

"You may eat what the land yields during its Sabbath - you, your male and female slaves, your hired and your bound laborers who live with you, 7 for your livestock also, and for the wild animals in your land all its yield shall be for food." *Leviticus 25.6*

Every once and a while I'll come across an article talking about the importance of Sabbath rest. As a young pastor, one is often encouraged to remember that since 'you work on Sunday, you need to find a time of Sabbath that works for you." Fair enough, it is indisputable that rest is an inherent part of creation and therefore very good.

But it seems to me that too often the idea of Sabbath gets translated as 'vacation.' Or exclusively time for oneself. Now don't get me wrong, as you are reading this I'm either planning or in the midst of taking some days off from my usual work and time for rest is certainly good and holy. Nevertheless I wonder if our idea of Sabbath can be expanded to include the care of and co-existence with all of creation.

Did you notice in the passage above, which is talking about the idea of giving your land a Sabbath every seventh year (you work the land 6 years and on the 7th year you simply allow it to go fallow); that the benefit of Sabbath is for those



outside of one's usual sphere of daily concern. Sabbath is to bless your servants/slaves (I know this is problematic), your hired laborers, your livestock and even the *wild animals*, not to mention the *land* itself!

In other words, part of Sabbath observance is to remember the relationship we have not only with our neighbor but with the critters, the land, the very ecosystem upon which creation is sustained. This sounds a lot like environmental care and conversation to me. We might have different understandings of

climate and the impact of humanity on the environment; but there is no getting away from the fact that we are called to remember our connection and responsibility to care for all of creation.

So I encourage you to do something this month to care for the world, to appreciate the wonder and beauty of creation, to remember that part of our Sabbath is to live in harmony with the created order - not to exploit it. May we never take for granted the beauty and wonder of God's world.

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https://tinyurl.com/ LCRYouTube

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 New Day" Worship & Meal

You are invited to an evening celebrating unity with First Light Christian Fellowship on **Wednesday, August 16**! We'll share a meal and experience worship together. The meal will start at 5:00 pm. Meat will be provided, and we invite you to bring a dish to share. Worship will start at 6:00 pm, featuring special music from participating congregations.



Aloha Sunday - August 20th - Aloha Week!



If you have ever traveled to Hawaii you know that Aloha is used as both a welcome and a form of goodbye. But it is also a noun that sums up a feeling of love, family and friendship. Aloha means living in harmony with the people and land around you with mercy, sympathy, grace, and kindness. It is not something that is spoken, but rightly it is something that is experienced!

Aloha is similar to what we do as a church. We love one another, we live in a spirit of family and friendship, and we extend grace and mercy to one another in times of joy and sorrow.

So, LET'S CELEBRATE our ALOHA Spirit here at LCR! **Sunday, August 20** the KONA ICE truck will be here between 9:30 and 10:30 am offering FREE Kona Ice for everyone at worship! You will receive a Lei and we hope that you'll feel free to wear your best Hawaiian shirt or tropical attire. Flip flops are encouraged! We'll also have the same spirit of Aloha on **Wednesday night, August 23** - minus the Kona Ice truck.

Ministry

Deployed Soldiers Care Packages



The Thrivent Mississippi Valley Community is collecting care packages for local deployed soldiers, and they invite you to join in this project. 152 local soldiers are currently posted overseas - let's send them a big message of care and support from home!

Help by donating these individually packaged items for our soldiers: travel size lotion/shower gel/shampoo/toothpaste, lip balm, deodorant, flavored water enhancer packets, granola bars/ trail mix, snacks (pretzels, nuts, crackers, Rice Crispy bars, Chex Mix), candy (gummy, sour, hard, Twizzlers, Skittles), hot sauce (small bottles). *Please avoid chocolate, anything meltable, and meat products.*

Feel free to write personal cards or notes to include in our packages. This means kids, too! Nothing will mean more to our soldiers far away than a few words or pictures from 'back home.'

LCR Raised Bed Garden

Our first garden harvest came to 18 pounds of lettuce, kale, and Swiss chard, which was dropped off at the Churches of Marion Food Pantry. *(see page 10 for photos)*

F.L.Y. Summer Program

LCR members and friends can take part in this 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 - 10:00-11:30 am (10 people needed each day) Lunch Delivery - 11:45 am-12:30 pm (24 people needed each day)

To sign up, use link below or contact the church office and we'll help you get signed up -

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

Habitat for Humanity Marion Build



LCR has been asked to participate in a Habitat for Humanity Faith Build in Marion on **Thursday, August 31 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm**. If you are interested in participating, please <u>sign up</u> <u>online</u> or <u>contact the church office</u>. We'll be working on deck prep, so will need up to 10 volunteers. Half-day commitments are welcome, as are 16 and 17-year-olds, who can take part along with a parent or guardian.

We also need people to provide lunch for the crew! Please contact Marlin Oeltjen with any questions.



Backpacks

Thanks to all who bought & filled backpacks for local students, and to those who donated **\$1,724** to fill even more backpacks!

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/

Your May/June mission envelopes added up to \$1,130 for the Community Free Health Clinic. Thank you!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR



This year our theme at VBS was Mystery Manor and over 40 kids ages 3-6 from our church and beyond shared the week with us. We spent the week uncovering clues about who God is and how he loves us, only to discover that everything we need to know can be found in the bible! Our little detectives had a great time at the snack, game, story and crafts stations.





We had so much fun at VBS this year! A big thank you to all of our volunteers who made the week possible - the kids in our church are so blessed by adults that invest in them!

Summer Verse Challenge

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' counts for little ones doing their best to participate!



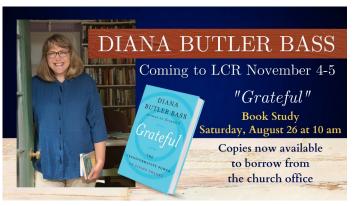
UP NEXT: DAY CAMP

Pray for our next round of campers and the staff from Riverside Bible Camp joining us for Elementary Day Camp this year, from July 31st to August 3rd!

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. Meanwhile, the church will host a book study on her book, "Grateful," on **Saturday, August 26th at 10:00 am**. We have copies available now to borrow in the church office. Find out more at... https://dianabutlerbass.com/books/grateful-thetransformative-power-of-giving-thanks/



Gospel of Matthew Study

Pastor Jeff's Sunday morning Bible study will not meet in August. See you in September 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

<u>Mary Kay Pinckney</u> - 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.

<u>Donna Dennis</u> - We are currently undertaking a deep dive of the 23rd Psalm. We meet at the church on **Thursdays, August 10th and 24th, at 6:30 pm**. Contact Donna at donnakdennis88@gmail.com.

<u>JAM Women's Bible Study</u> will NOT be meeting in August. On **Monday, September 11th**, we'll begin a new study by Adam Hamilton, "Not a Silent Night: Mary looks back to Bethlehem." Imagine Jesus from Mary's point of view - proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person. We'll follow Mary from her beautiful baby's beginning in the stable, throughout his life and ministry, and at the crucifixion & resurrection. There will be 5 sessions, beginning on September 11th. Contact Linda Hayward for further information: lhayward495@yahoo.com.

Small Groups on hiatus until fall:

<u>Dan Tegtmeier</u> - contact Dan: dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.com <u>Rebecca Mary Martha Circle</u> - contact Harriet: keyboreder1@gmail.com <u>Loaves, Fishes, & Faith</u> - contact Mary Jo: maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com

Adult programs on hiatus until fall:

Moms Group - contact Bethany: bgodar@gmail.com Gatherings @ LCR - contact Tom: lillevig@outlook.com

Fellowship



Car Cruise-In

Come **Thursday**, **August 10th 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.

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 - <u>pamkacena@yahoo.com</u>. *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, August 26th 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#/



Train Dominoes

Join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter with Train Dominoes! If you haven't played before, we'll teach you how. We're meeting in the fellowship hall on **Fridays, Aug. 4th & 18th at 1:00 pm**.

LCR Book Club

We'll get together on **Tuesday, August 8th at 6:30 pm**. Our August book will be *"The Invention of Wings"* by Sue Monk Kidd, a fictionalized biographical account of Sarah Grimke, an abolitionist, and her childhood slave, 'Handful'. It takes place in the pre-Civil War era on a plantation in Charleston SC. 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.

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.

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.

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

Hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer!

Stephen Ministry has a shelf of books in our library at LCR. If you are looking for some helpful or inspiring reading for the summer, here are some of the books available to you...

Christian Caring: a Way of Life

This book provides an inside look at the underlying theology and practices of Stephen Ministry

Speaking the Truth in Love: How to be an Assertive Christian

This book presents Christian assertiveness through Jesus' example, guiding people through the challenges they encounter each day. It teaches biblically-based, practical skills for relating to others with greater honesty, compassion, and respect.

Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart; How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering

What do you say to people experiencing suffering in life? How do you keep from making the pain worse? This book offers practical guidance and suggestions for caring in ways that hurting people welcome. This book will help you bring God's presence and care to those who are suffering.

Cancer - Now What? Taking Action, Finding Hope, and Navigating the Journey Ahead

This book helps navigate the medical, emotional, relational, and spiritual challenges you may encounter in helping yourself or a loved one facing cancer.

Stroll in and check it out. *Peace - Mary Hajek*

Wee Wisdom

Fall Is Just Around the Corner...

Wee Wisdom Preschool had so much fun & learning last year and we are looking forward to this fall with lots of new families. We have openings available in our 2-day **and** our 3-day classes. *Tell your friends!* Both groups meet daily from 8:30-11:30 am. Please visit our website for more information, or call me to schedule a tour at 310-350-7438. <u>www.weewisdommarion.org</u>

Thank You!

We want to thank everyone for contributing to our ongoing Hy-Vee receipt fundraiser. We earned \$400 for the '22/'23 school year! You can continue to help us defray our costs by bringing in your Hy-Vee receipts and dropping them at the church office. All local Hy-Vee receipts count, including Gas, Pharmacy, and Fast & Fresh.

Michelle Heidelbauer, WW director



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





Prayers

Prayers are requested for...



Those hospitalized in July: Ryan Corrigan, Marilyn Carstens

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Margaret Wogahn, Ken Lee, Eloise Heppler, Harriet Van Gilder, Betty Young, Arlene Lang, Harry Walton, Linda Christiansen

(family and friends) daughter Kris, Tim Horak, Tim Pefferman, Nancy Wipperman & Jhen, Logan Cigrand family, Merlin & Judy Moser, grand-niece Lydia, Jodi Scholl, Julie Biddle, sister Barb & husband

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)



Pastoral Care - With rules about confidentiality at our hospitals, <u>we will not know</u> that you or your family member is sick or in need <u>unless you contact</u> the church office.

Those in military service:

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

Those who mourn:

- Mary Durspek and family on the death of her husband, Bill Durspek
- Bonnie Conrad on the death of her sister and brother-in-law, Sonja & Les Ambrose
- Melissa Alexander on the death of her mother, Donna Leslie
- Friends and family of Gloria Sommervold, who passed away in February

Those who celebrate:

(recovered) Michelle Shaw, Jon Hajek, Tanna Korleski, Garry Walton, Harry Naughton *(returned from military service)* Aaron Moose

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



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 June 2023

	June	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$ 66,922	\$416,367	\$408,902
General Fund Expenses	57,668	\$369,965	\$344,678
<u>Cash Balances</u> General Fund Clearing Accounts Property Reserve	06/30//23 \$231,126 \$73,344 \$65,780		<u>06/30/22</u> \$190,358 \$ 52,435 \$ 50,780

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2023 budget! Giving at the end of June was at 96.3% of pledges.



Church Council

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

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

High school students went to Blank Park Zoo!



The Council met on Tuesday, July 18, 2023. June Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: Pledged giving slightly behind, but overall cash position increased by ~\$12,000. Enough money has been donated to cover sign payments through the end of 2023.

Pastor Jeff: Successful VBS, and upcoming Elementary Day Camp registration has grown since VBS. August 16th - special worship with First Light Ministry with potluck beforehand. August 20th -Hawaiian Day/Kona Ice scheduled for between services.

Pastor Nate: absent/no report.

Stewardship: see treasurer's report

Governance: no meeting

Social Concerns: Backpack Drive ongoing. Habitat for Humanity build day is August 31st from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

Outreach: Another 18 lbs. of produce collected from the garden recently and donated to Marion Food Pantry. Car Show will be on July 29th.

Property: no meeting

Old Business: *Audit Update* - Wee Wisdom Preschool payroll will begin running through LCR on January 1, 2024.

New Business: *Parking Lot Update* - Have been in contact with the City of Marion regarding future parking lot repairs. Still in negotiation.

Next Meeting: August 15, 2023

Agenda items should be submitted by 8/7/23. 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)



Grace has a close encounter of the giraffe kind!



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CONTACT US!

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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





