



“Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” - *Jesus*, Matthew 5.48

Impossible! Unrealistic! Impractical! These are the typical responses to Jesus’ call to be “perfect.” And indeed I resonate with all of these reactions to what on the surface seems to be a most unreasonable demand. How can anyone “be perfect?” And to make matters worse how can our attempts (even if they were possible) be held up over against God! Ridiculous.

And yet, these are the words of Jesus. And my first instinct is to take him very seriously. Perhaps it is a metaphor? Or maybe it is deliberate hyperbole - meant to shake us up from our spiritual slumber? No, I think he’s serious; but I also think we’ve lost a bit in translation.

My Greek professor and mentor at Seminary, Robert Smith, has this to say about Jesus calling us to perfection: “The underlying word is related to goals and targets, to growth and ripening and maturity, to coming of age. *Teleios* (GK: “perfect,” “mature”) is the cognate of *telos* (GK: “goal”). To be perfect means to grow up into full stature as a woman or man of God. It is to reach the high goal of a rich, deep sharing in the life of God, the nature of God, known in Jesus as love, holy and astonishing, beyond the old calculus of “mine” and “ours,” shattering even the careful frameworks of justice and merit, springing up and pouring forth in giddy abundance, embracing the just and the unjust, the friend and the enemy.” (Smith, 1989, p.105).

In other words, to be perfect is to take Jesus seriously and ripen into the Christian that God has called me to be - I like that. I have two apple trees in my backyard that have yielded fruit that I’ve been watching develop for quite some time. They are far from being ripe, far from ready to be harvested; but those apples are getting there. They are growing into the perfection that I know they will eventually become. And while they develop and ripen, I do not lament their lack of completion; but, on the contrary, anticipate with joy what they are becoming.

Perhaps that’s how it is for us followers of Jesus. Let’s realize that we are called to be “perfect” (reaching the high goal of a rich and deep faith); while having the patience with each other that comes from the joyful realization that few of us have actually arrived.

Always growing! Peace! *Pastor Jeff*

Inside this Issue

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Adult Faith | 5 |
| Children’s Ministry .. | 4 |
| Council News | 11 |
| EDGE Youth | 9 |
| Fellowship | 8 |
| Ministry | 3 |
| Prayers | 10 |
| Stephen Ministry | 9 |
| Stewardship | 11 |
| Wee Wisdom | 9 |
| Worship | 2 |

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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>

A Look at the Psalms

Did you know that Martin Luther used the text of Psalm 130 in one of his early hymns, “Out of deep distress I cry to You,” which inspired Bach and Mendelssohn to create more elaborate works on the theme. Why not take a moment to reflect on this passage? In fact, why not commit to reading a Psalm each day this summer!

Psalm 130

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
- 2 Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!
- 3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?
- 4 But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.
- 5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
- 6 my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.
- 7 O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.
- 8 It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

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 tremendous as we navigate our budget this year.

We have 12 payments of approximately \$2,000 (interest-free) that are being made monthly. Would you consider a gift to cover one of these payments, or a partial percentage? So far we have received **\$14,165** in donations - thank you so much! *It’s not too late to help us make an impact with this new sign.* You’ll find special envelopes in the Gathering Space or you can contact the church office.



Ministry

F.L.Y. Summer Program

LCR members and friends can take part in this valuable kids' lunch program any day of the week through August 18th. School-age youth are welcome to participate as long as they are with an adult. The volunteer opportunities are:

Making Lunches, from 10:00-11:30 am
(10 people needed each day)

Lunch Delivery, from 11:45 am-12:30 pm
(24 people needed each day)

Both jobs are critical for this mission to happen. To sign up, use link below or contact the church office and we'll help you get signed up -

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/6639110093/false#/invitation>

July & August Mission Envelopes

Your giving will go to the **Churches of Marion Food Pantry**, supported by 11 local churches organized to meet the emergency food needs of area families. Participating churches supply donated food, funds, and volunteers.

The Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 pm and operates from the Mission House of First Presbyterian Church. Find more information at -

<https://www.facebook.com/marionfoodpantry/>

Thanks for Your Generous Giving!

Neighborhood Nights giving to buy ground beef and soda pop - **\$730** (as of 6/22)

June juice boxes for FLY sack lunches, through Marion Cares - **\$216** (as of 6/22)

May 'Start School Right' Shoe Drive for the Marion School District - **\$1,940** (as of 6/6)

Lutheran World Federation for ongoing Ukraine relief efforts - **\$10,742**

New Members

Resurrection welcomed 29 new members in June! There are folders in the gathering space literature rack with their names and mini-bios. Feel free to pick one up and get acquainted with them when you can :-)

Back-to-School Backpacks

Here are the easy steps to participate in adopting a local student in need:

1. Sign up online by selecting a student. Register now so you will be notified when the student list is open - <https://forms.gle/brhnydE7kMWkTqYt5>
2. Purchase a backpack and fill it with the listed supplies.
3. Write the STUDENT # on a piece of paper and put it in the front pocket of the backpack. *This is crucial as it is the only way we will be able to match it up with the student at the event.*
4. Deliver your filled backpack to LCR by the August drop-off date and we'll get it to Marion Cares for you.

If you don't have access to a computer, please contact the church office and we'll get you signed up. Thank you for your partnership with us on this project! We would not be able to help so many students without everyone's faithful giving.



Raised Bed Gardens

The gardens are looking fantastic! We should have a great harvest for local food pantries.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

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



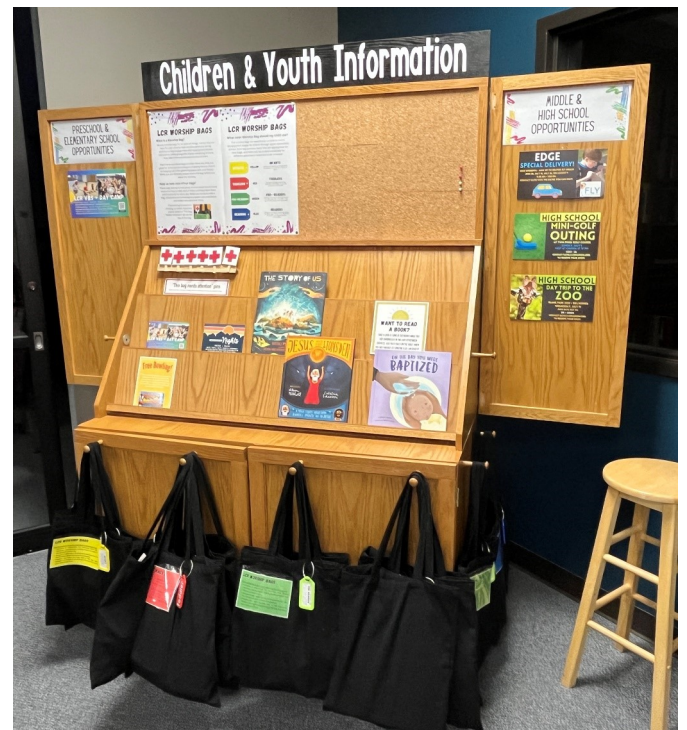
Join us for Summer Verse Challenge! Each Sunday morning there will be a new memory verse to pick up from the gathering space. Spend the week learning and memorizing the verse and then come in and share the verse with whoever is in the gathering space and pick up your prize! Each time you learn a verse you are also eligible to enter for a grand prize, drawn monthly. You don't have to participate every week, and 'close enough' counts for little ones doing their best to participate ♥



Camp Chisomo
Malawi, Africa

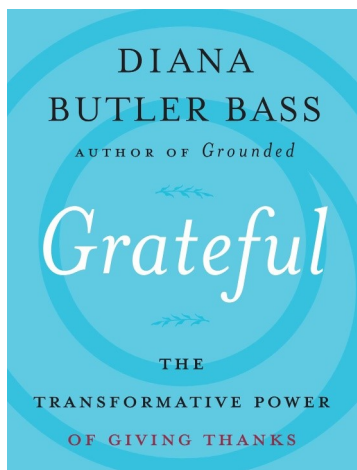
**DIGNITY. HOPE.
FUTURE.**

A place for kids to be kids



Our new Kids Kiosk in the gathering space. Always fun stuff for our youth members, even throughout the summer.

Adult Discipleship



Diana Butler Bass Book Study

Borrow your summer study book now! Diana Butler Bass will be coming to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection on **November 4-5**, sponsored by LCR's Living Legacy Fund. As we look forward to her time here, the church will host a book study on her book, "Grateful," this summer. We have copies available now to borrow in the church office. Find out more at...

<https://dianabutlerbass.com/books/grateful-the-transformative-power-of-giving-thanks/>

Gospel of Matthew Study

We started a new faith study in June on the Gospel of Matthew. We meet in the conference room at **9:30 am on Sunday mornings**.

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.

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Resurrection Small Groups - *both Evening and Daytime Opportunities*

Mary Kay Pinckney - Our women's group meets at my Cedar Rapids home **one evening each month**.

Our current book is "Our Father: A Study of the Lord's Prayer" by Becky Harling.

Contact Mary Kay at mkpink6@gmail.com to get on the group email list.

Donna Dennis - We are currently studying a deep dive of the 23rd Psalm. We meet at the church on **Thursdays, July 13th and 27th, at 6:30 pm**. Contact Donna at donnakdennis88@gmail.com.

JAM Women - On **Monday, July 10th at 1 pm** we'll continue our study of "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times," from Adam Hamilton. Contact Linda at lhayward495@yahoo.com.

Small Study Groups on hiatus until fall:

Dan Tegtmeier - contact Dan: dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.com

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - contact Harriet: keyboreder1@gmail.com

Loaves, Fishes, & Faith - contact Mary Jo: maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com

Adult programs on hiatus until fall:

Moms Group - contact Bethany Mast: bgodar@gmail.com

Gatherings @ LCR - contact Tom Lillevig: lillevig@outlook.com

3rd Annual LCR Car Show - *Saturday, July 29th from 2-4 pm*

Calling all LCR car enthusiasts! Invite your friends. Whether you have a beloved 'clunker,' a sporty new ride, or a classic, drive them on down to LCR on Saturday, July 29th for our third annual Car Show. Everyone is welcome and the purpose is to have some fun and admire all the different rides. There will be awards handed out for: Best in Show, Best Survivor, Coolest Custom, Classy Clunker, and Cleanest Ride. There is no registration fee. Bring a car or just come to admire the great rides.



Fellowship

Summer Picnic & Pie Contest

Mark your calendars for our Summer Picnic on **Sunday, July 2 at 11:30 am**. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and pop will be free; sides and salads are very welcome to share with friends.

SIGN UP TO BRING FOOD

OR VOLUNTEER AT THE PICNIC!!

Enter your very best pie (or pies) in the LCR Pie Contest. Please register your entry online, or call the church office.

REGISTER YOUR PIE ENTRY:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044ca8ad2ea7fa7-lcrpie#/>

Car Cruise-In

Come **Thursday, July 13th at 5 pm** to check out the coolest classic cars in town and visit with their owners! Pizza and beverages will be available for purchase. Our Car Cruises will meet each 2nd Thursday throughout the summer.

Our epic **LCR Car Show** will be held on **Saturday, July 29th at 2 pm**; see page 5 for details.

Knitting & Crochet Group

Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Come join us in the church lounge on **Thursday nights from 6-9 pm**. The group is currently working on scarves, mittens, and hats for people in need next winter, but you can work on anything you like. We have tons of yarn in the choir room that you can use. Contact me if you have any questions - pamkacena@yahoo.com. *Can't wait to crochet/knit with you!*

Neighborhood Nights

This summer we're having great free food and the best inflatables around! EVERYONE is welcome at Neighborhood Nights on **Saturday, July 29th at 5 pm**. Call your friends and neighbors and bring them along too.

We also need helpers: bounce house supervisors, grillers, set-up & tear-down, dessert makers. You can sign up online (link below) or by calling the church office.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044ca8ad2ea7fa7-neighborhood2#/>

Pool Party

Get ready for some cooling fun at the Marion Pool on **Sunday, July 16 from 5:15-6:45 pm**. All ages are welcome; kids 6th grade and younger need to be with an adult. Friends totally welcome!

LCR Book Club

We'll get together on **Tuesday, July 11th at 6:30 pm**. July's reading will be any book by James Patterson, written alone or with another author. Find one at the library, and, as you're reading, keep track of the characters, plot, what you thought was going to happen, etc. Then come prepared to tell us about your choice. We'll discuss if there are any similarities in his books. Contact Sherrill to get on our email list; new people are very welcome! sherrillamorrison@gmail.com

LCR Painting Group

Love to paint? Want to learn? Join us on the **first and third Tuesday evenings of each month at 6:30 pm** in the art room. This group is open to adults painting in all different mediums - acrylic, watercolor, oils, etc. If you have questions, or if you haven't painted before, please contact Evelyn in the church office - evelyn@lcrmarion.org.

Cribbage

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

Wood Carvers

Our wood carvers meet **each Thursday evening at 6:00** in the Red Room (in 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.

Walking Group

We are walking at Lowe Park now, unless it is raining. In that case, we'll walk at Lindale Mall. Please make sure to get on our email list so you'll know where to meet us: marcia@lcrmarion.org. We walk **each Thursday at 10:00 am**.

Stephen Ministry



Our Stephen Ministry team is excited to welcome Melissa Alexander to our ministry. Melissa is a new member of our congregation. She was serving as a minister at her previous church. She is fully trained and ready to serve.

We have 10 Stephen Ministers. Five of our ministers are busy giving care to individuals and we have five who are ready and able to help you. If you are experiencing a challenge or a change in your life, we are here to walk with you. We're here to listen and care. Whatever a person's challenges are, we want to walk beside them and offer support. Our goal is to make people feel as if God has walked beside them, to help them feel God's love.

Call the church office to connect with this caring ministry.

Peace, *Mary Hajek*

Wee Wisdom

Coming Up . . .

Wee Wisdom Preschool had a wonderful school year and we are looking forward to the fall with lots of new families. We have a few openings available in our 2-day class that meets Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30-11:30 am. Please visit us at www.weewisdommarion.org for more information, or call me to schedule a tour at 310-350-7438.

Thank You!

We want to thank everyone for contributing to our Hy-Vee receipt fundraiser. We earned \$400! Hy-Vee will be continuing this program into next year. You can help by bringing in your Hy-Vee receipts, dated from April 1, 2023 until March of 2024. All local Hy-Vee receipts count, including Gas, Pharmacy, and Fast & Fresh.

- *Michelle Heidelberg, WW director*



We've got lots of great stuff planned this summer! Contact katie@lcrmarion if you want to take part or have questions. *Friends always welcome.*



EDGE
SPECIAL DELIVERY!
EDGE STUDENTS - SIGN UP TO DELIVER FLY MEALS!
JUNE 28, JULY 12, JULY 26, OR AUGUST 9
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
CONTACT KATIE WITH THE DATES YOU CAN HELP!



HIGH SCHOOL
MINI-GOLF
OUTING
AT TWIN PINES GOLF COURSE
SUNDAY, JULY 9
MEET AT CHURCH AT 12 PM
COST - \$6
CONTACT [KATIE@LCRMARION.ORG](mailto:katie@lcrmarion.org)
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!



HIGH SCHOOL
DAY TRIP TO THE
ZOO
BLANK PARK ZOO - DES MOINES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
(RAIN DATE JULY 20)
\$18 + LUNCH
CONTACT [KATIE@LCRMARION.ORG](mailto:katie@lcrmarion.org)
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

Prayers

Prayers
are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized in June:
Margaret Wogahn

Those experiencing illness or surgery:
(LCR members) Eloise Heppler, Mike Rosz, Michelle Shaw, Harriet Van Gilder, Betty Young, Ken Lee, Jon Hajek, Arlene Lang, Harry Walton, Linda Christiansen

(family and friends) Garry Walton, Jodi Scholl, Julie Biddle, Harry Naughton, Tanna Korleski, Sonja Ambrose, Jean Marie Chalik, sister Barb, Judy Olson

Those living in care facilities:
Bill Durspek (Terrace Glen);
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)



LCR Painting Group

Those in military service:

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

Those who mourn:

- Sue Anderson, on the death of her brother Chuck's wife Marie.

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



Several Resurrection folks checked in at Camp Chisomo in Malawi last month.



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 May 2023

| | <u>May</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> | <u>One Year Ago</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund Receipts | \$ 60,553 | \$349,445 | \$342,681 |
| General Fund Expenses | \$ 58,110 | \$312,298 | \$281,106 |
| <u>Cash Balances</u> | <u>05/31/23</u> | | <u>05/31/22</u> |
| General Fund | \$221,108 | | \$187,011 |
| Clearing Accounts | \$ 71,786 | | \$ 59,241 |
| Property Reserve | \$ 64,947 | | \$ 50,780 |

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2023 budget!
Giving at the end of May was at 96.1% of pledges.



Church Council

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, June 20, 2023.
May Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: LCR still in the positive for the year. Have been able to make most of the electronic sign payments from donated money clearing account instead of general budget.

Pastor Jeff: Programming continues during the summer, sometimes with new and different things.

Pastor Nate, Governance: no report.

Stewardship: Redistribution of Congregational Assets - some money has been moved to Collins Community Credit Union, to a high-yield savings account and several CDs.

Social Concerns: Shoe Drive and Beef Drive went well. Currently collecting juice boxes and serving at FLY lunches. Upcoming Backpack Drive.

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

Outreach: Car Cruise-in is happening. Garden is planted and scale obtained for weighing produce.

Property: REC is changing to zoned billing - looking into how we will be impacted. Carpet will be torn out on 6/26 and replaced in mid-July.

Old Business: Church Picnic on Sunday, July 2nd from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

New Business: *Clavinova Replacement* - money will come from music-designated memorials. *Asset Report* - After an audit, we appear to be adequately covered by insurance. *Wee Wisdom Preschool* - Motion "that LCR continues to work with Wee Wisdom Preschool on continued oversight of financials."

Next Meeting: July 18, 2023

Agenda items should be submitted by 7/10/23. Copies of council minutes and treasurer's reports are available in the church office binder.

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

(address service requested)

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Marion, Iowa
Permit #11



LCR Car Show
Saturday, July 29 | 2-4 pm

POOL PARTY!
Sunday, July 16
5:15 - 6:45 pm

LCR VBS + DAY CAMP
2023 VBS: July 11 - 14; 9:00 - 11:30 am
VBS is for those entering Pre-K - 1st Grade for Fall 2023
2023 Day Camp - July 31 - August 3; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Day Camp is for those entering 1st - 6th grade for Fall 2023
Register now at LCRMarion.org or call 319.377.4689
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection; 3500 29th Ave - Marion, Iowa

NEIGHBORHOOD Nights
FREE FOOD! | FREE FUN!
MAY 20 | JUNE 24 | JULY 29 | AUGUST 26 | SEPTEMBER 23
JOIN US FOR A FREE MEAL, BOUNCE HOUSE FUN AND MORE AT 5 PM
NEIGHBORHOOD-NIGHTS.COM | 3500 29TH AVE, MARION

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

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, Mu Ruo

