



Let all that you do be done in

1 Corinthians 16:14

Love.



“Let all that you do be done in love.” (1 Corinthians 16.14)

What do you want your legacy to be? This is a question that is at the heart of the Apostle Paul as he’s writing to the congregation in Corinth. His answer is love. (see 1 Corinthians 13) Love of God, love of Christ, love of neighbor, love of the church, love of the world —these are what inform the Christian life and prove to be the only motivations that last. This is the only legacy that never ends. (1 Corinthians 13.8)

As I look around Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, I am overjoyed by the love that flows from you. Planted like a seed, this love, bears fruit here in our community and throughout the world. Thank you. What I have also noticed is that love of God and neighbor leads to joy. We are a joyful church. A community that knows how to laugh and play and how to share generously. Our generosity in love and resources renews our joy and this brings life and energy — after all “God loves a cheerful giver!” (2 Corinthians 9.7) How wonderful is the economy of God!

I believe that Jesus is calling each of us to reach out in love. To stand firm on this foundation and by so doing to discover the joy that he promised to bring. (John 15.11) I hope you smile and are filled with joy as you look through this booklet. Then take hold of the opportunity to live out the love of Christ by committing yourself to our common mission as you bring your gifts before God. These are bold words, and now is the time to live them out: “Let all that you do be done in love.”

Peace!

Pastor Jeff Frohner



The Word of *Love.*

As Paul is finishing his first letter to the church in Corinth — a church that has struggled with many issues, but now has a great opportunity before it — he writes: “Keep alert; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

(1 Corinthians 16.13–14)

And the walls come tumbling down...

As Moses is preparing the ancient people of God to move forward from their wandering into the promised land he tells them: “Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.”

(Deuteronomy 31.6)

When have you needed to hear these same words in your life?

The fruit doesn't fall far from the tree...

Paul seems to be harkening the people of Corinth back to the story of their ancestors by giving a similar charge for them to be “alert, ... firm in the faith, courageous and strong.” In so doing he reminds them that these same traits are needed in every generation.

What people in your family tree have lived out these traits and how have they passed them on to you?

Let it all be done in love...

Why do you think Paul modifies the call to be strong with the admonition to let all that we do be done in love? When have you felt most loved?

Prayer

Dear Lord, help me to be strong and courageous in living out my faith in the world. May love inform all that I do so that others might see your work in me. Amen.



Gifts of Love.

The generous gifts given to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection throughout the year have allowed our ministries to flourish and expand into the greater community.

- Community Outreach Events: Neighborhood Nights, Car Cruise-Ins, 4th Annual LCR Car Show, Candy Bar Bingo, Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, Trunk or Treat, Blessing of the Animals,
- Mission Envelopes: ELCA World Hunger, Catherine McAuley Center, Feeding Lunches to Youth (F.L.Y.), Matthew 25, Community Health Free Clinic, Churches of Marion Food Pantry
- Special Collections: Start School Right Shoe Drive, Midwest Tornado Relief, Hurricane Relief, Marion Cares Socks & Underwear Drive
- “Lent is For Love” Lenten Focus: Supporting Camp EWALU’s Cedar at 60 Campaign
- Raised Bed Gardening Group doubled their garden size and donated 1,305 pounds of produce to The Churches of Marion Food Pantry
- Advent: ELCA Good Gifts/Global Barnyard; “Angels We Have ‘Herd’ on High” Goats
- “Souper Bowl” Sunday: LCR won the Souper Bowl of Caring Trophy for 2nd year
- Marion Lutheran Churches Blood Drives
- Holiday Giving Project: Increased to 12 Families Supported
- Lutheran World Relief Kits
- Mission of Hope Lunches
- F.L.Y. Juice Box & Sandwich Bag Drive
- 50 Backpacks to the Marion Cares Backpack Program
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship
- Advent: “A Wondrous Gift”
- “Gladsome Tidings” Christmas Concert with orchestra and guest musicians
- Lent: “Lent is for Love”
- Clarion Trumpet-Organ Duo Concert
- Festive Worship for Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, Rally Day
- Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals
- New Members Received in December and June
- Speakers: Diana Butler Bass and Matt Skinner, sponsored by the LCR Living Legacy Group
- Coffee with Pastor Nate: Learning About Luther Series
- What’s the Big Idea: Brown Bag Discussion Series
- June Psalm-A-Day Texts
- Biderman Scholarship Awarded to Emerson Fleming and Josephine McRoberts
- Sunday and Wednesday Pastor Bible Studies
- Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Make n’ Takes
- Super Sunday at LCR
- All-Church Breakfasts
- LCR Summer Picnic, BBQ Contest
- Pool Party at the Marion Pool
- Golf Outing
- Family Advent Event
- Staff Recognition
- Super Skate Night for WNL and Confirmation Students
- PEP 55+ Events
- Mom’s Group Outings
- Mt. Mercy University Steinway Piano Concert
- Volunteer Recognition Sunday
- Older Hymns Reunion Luncheon
- LCR Family Movie at the Bijou
- High School Mission Trip: Denver
- Flat Jesus Adventures
- Open Art Studio Evenings
- Youth Activities and Education for Pre-K – 12th Grade: Wee Wisdom Preschool, Sunday School, Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation and EDGE
- Vacation Bible School
- Day Camp
- “Manger Tales” Youth Christmas Program
- Seder Meal for First Communion Students and Families
- First Communion
- Confirmation
- Wednesday Night Live: Surprise Party for Wednesday Worship, Birthday Cake Kits Service Project, Glow Party, Pumpkin Patch Trip
- Special High School Youth Events: Christmas Cookie Baking, Pizza Making, Bowling, Summer Trips, High Ropes Day
- EDGE Summer F.L.Y. Deliveries
- Sunday Gathering Time for Middle and High Schoolers
- Bibles for Students
- Loving Maintenance Provided to LCR Property
- Charter Organization for Boy Scout group

Giving above and beyond in Love.

Our congregation has come together in God's love by sharing gifts to support needs both near and far. Here are a few highlights from some of this year's special campaigns.

MISSION ENVELOPES

\$8,915 Sep. 2023 – Aug. 2024

Our Mission Envelopes have supported ELCA World Hunger, Catherine McAuley Center, F.L.Y., Matthew 25, Community Health Free Clinic, and Churches of Marion Food Pantry.



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Over \$19,000 Dec. 2023 – Oct. 2024

LCR has loved and provided for those in need after tornadoes, hurricanes and during unrest in Ukraine and Gaza. Animals were purchased for the ELCA's God's Global Barnyard and we supported EWALU's Cedar Campaign. Here in Marion, we provided food, shoes, socks, underwear, juice boxes, and filled backpacks.



GRAND PIANO CAMPAIGN

Over \$45,000

Our congregation generously supported the purchase of a new Steinway Grand Piano, which will grace our sanctuary with beautiful music for many years to come.



ONE-TIME SPECIAL GIFT

\$1,300

Our 2024 one-time gift was collected to support our Wee Wisdom Preschool. A much-needed renovation was completed with fresh paint, reconfiguring of cabinetry (lovingly completed by our handy members), and new flooring.

Please consider participating in our 2025 one-time gift to support The Churches of Marion Food Pantry, an important partner that serves the needs of the hungry in our local community.



So many ways to give in *Love.*

At Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, we accept and appreciate gifts in many forms. We rely on your annual commitments to keep the lights on, pay our staff, fund programming and provide for many ministries and charities we support as a congregation.

COMMON WAYS TO GIVE.

- **Weekly Envelopes** — Checks may be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church: Lutheran Church of the Resurrection; 3500 29th Ave; Marion, IA 52302.
- **IRA Qualified Distribution** — If you are 70 ½ and have an IRA account, you may be able to write a check direct from your IRA account that qualifies as an IRA qualified distribution (QCD). QCDs usually count as part of your minimum distribution but are excluded from your adjusted gross income.
- **Simply Giving** — Join 80 LCR families who give regularly through automatic withdrawal. This electronic funds transfer (EFT) program is a tremendous help in providing steady support to LCR. You have the option to donate weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly through Simply Giving. The authorization form is on the back of your commitment form.
- **Digital Giving** — Visit LCRMarion.org/giving. When you click on the “Donate” button, you will have the option of donating via PayPal or using your debit or credit card.



PayPal: Use the QR code or use the donate button on LCRMarion.org/giving



Venmo: Use the QR code or search for @LCRMarion (Resurrection Lutheran)



Giving a lifetime of Love.

GIVING A LEGACY.

Other types of gifts and planned giving can leave a legacy. Though the options are endless, here are some ways to leave a legacy.

- **Appreciated Assets** — Land and real estate, works of art and other types of personal property as well as stocks, bonds and mutual funds.
- **Retirement Accounts** — Naming Lutheran Church of the Resurrection as a beneficiary on an IRA or pension account allows a distribution at death to pass tax-free to the church.
- **Life Insurance** — Give the cash value accumulated in a policy, the annual dividends of a policy, or designate the church as the beneficiary of the policy.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars** — If you're a Thrivent member, you may allocate all or a portion of your Choice Dollars to LCR. You must initiate this donation directly with Thrivent. Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice for more info or to direct a distribution.
- **Bequests or Planned Giving** — There are a variety of ways to give through trust funds, which have advantages for short-term and long-term giving, as well as taxes.
- **Donor-Advised Fund** — You may be able to set up a donor-advised charitable fund to bunch several years' contributions to maximize your charitable tax deduction. When you contribute cash, securities or other assets to a donor-advised fund sponsoring organization, you are generally eligible to take an immediate tax deduction. Then, those funds can be invested for tax-free growth, while allowing you to continue to support Lutheran Church of the Resurrection annually.
- **Make an unrestricted gift, or designate the LCR Trust Fund, in a will or trust** — This allows a person to make a significant contribution that may not have been possible during life. A financial advisor can detail the plans available for giving to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection through various trusts.

Assistance with Giving Options

Consideration to the special ways of giving described in this pamphlet can lead to action that will greatly benefit the congregation's work and ministry and be of personal benefit as well. If you need more information or assistance with making creative gifts to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, please email Joan Meyer, our recording secretary, at recording.sec@LCRMarion.org.

All of the topics in this brochure should be discussed with your tax advisor.

Your commitment to *Love.*



- 1, **Begin with Prayer** — Thank God for blessing you and ask for guidance and discernment. Recognize that your offerings express both your desire to serve the Lord and your investment in God's work.
- 2, **Assess Your Finances** — Take a look at your annual income and your budget. How is your faith reflected in your spending?
- 3, **Step Up and Make a Commitment** — Determine the percentage of your income you will give in the coming year, stepping up that percentage by 1% to 3%. If you are not yet tithing (giving 10%), consider increasing the percentage you are giving each year until you reach ten percent. Complete either the Online Commitment Form at LCRMarion.org or a printed Commitment Form with your projected annual offering (and one-time gift to Wee Wisdom, if desired). Remember your annual commitment of tithes and offerings supports Resurrection's ministries both within and outside the walls of our church.
- 4, **Consider How You Give** — Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), online, cash, check, IRA charitable distributions and appreciated stock are all giving options. Simply Giving EFT is one convenient way to give your tithes and offerings, and it ensures that even if you're unable to make it to church physically, offerings are received. It is also the most cost-effective method of giving to the church.
- 5, **Worship with Gratitude** — In thanksgiving for all of God's gifts, we ask you to return the commitment card by the week of the 24th of November. This is an opportunity as a congregation to express our gratitude to God and renew our commitment to being God's stewards in the world.

We rejoice in the fact that people have many different gifts and that the sharing of financial resources is only one of those. Your time and talent are a valuable gift that we appreciate. Regardless of any financial pledge, we hope you will return the enclosed "Commitment Card" so that we know you have received this packet as it helps with our overall effort.

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION