VOLUME 65, ISSUE 7 | JULY 2024

I remember a song that made this claim: "Summertime, and the living's easy."

I can't remember any of my summers being "easy." This is especially true with kids at home. As for me and my house, summer time is when things get intense. We have summer sports camps, training programs, dirtbag trips to the mountains, and family trips to Wisconsin. Easy isn't how I'd describe the summer season. I should also add that I love every minute of it!

Maybe the hectic summer schedule is one of the reasons I am especially grateful for Wednesday and Sunday worship. Gathering for worship allows me, and my family, to take a breath and consider the gifts of God. Summer worship gives me the chance to reconnect with my church family and helps provide a consistently that seems to disappear once the school year is over.

I am happy, and even grateful that summer time is anything but easy. I live for the excitement and treasure the memories that come from long car rides and morning tennis lessons. I thrive once my schedule becomes complicated and overwhelming. I love it!

And yet, I remain grateful that one aspect of my life remains the same. I treasure the permission I have once a week to slow down, gather in community, and praise God from whom all this wonderful, hectic, and beautiful blessing of summer flows.

I treasure you all and thank you for building a congregation centered around worship. I pray that you are enjoying the hectic summer schedule, and I pray that you also find time for sabbath rest and worship.

Yours in Christ, Nate



Camp Chisomo | Malawi, Africa | A place for kids to be kids.

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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.

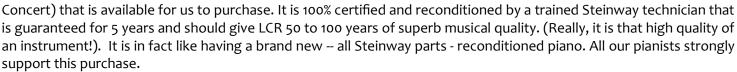
You can sign up for **email alerts** from LCR about worship and other news. Scroll through our homepage and sign up where it says "Engage" or "Connect." Alternately, you can contact us at the church office and we will sign you up: 319.377.4689 or office(at)lcrmarion.org.

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

Stay tuned... Piano woes

You may have noticed -- or maybe not due to our talented pianists - that our current piano in the sanctuary no longer holds a tune for any period of time, leading to costly and ineffective tuning sessions at \$200/each. The cause is a known design failure with this particular piano and, unfortunately, even a repair would not guarantee that the problem would be resolved for any period of time (repair estimate \$8,000). This has led to the piano not sounding professional and making it impossible to produce a quality sound. All of our pianists (Nick, Laurie, Matthew, Ruth, Kent) are in complete agreement that this needs to be addressed.

What to do? Kent Keating with his professional connections has identified a used Steinway piano (it was one of the Steinways here at LCR for the big Mount Mercy



While only a fraction of the price of a new instrument - even one of lesser quality - it is still a \$40,000 purchase. The good news is that we have over half of what we need thanks to the gracious generosity and foresight of Jerry Schierholz, who provided for his church a special gift upon his death (see page 10). Our goal is to have this new piano fully paid for and at LCR by the Fall. Be on the lookout for an opportunity to help us make this a reality. This is not frivolous, but an investment in our ability to offer quality music and worship here at LCR for decades to come.

Please prayerfully consider supporting this project: gifts can be designated to "Piano." Be on the lookout for more information and help us "Stay Tuned!"

Welcome New LCR Members!

Michael & Katie DeBower + Lily | Georgiann Hagen | Terry & Cynthia Johnson Sallie Gaye Landis | Paige Meisheid + Isla, Juliette | Lori Nagle | Marlena Parr | Lisa Peterson Chuck & Tammy Ryther | Jamie & Bryan Ryther + Harper, Finley, Reese | Sandy Sandvick

MINISTRY

Feeding Lunches to Youth (FLY)

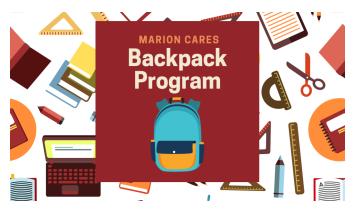
... provided over 24,000 meals to students in need during 2023. Volunteers are needed to help assemble the lunches, and also to deliver them to our sites. You can read more specifics at this link:

https://marionmethodist.org/fly/

This year, volunteers can sign up for **any day of the week**. The online sign-up is at the link below, and it runs through the summer, ending on Friday, August 16th:

https://signup.com/client/invitation2/ secure/11723891900104/false#/invitation

If you would like help signing up, contact the church office



Marion Cares Backpack Program

During the month of July, we'll be supporting the Marion Cares Backpack Program. Students in need from all districts in Marion are given the opportunity to sign up for backpacks. You can help either by adopting backpacks through the online sign-up (link will be posted on LCRMarion.org on July 6), OR, you can donate money, and we will pool our donations to adopt additional backpacks. Be sure to mark your donations "Backpacks." If you plan to donate money, please have your donations in by July 21st so we have time to shop for supplies. If you adopt a backpack, you can drop off the finished backpack at LCR on or before July 28th. Please include the student identification number and packing list in the front pocket of the backpack. Thank you for all the ways you support our community!

FLY Juice Box/Sandwich Bag Drive

We are collecting juice boxes and sandwich bags for the FLY program, which last year provided over 24,000 meals for kids in Marion! We are also accepting monetary donations - please mark them "FLY."



Neighborhood Nights Volunteers

We need YOUR help to make our **July 27th** Neighborhood Nights awesome! We need people to:

* make & bring desserts * help set up & tear down * grill food * serve food * supervise bounce houses You can sign up online through our website or call the office for more info. Thanks for helping!

Marion Schools Shoe Drive

We have been collecting money for the Marion School Foundation's 'Start School Right' Shoe Drive. As of June 19, we had collected \$2,735, which will purchase an estimated 90 pairs of shoes! THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone who contributed. The shoes will be distributed at the SSR event at Starry Elementary School in August.



THANK YOU for your faithfulness and generosity!

Neighborhood Nights donations

This summer we're asking for donations of pop and/or ground beef for our NN events on **July 27th** and **August 24th**. You can drop your donations off at the church office. Thanks for your generosity!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR



Join us this summer for family activities that build a bridge between your life and what we are learning in worship!

Don't forget to take Flat Jesus with you on vacations, trips to the grocery store, library, sporting events or to the park!
Send us your photos or visit the gathering space to share what you have been doing

Questions? Reach out to Jessi via email: jessi(at)lcrmarion.org or by calling the church office.







VBS and Day Camp are Here!

with your Flat Jesus!

There is still time to register - visit the church website for details!

There is still time to volunteer. We will need help with registration and a few other roles, sign-ups will be out for each program this month, or contact Jessi to help!

Pray for us! Pray for our campers and for our leaders... for safety, for joy and connection, for new faces in our building and for love to be known!

Coming Soon...

Open Art Studio for kids! At the end of July and the end of August, we will be opening the red room for some extra craft time. Make the mess here and craft with friends! Keep an eye out for more details on church social media for exact details.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP



<< Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Our regular adult bible study meets weekly on **Sunday mornings at 9:40 am** in the conference room. Our current study is on the Gospel of Mark, presented by Pastor Nate.

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 Daytime and Evening Opportunities

<u>Mary Kay Pinckney</u> - women's group; **one Sunday evening each month;** meets at leader's NE CR home; Email Mary Kay: mkpink6(at)gmail.com (on hiatus; will resume in September)

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

<u>Dan Tegtmeier</u> - mixed group; **first Monday evening of the month**; meets at group members' homes Email Dan: dtegtmeier(at)iowanorthern.com

<u>Loaves, Fishes, & Faith</u> - women's group; **weekly on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm;** meets in the church lounge Email Mary Jo: maryjo.carlson3775(at)gmail.com (Mary Jo) "Women of the Bible" by J.S. Syswerda

<u>Donna Dennis</u> - mixed group; **Thursday, May 9th and 23rd at 6:30 pm;** meets at the church Email Donna: donnakdennis88(at)gmail.com

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - women's group; will resume on Wednesday, September 4th Email Harriet: keyboreder1(at)gmail.com (on hiatus; will resume September 4th)

Gatherings @ LCR ...will resume in September.

Resurrection people were at Camp Chisomo in June. Flat Jesus was there too!



Camp Chisomo

is about bringing dignity and hope to the children of Malawi. Giving them a childhood where barriers are minimized and opportunities are maximized.



FELLOWSHIP

Summer Picnic

On **Sunday, July 7, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm**, enjoy delicious food, outdoor games, and a bounce house with your Resurrection friends. Please bring your crockpot of pulled pork, desserts, or sides to the church <u>by 10:30 am</u> and sign up in advance at...

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/904044CA8AD2EA7FA7-50100974-lcrsummer#/

Pool Party

People of all ages are welcome to join us at the Marion Pool (35th St.) on **Saturday, July 13 from 5:15 - 6:45 pm,** for a chance to splash around and cool off! Students 6th grade and younger should be accompanied by a responsible adult. *Admission is free.*



Tell all your friends & neighbors - TONS of fun for kids, families, and anybody! Enjoy a free dinner, plus desserts, bouncy houses, yard games, and live bands.

July date is Saturday the 27th, starting at 5 pm.

Friday Is Game Day @ LCR

Cribbage - July 12 & 26 at 1:15 pm Train Dominoes - July 5 & 19 at 1:00 pm We can teach you if you've never played before. Non-members are always welcome.

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(at)imonmail.com

Walking Group

We walk **each Thursday at 10:00 am** at Lowe Park or Lindale Mall. Make sure to get on our email list so you'll know where to meet us! marcia(at)lcrmarion.org

4th Annual LCR Car Show

On **Saturday, July 27th, from 2-4 pm**, awesome local cars will compete for awards: Coolest Custom, Best Survivor, Classy Clunker, Cleanest Ride, and Best In Show. Registration is free and all cars and motorcycles are welcome. In addition, there will be live music.



Book Club

We'll get together on <u>Monday</u>, <u>July 15th</u> at 6:30 pm. Our book this month is "The Henna Artist," by Alka Joshi, a portrait of one woman's struggle for fulfillment in 1950s Indian society, as it pivots between tradition and modernity. You can sign out a print copy in the church office or find an online version. Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome. jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com

Car Cruise-In

Meet us in the church parking lot on **Thursday**, **July 11th at 5:00 pm**. Bring your favorite set of wheels, or just come and admire the great rides. Pizza and pop are available for a donation. This is a great event to invite friends and neighbors to!

Knitting & Crochet Group

We meet weekly on **Thursdays at 6:30 pm** in the church lounge. If you've never knitted or crocheted before, we will show you how! We have yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks to share. Contact Pam if you have any questions:

319-360-5165 or pamkacena(at)yahoo.com

Wood Carvers

We gather at the church weekly on **Thursdays at 6:30 pm**. If you haven't done any carving before, we are happy to get you started. All are welcome! Contact John Marion if you have any questions:

319-363-6680 or john1400(at)q.com

MINISTRY

Sheets Needed

Our Comforting Hands Quilters always need donations of clean, good-condition sheets. If you have access to any, please drop them at the church office. Thank you for supporting our ministry!

July & August Mission Envelopes

... will go to the **Churches of Marion Food Pantry**. The Pantry is run by a group of eleven Marion & Cedar Rapids churches organized to meet the emergency food needs of area families. The participating churches supply funds, food, and distribution volunteers. The Pantry is open Tuesday & Thursday afternoons from 1:00 - 3:00 pm and operates from the Mission House of First Presbyterian in Marion.

LCR Garden Update

Our goal for 2024 is to grow ONE TON of produce! Volunteers are very welcome to help us reach this ambitious goal. Contact Larry Edwards -

lwedward(at)hotmail.com

What's Growing In Our Garden?

112 Plants! (Tomato, Pepper, Broccoli, Egg Plant, Kale, Zucchini, Swiss Chard, Cauliflower) 72 Feet! (Radish, Beets, Pole Beans, Thai Soldier Beans) Vine Crops Still to Plant! (Cucumber, Acorn & Butternut Squash)



Water Bottle Ministry



Help us keep the youngsters that play at Butterfield Park from keeling over during this hot summer by donating a package of water bottles for our outdoor Water Pantry. You can leave packages in the entryway any time.

<< Flat Jesus likes water, too!



We have a number of opportunities for high schoolers this summer...

- * Mon, July 1: Des Moines Trip (10 spots available)
- * Wed, July 10: FLY (3 spots available)
- * Wed, July 17: FLY (3 spots available)
- * Mon, July 22: Lost Island Trip (10 spots available)
- * Wed, August 14: FLY (3 spots available)

If students or parents want to reserve a spot, contact Katie Kascel - katie(at)lcrmarion.org.





Wee Wisdom Preschool

Congrats to Wee Wisdom Preschool and director Michelle Heidelbauer for being awarded the ARPA Sti-

pend through the State of lowa. This money will go towards making repairs to the playground, updating the flooring in the preschool, and bonuses for our incredible teachers that are enriching young minds.



PRAYERS

Those hospitalized recently:

Ryan Corrigan, Tom McGovern

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Judi Conrad, Linda Erlandson, Marge Pierce, Deanna Harding, Gene Henry, Eloise Heppler, Arlene Lang, Harry Walton, Gary Young

(family and friends) Chuck Borsheim, Mavis Frey, Shirley Bocock, Merlin Moser, Betty Johnson, Mu Ruo, Jack Shields, Lynne Davis

Those living in care facilities:

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

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 who mourn:

- Wally Lechtenberg and family on the death of his wife Jill
- Family and friends of Sheryl Knodle on her recent death

Those who celebrate:

- Mitch & Jody Hediger, on the birth of their first grandchild, Graham Jacob. Parents are Ben & Katie Hediger
- Lareen & Clark Gull on the birth of their niece Cassandra's new son, Isaac Timothy
- the Van Gilder family on Harriet's 80th birthday and Terry's 90th birthday!

Those in military service:

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

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.



A Legacy of Love - Thank you Jerry

A week before his death, Jerry had a conversation with Pastor Jeff. They talked about a variety of things, practical and spiritual. Jerry wanted Pastor to know that he was leaving a gift for LCR - his church. That he had made arrangements for LCR to be the beneficiary of a life insurance policy that he and Barb had taken out years ago. He asked that the gift be used to make a difference at LCR - that was it. Well, this \$10,000 life insurance policy that had long since been paid off, resulted in a gift of \$21,872.66. This final act of love and generosity will be used as the lead gift to purchase our new piano. For the next 100 years that simple act of generosity will give glory to God and bless us in worship over and over again. In Pastor Jeff's office there is a needlepoint that Barb had done, it hangs on his wall. It simply says what we all know: "Faith, Hope, Love: and the greatest of these is LOVE." Thank God for all the acts of generosity that create a legacy of love.



Jerry & Barbara Schierholz

STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for May 2024

	<u>May</u>	Year to Date	One Year Ago
General Fund Receipts	\$ 52,979	\$415,017	\$416,367
General Fund Expenses	\$ 60,577	\$320,266	\$369,965
Cash Balances	<u>05/31/24</u>		<u>05/31/23</u>
General Fund	\$347,288		\$231,126
Clearing Accounts	\$ 58,112		\$ 73,344
Property Reserve	\$ 74,947		\$ 65,780

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2024 budget! Giving at the end of May was at 104.5% of pledges.

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



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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, June 18, 2024. May Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: General Fund pledged giving is at 104.5%. YTD running ahead income vs. expenses

Pastor Jeff: New bookkeeper has been hired and has starting training. New safe is installed.

Pastor Nate: Focus on education with Book of Mark class on Sundays between services and a new "What's the Big Idea" session coming up.

Property: Wee Wisdom updates are proceeding well. Garage camera is on order.

Social Concerns: Shoe Drive exceeded goal. Juice box and sandwich bag drive to support F.L.Y. is going on currently.

Outreach: Car Cruise-In, Annual Car Show, and LCR Summer Picnic are coming up in July. Check for Sign-Up Genius links or call office if you'd like to help.

Old Business: n/a

New Business: Scouting America Sponsorship - Cub Scout leaders looking at reactivating Troop 89. Piano Purchase - Council approved purchase of restored Steinway piano to replace current piano which does not stay in tune. Accounting Systems Update - Goal to transition to QuickBooks Online by beginning of calendar year. Wee Wisdom Grant Authorization - Council approved distribution of \$28,000 grant for retention bonuses, health and safety expenses, and minor renovation needs as per grant terms.

Next meeting: July 16, 2024

Agenda items should be submitted by July 8, 2024. Copies of council minutes and treasurers' 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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Pastor Nate Montover - nate(at)lcrmarion.org
Children's Ministry: Jessi Lau - jessi(at)lcrmarion.org
Youth Ministry: Katie Kascel - katie(at)lcrmarion.org
Volunteers: Marcia Edwards - marcia(at)lcrmarion.org
Communications: Cari Redondo - cari(at)lcrmarion.org
Office Manager: Kailee Thomae - kailee(at)lcrmarion.org
Bookkeeper: Esther Platt - esther(at)lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office(at)lcrmarion.org
Custodians: Dave Cosgrove, Mu Ruo







