

CROSSTALK

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION

WWW.LCRMARION.ORG

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 3 | MARCH 2024

Lent is for Love

“Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3.14

During these 40 days of preparation for Easter we have been using the theme of love. The verse above with 1 Corinthians 13 are often the most used parts of scripture on the topic. As I’ve been reflecting on this theme of love, I have found myself drawn to a quote from Mother Theresa:

“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.”

I find this quote empowering and counter cultural - and I like it! Let’s face it, we live in a ‘supersized’ world. Can you even find a 12 oz fountain drink at Casey’s? I’m not sure, but you can get that 52 oz behemoth! I think culturally we like to go big! We like having the biggest selection, the biggest square footage, the largest screen and the largest crowds. And I must tell you that the church in America is not immune to this desire to super-size the ministry. Or perhaps in a more negative light, the faithful tend to minimize the impact of less than grand endeavors.

This is a mistake.

Don’t judge your effectiveness by the measure of what you think others are doing but by the loving acts, regardless of how small, that you are able to accomplish each day. Let us celebrate the small things that we can do as individuals and as a church, small things that are done with great love. You may never know how much a kind word meant to a parent who was having a tough day. Or how much your word of affirmation and love to a small child compelled them on the journey toward good and healthy self-esteem. Or what about that can of soup you gave to the pantry? Can you imagine the impact that such a gift has when it becomes how a family is able to provide for their children. Or that struggling senior can look at that can of soup and know they’ll have something to eat.

None of these small things are going to capture headlines, but they make a world of difference when they are sown with great love! None of these small actions are going to put you on the cover of TIME magazine or get your name on a “Gold Brick” outside the gates of heaven - but they matter, and they are at the heart of what it means to live out our call to love one another.

We’ve done some big things together - well done! And I’ll never shrink away from a challenge. Nevertheless, I’m proud to be among those who aren’t afraid to think small! And to know that even small things, done in great love, make all the difference!

Peace! Pastor Jeff

Inside this Issue

Adult Faith	5
Children’s Ministry ...	4
Confirmation	9
Council News	11
EDGE Youth	9
Fellowship	8
Ministry	3
Prayers	10
Stewardship	11
Worship	2

Follow Us On Social Media:

 facebook

facebook.com/
ResurrectionMarion/

 Instagram

instagram.com/
resurrectionmarion/

 YouTube

https://tinyurl.com/
LCRYouTube

twitter.com/lutheran_of

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 through our homepage and sign up where it says “Engage” or “Connect.” Alternately, you can contact us at the church office and we will sign you up: 319.377.4689 or office@lcrmarion.org.

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/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwl3ZiDQ44ay4>

Sunday
Children's
Message



Lent is for Love – Wednesday Nights in Lent

Our Lenten theme this year is “Love” and we invite you for the next 3 Wednesdays to gather with us as we ponder what it is to be grounded in love. Soup suppers begin at 5:00 pm and we start worship at 6:00 pm.

March 6 -- Story of Esau forgiving Jacob

March 13 -- Story of Joseph forgiving his brothers

March 20 -- Story of God’s Love for God’s people

Lenten Love Offering - Camp EWALU

This year for our Wednesday Lenten offering we are going to support the “Cedar at 60” campaign at Camp EWALU. Many of us at LCR have benefited from the camp ministry at EWALU - and now we have a opportunity to share the love. EWALU’s Board of Directors has launched the \$2 million “Cedar at 60” campaign to make necessary changes to Cedar Lodge and they have pledged 10% of the goal. EWALU has recently retired all of its long-term debt and so far the Cedar at 60 campaign has surpassed the \$1 million mark. During our soup suppers we will have a container for you to place your financial gifts for this project. Our Living Legacy Fund will be matching up to \$600 for the Lenten offering to the ‘Cedar at 60’ campaign!

Pastor Frank Johnson, Executive Director at EWALU, will be with us to enjoy some soup and greet you all on **Wednesday, March 6th**.



MINISTRY



Personal Care Kits

During the month of March we are collecting **bath towels** and **bars of soap** to assemble personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. These kits help refugees and poverty victims world-wide. Details and our donation bins are in the gathering space.

You may also donate [monetarily online](#) or by cash or check. Please mark your donation "Personal Care Kits." Nail clippers and combs will be purchased with these donations. Thanks to a generous individual donation, we have already have enough toothbrushes for our 2024 drive.

Feel Like a Visit?

Since the Covid lockdown, a number of our members and friends have switched to taking part in services online. While this type of participation is wonderful, sometimes it seems like we've lost some of that important one-to-one contact. If you've been feeling a little too remote from your church family, please let us know and we'll send one of our friendly visiting ministers to come and catch up with you. You matter to God and you matter to us! Call or email the church office: 319-377-4689 or marcia@lcrmarion.org



Quilters

LCR's Comforting Hands quilting group recently donated 74 of their tied quilts to: Willis Dady Homeless Services, Salvation Army, Sleep In Heavenly Peace, and the Freedom Foundation. This group meets on Monday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30 am. You can help us make more warm blankets to share with people in need in our community! *Sewing skills are not required.* Donated fabric and bed sheets are always welcomed, too. (Not meeting 3/25)

March & April Mission Envelopes

Your mission giving will go to Matthew 25, a local nonprofit working to improve lives in Cedar Rapids through quality housing, healthy food, education, and community building. Find out more at...

<https://www.matthew-25.org/>

LENT is for LOVE LCR 2024

Generation to Generation

est. 1961 Ewalu

CEDAR at 60

A CAMPAIGN TO RENOVATE CAMP EWALU'S CEDAR LODGE AND STRENGTHEN THE CAMP'S MISSION.

EWALU Camp & Retreat Center

Free-Will Love Offerings Collected During Our Lent Soup Suppers Will Go To Camp Ewalu's 'Cedar at 60' Fundraiser. LCR's Living Legacy Fund Will Match the First \$600 of Donations!!

Soup Sign-up 2024

Would you bring a crockpot of soup to share at our Wednesday evening Simple Soup Suppers? Just bring your crockpot to church by 5:00 pm and plug it in. You can take your crockpot home at the end of the evening, or pick it up the next day. *Pro Tip: Use a crockpot liner for easier clean up!* We also welcome kid-friendly dishes - mac & cheese, hot dogs, etc. Whatever you decide to donate, please sign up in advance (use link or QR code below). If you know what kind of soup you're going to bring, you can put it in the comments, but surprises are okay, too!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CA8AD2EA7FA7-47322016-lcrsoup>

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

Sunday School

MARCH:

- 3 - EASTER UNIT
- 10 - NO SS, SPRING BREAK
- 17 - EASTER UNIT
- 24 - EASTER UNIT
- 31 - NO SS, EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL:

- 7 - JESUS UNIT
- 14 - JESUS UNIT
- 21 - JESUS UNIT
- 28 - JESUS UNIT

MARCH:

- REGULAR WNL - 6
- NO WNL - SPRING BREAK - 13
- REGULAR WNL - 20
- NO WNL - HOLY WEEK - 27

APRIL:

- REGULAR WNL - 3
- REGULAR WNL - 10
- REGULAR WNL - 17
- REGULAR WNL - 24

Wednesday Night

Coming Up During Lent:

During Wednesday nights in Lent, children and families are invited to join us for a soup dinner before worship! We begin serving at 5:00 and have the soup hot until 6:00. After dinner, we are holding WNL in the education wing during our regular WNL time from 6:00 to 7:00. *There will not be any WNL on March 13 (Spring Break).*

First Communion:

Fourth graders will have communion instruction on Sundays, **March 17th and March 24th from 1:00 to 2:30 pm**. If you don't have your name on the list yet, please reach out to the church office!



Our Sunday School students have been digging through the parable of the House on the Rock by making puppet shows and building their own houses!

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

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP



Brown Bag Study

Join Pastor Nate on **Sunday, March 10th at 12:00 noon** as we explore some big ideas! Bring your lunch to the fellowship hall - we will provide the coffee.

Our topic this session will be "Church and State."



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study



Our regular adult bible study meets weekly on **Sunday mornings at 9:40 am** (conference room). Our current study is 1st and 2nd Samuel. The lives of Samuel, Saul, and David, presented so graphically with all their faults and triumphs, serve as a mirror into our own lives. As we discover how God works in and through these people of the Old Testament, it helps us identify how God is still at work in our lives as well.

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.

Resurrection Small Groups - both Daytime and Evening Opportunities

Mary Kay Pinckney - women's group; **one Sunday evening each month**; meets at leader's NE CR home;
Email: mkpink6@gmail.com

JAM Study Group - women's group; **second Monday each month at 1:00 pm**; meets in the conference room
Email: lhayward495@yahoo.com (Linda) - "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton

Dan Tegtmeier - mixed group; **first Monday evening of the month**; meets at group members' homes
Email: dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.com

Loaves, Fishes, & Faith - women's group; **weekly on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm**; meets in the church lounge
Email: maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com (Mary Jo) - "Journey To the Cross" by Adam Hamilton

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - women's group; **first Wednesday each month at 1:00 pm**; meets in conference room
Email: keyboreder1@gmail.com (Harriet)

Donna Dennis - mixed group; **Thursday, March 14th at 6:30 pm & March 28th at 5:30 pm**; meets at the church
Email: donnakdennis88@gmail.com

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Gatherings @ LCR

...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 at **noon on Friday, March 8th and 22nd**. Light refreshments are offered and topics will be announced in advance.

Contact Tom with questions: lillevig@outlook.com

FELLOWSHIP

Celebrating Evelyn Retirement Party

After 15 years of serving on our LCR staff as Office Manager and Treasurer, Evelyn has officially retired. But don't worry, Evelyn & Les will still be with us here at Resurrection! We invite you to give thanks and celebrate with Evelyn on **Sunday, March 3rd at 9:30 am.**



Mission Trip Palm Sunday Breakfast

We'll have a luscious Sunday breakfast ready for everyone on **March 24th at 9:30 am.** Any donation you can give will defray some of our high schoolers' costs this summer as they serve in Denver.

Candy Bar BINGO!

Come to the church on **Sunday, March 3rd** from **1:00-2:00 pm** for bingo. We play for candy and fun! It is totally free, and all ages are welcome - this is a great opportunity to invite your friends to church.

RSVP and Share on Facebook:
<https://fb.me/e/xyaXVoue1>

Painting Group

Love to paint? Want to learn? Join us on the **1st and 3rd 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: ebeck@imonmail.com

Cribbage

Cribbage players will meet this month on **Friday, March 8th and 22nd at 1:15 pm.** We can teach you if you've never played before. Non-members are always very welcome.

Train Dominoes

We'll meet in the fellowship hall on **Friday, March 1st & 15th at 1:00 pm.** If you've never played Train Dominoes before, this is the time to learn! *If the weather looks iffy, call Tom Peterman before you drive to the church: 319-480-9883*

P.E.P. 55+ Group - Iowa Farming

Genuine Iowa farmer Curt Zingula will share memories, photos, and insights in his presentation, *"From Horses to Horsepower - One Lifetime of Farming Change."* Join us on **Sunday, March 10th at 3:00 pm** for this informative talk. We'll have some light snacks and coffee to share.

Simple Soup Suppers

Join us on **Wednesdays at 5:00 pm** for our Simple Soup Suppers. Donations collected during the soup suppers will go to Camp EWALU's "Cedar at 60" Campaign. *Our Living Legacy (Trust) Fund will be matching all donations up to \$600.*

Book Club

Due to spring break, our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 9th at 6:30 pm.** Our book this time is "Less" by Andrew Sean Greer. How do you get out of town to avoid going to a wedding? On your desk are invitations to literary events around the world, so you accept them all! What could possibly go wrong? *Please return your book to the church office by March 10th - thank you!* Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome - jonmaryhajek@gmail.com

Wood Carvers

...will resume meeting at the church on **Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 pm.** If you haven't done any carving before, we are happy to get you started. Contact Jerry Schierholz if you have any questions about the group: 319-270-3380. All are welcome.

Knitting & Crochet Group

We will resume meeting at the church on **Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 pm.** Join us any Thursday you want to, we meet in the church lounge. If you've never knitted or crocheted before, we will show you how! We have plenty of yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks. Contact Pam if you have any questions:

319-360-5165 or pamkacena@yahoo.com.

Walking Group

We walk **each Thursday at 10:00 am** at Lindale Mall. Please make sure to get on our email list so you'll know where to meet us: marcia@lcrmarion.org

CONFIRMATION

Hello Friends!

We've been having some very absorbing theological conversations this winter, including a study of the Apostles' Creed. On Ash Wednesday we decided to start our evening with some fun games before we moved on to our Valentine-themed conversation about love (1 Corinthians 13).

Here is our schedule for March:

March 6th and 20th - regular classes

March 13th - No Confirmation, Spring Break

March 27th - No Confirmation, Holy Week

Remember that we have our soup suppers starting at 5:00 pm on Wednesdays in Lent. Worship follows at 6:00 pm, and **Confirmation begins at 7:15 pm**.

Our focus during Lent is on worship. We are examining the traditions and theology of our worship services, so attendance at church during Lent will help reinforce what we are learning in class.

Looking ahead

We will hold our Confirmation service on **Sunday, May 19th at the 8:30 service**. We'll have more details to share with our 8th graders as we get closer. Many thanks to Stephanie Meier for offering to organize our 7th graders and families to make the Confirmation Reception happen. Please contact Stephanie about helping:

stephanieameier@gmail.com

Other date to note: **May 8th** - final class

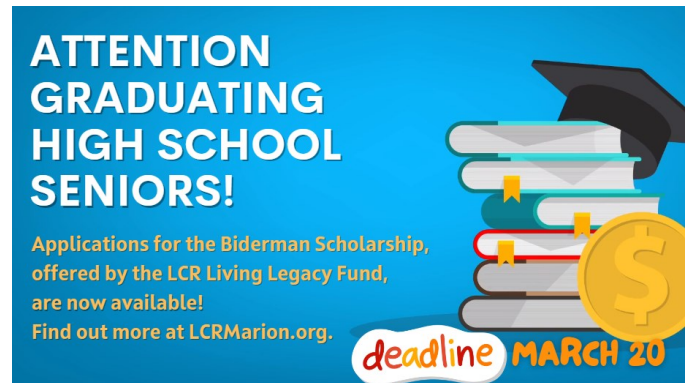
Peace to you all!

text or phone Pastor Nate at 563.320.3995



Come join us **each Wednesday night from 7:30-9:00 pm!** Food, fun, and fellowship with 8th-12th grade students from any school or church. Contact Katie with any questions - katie@lcrmarion.org

See newsletter insert for recent EDGE photos!



Biderman Scholarship Applications

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Living Legacy Committee awards scholarships for graduating high school seniors enrolled at an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school. The committee will award scholarships based upon qualified applicants, number of applications, and funds available. Applications and instructions are now available online and will be **due by March 20th**.

<https://lcrmarion.org/livinglegacy.html>

Questions should be directed to the Living Legacy Fund at trustfund@LCRMarion.org or contact the church office.

First Communion Instruction For Fourth Grade Students

Sunday, March 17
and
Sunday, March 24
1 - 2:30 pm
(attend both sessions)

Please register
with the church office.

LCR VBS + DAY CAMP

2024 VBS: July 9-12; 9:00 - 11:30 am
VBS is for those entering Pre-K - 1st Grade for Fall 2024
2024 Day Camp - August 5-8; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Day Camp is for those entering 1st - 6th grade for Fall 2024
Registration opens on Easter Sunday, March 31

PRAYERS

Prayers
are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized recently:

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Nick Fritz, Linda Erlandson, Gene Henry, Diane Gass, Joan Dutton, Dean & Barb Fick, Arlene Lang, Mike Rossz, Eloise Heppler, Harry Walton, Gary Young, Harriet Van Gilder, Ryan Corrigan

(family and friends) Haley Jensen, Nick Rexroat, Louis Williams, Marge Richardson, Austen Brown

Those living in care facilities:

Marge Dryden, Marilyn Carstens (Terrace Glen); Paul Bendixen (Hall-mar Village); Larry Wogahn (The Views); Bernadean Spilde (Garnett Place); Bill Thompson (Emery Place)



Welcome to our new staff members:
Kailee Thomae and Melissa Riedesel

Please pray for our 2024 Council members:

new: Erin Gochenouer, Steve Coffin, Sally Immerfall, Mark Fredin, Sara Provolt (Treasurer)

returning: Julie Gilmore, Heather Loftsgard (President), Bob Wolter (Vice President), Bethany Mast (Secretary)

Thanks to all for serving!

Those in military service:

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

Those who mourn:

- Dean Schmidt, Cathy Winch, and family on the death of Dean's mom, Ellen Schmidt, in Sioux City IA
- Marcia Oltmanns and family on the death of her brother, Dave Schirm, in Richardson TX

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.

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.

We wish to thank everyone who contributed desserts or helped serve in any way during our daughter, Rachel White's funeral. Your support and kindness meant so much to our family and helped us through this difficult time. We are forever grateful to our church friends. - Laura & Phil White

STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for January 2024

	<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$107,140	\$107,140	\$81,100
General Fund Expenses	\$ 67,083	\$ 67,083	\$64,219
Cash Balances	01/31/24		01/31/23
General Fund	\$287,791		\$211,397
Clearing Accounts	\$ 48,396		\$ 75,380
Property Reserve	\$ 71,613		\$ 61,613

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2024 budget!
Giving at the end of January was at \$104.8% of pledges.

*** to see beautiful photos of our LCR activities ***
<https://www.lcrmarion.org/blog.html>

Digital Giving

Simply Giving - Join 80 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

The Council met on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.
January Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: General Fund pledged giving was 104.8%.
Net income for the month was \$107,139.70.

Pastor Jeff: Strong start to Lent; 180 worshipped on Ash Wednesday. EWALU Executive Director will be with us for worship and supper on Wednesday, March 6th.

Pastor Nate: Confirmation is coming up on Sunday, May 19th at the 8:30 worship service.

Property & Governance: no meetings

Outreach: 72 people at February Bingo. Congregation will have retirement celebration for Evelyn on Sunday, March 3rd.

Old Business: *Staffing Update* - Evelyn is officially retired and new bookkeeper and office manager have both started. *Council Retreat Follow-up*: all council members have chosen a committee to work with

New Business: *Signatory changes* - Council voted to remove Evelyn as signatory and add Sara Provolt. *Audit Committee* - Council will assist with finding a 3rd member for Audit Committee. *Living Legacy* - Council voted to approve Julie Jensen for a new term on Living Legacy. *Insurance rider* - Council voted to approve purchase of insurance rider with Grinnell Mutual to bring deductible for wind/hail events down to \$20,000 per event.

Next Meeting: March 19, 2024

Agenda items should be submitted by 3/11/24.
Copies of council minutes and treasurer's reports are available in the church office binder.

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

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

(address service requested)

**EASTER EGG
SCAVENGER
HUNT!**

SATURDAY, MARCH 30
9 - 11 AM
LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE RESURRECTION
3500 29TH AVENUE
MARION, IOWA
LCRMARION.ORG



celebrate
EASTER
at LCR



NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Marion, Iowa
Permit #11

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
TRADITIONAL MUSIC: 8:00 + 9:30 AM
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: 11:00 AM

cupcake fellowship all morning



**MISSION
TRIP**

breakfast
FUNDRAISER

PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 24
9:30 - 10:30 AM

SUPPORT LCR'S STUDENTS
SERVING IN COLORADO
THIS SUMMER



P.E.P. 55+
*People
Enjoying People!*

**Sunday,
March 10
3:00 pm**

**From Horses to Horsepower:
One Lifetime of Farming Change**

Presentation by Curt Zingula



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: Kailee Thomae - kailee@lcrmarion.org
Bookkeeper: Melissa Riedesel - melissa@lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org
Custodians: Dave Cosgrove, Mu Ruo

