

Confirmation

Hello Everyone!

I want to thank you all for a wonderful year of Confirmation! It is hard for me to imagine that our final Confirmation class of the year is on **Wednesday, May 10th**. I have really enjoyed our gatherings, and I am amazed at the insight that our Confirmands bring to our conversations.

Nineteen of our 8th graders will be confirmed on **Sunday, May 21st at the 10:30 service**. A reception will follow the service. It will be helpful for our students to arrive by 9:45 am in order for us to prepare for the service and have a group photo taken.

Students, please send faith statements and Bible verses to Emily at the church office by Friday, May 12th. In the handouts I gave at our meeting I inadvertently gave you the wrong email address; corrected address is emily@lcrmarion.org. Please send: faith statements, Bible verses, date of baptism, names of parents/caregivers

Katie has also offered to work with our 8th graders on these statements during EDGE (Thanks, Katie!) We look forward to celebrating the Affirmation of Baptism of each of these young adults!

Thanks again to parents and caregivers for all your hard work and for the ways that you are shepherding your young adult into the faith of the church. *We need you all and we are blessed by your presence.*

Peace, Pr. Nate

Feel free to contact me at any time this summer with questions or concerns
Call/Text - 563.320.3995

New Stephen Ministers

Commissioned on April 30th



Larry Edwards, Penny Moubry, Carol Lillevig

EDGE Youth

EDGE Youth Group

Last night of EDGE is **Wednesday, May 17th**. Come for a finale bonfire and a farewell to our seniors! Contact director Katie Kascel if you have any questions about our program:

katie@lcrmarion.org

Stay up-to-date on our activities by checking:
[instagram.com/edgeatlcr/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/edgeatlcr/?hl=en)

Biderman Scholarship

LCR's Living Legacy Fund is excited to announce our 2023 Biderman Scholarship Winner - **Ava Schaldecker**. We are thrilled to help Ava continue her journey beyond high school. *Congratulations!*



Resurrection Graduates

On **Sunday, June 4th** we'll be holding up in worship all our recent high school, college, trade school, and military grads. If you or someone in your family is finishing their studies, please let us know. We like to put together a little folder to celebrate their achievements, with names, photos, school name, and program of study. Please make a note of all your student's information and drop it and their photo off at the church office, or email them, by May 26th. Thank you!

email to: office@lcrmarion.org

Wee Wisdom Preschool

~ now enrolling for 2023-24 school year ~

You can schedule a tour at
weewisdommarion.org or by
calling Michelle at 319-350-7438.

Prayers

Prayers
are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized in April:

Ken Lee, Zavier Alexander, Gary Young, Arlene Lang, Sue Anderson, Jon Hajek, Margaret Wogahn, Ryan Corrigan

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

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

(family and friends) Tallie Furrow, Joyce Esch Urmie, Marge Richardson, Kimberly Richardson, Rachel White

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); Bill Durspek (Terrace Glen)

Those in military service:

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

Those who mourn:

- Roger Carlson and family on the death of his niece, Cindy Tucker, and his sister, LaDonna Raney
- Matt Petersen and family on the death of his mother, Patty Petersen.
- Elaine Slaymaker on the death of her cousin, Joan Spilde
- Paula Gregoire on the death of her mother, Nancy Stoppels
- Jay Moore, of Ascension Lutheran, on the death of his wife, Jo Moore

If you would like to send a card to anyone listed above, feel free to contact the church office for current addresses.

Kent, Nick, and the choir practice, practice, practice!



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 March 2023

	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$ 69,589	\$223,335	\$198,257
General Fund Expenses	\$ 62,232	\$185,736	\$166,291
<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>03/31/23</u>		<u>03/31/22</u>
General Fund	\$222,573		\$159,595
Clearing Accounts	\$ 54,473		\$ 56,718
Property Reserve	\$ 63,280		\$ 50,780

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2023 budget! Giving at the end of March was at 100% of pledges.

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, April 18, 2023. March Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: Actual giving was 100% of pledged giving. General Fund giving on track.

Pastor Jeff: (absent) Easter attendance up 17% compared to last year.

Pastor Nate: Planning to confirm 19 8th graders on May 21st. Youth Team is planning monthly fellowship and service events. Celebration Lunch being planned for contemporary service team.

Social Concerns: Buy Beef campaign - \$150 so far (runs through April). Shoe Drive planned for May.

Outreach: Mother's Group fellowship event at Uptown Coffee on 5/6 at 9:00 am. End of Sunday School pancake breakfast on 5/7 between services. First Car Cruise-In on 5/11.

Property: Contacting REC requiring continued increase in electricity usage. Planning crack repair and carpet replacement. Planning for parking lot asphalt repair. Garage door replacement and minor exterior storm damage repair to come.

Stewardship: (see Treasurer report, Finance update)

Governance: (no meeting)

Old Business: *Sign Fund Appeal* - \$3,000 with an additional \$5,000 pledged. *New Copier Contract* - Have received \$6,000 check from Koch Office Group. Have not heard from Konica Minolta regarding getting out of current contract. *Synod Assembly Delegates* - Pastors Jeff & Nate will attend.

New Business: *Garden Update* - Good turnout for raised bed assembly on 4/15. Next step is mulch, wood chips, fencing. Looking for people to take responsibility for a bed. *Finance Update* - Motion that the Stewardship Team be authorized, in consultation with the treasurer, to ensure that LCR funds are covered under FDIC/NCUA insurance, which would necessitate the moving of up to \$250,000 to the best and appropriate CD's. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: May 16, 2023

Agenda items should be submitted by 5/8/23. Copies of council minutes and treasurer's reports are available in the church office binder.

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the RESURRECTION
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MARION IA 52302

(address service requested)



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