

CROSSTALK

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION

WWW.LCRMARION.ORG

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 5 | MAY 2025

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but some doubted."
Matthew 28.16-17 NRSV

Here at the end of Matthew's Gospel, right before the giving of the "Great Commission," we get this rather honest insight into the life of the disciples. There is some debate whether "distazozo" should be translated as "doubt" or perhaps more like "a confused uncertainty." I'm OK with using doubt because I don't think they are doubting the fact that Jesus is in front of them, I think they are doubting their own ability to understand what this is going to mean.

After all the resurrection changes everything. It challenges what they thought they knew and calls into question how they are to move forward with their lives. That seems to me a valid concern. I too, sometimes am not sure what my faith is going to require of me.

But here is where I receive great comfort. Despite their uncertainty we are told that they did two things: 1) they were obedient, going to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them; 2) they worshiped him. I like that. Obedience does not require certainty. For instance, I am commanded to love my neighbor. I'm not always sure this is a good idea and sometimes I don't want to love my neighbor - I am, well, uncertain. Obedience helps me to navigate my doubts and uncertainties by allowing faith in Jesus to be bigger than my personal inclinations.

Likewise, worship does not require certainty. In fact, in worship I encounter that which I can never fully comprehend. In Jesus, the infinite God of the universe is pleased to dwell in the finite human constraints of time and space. Awe. Wonder. Amazement. Humility. Any of the previous words are closer to my experience of God, than certainty. Again, it is faith that draws me to worship the unknowable fullness of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

So, if you have some doubts or uncertainty, you are in good company. How do we manage that? Like followers of Jesus always have: Obedience and Worship.

Peace!
Pastor Jeff



First
Communion
students
April 2025

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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>

Welcome RALPH KENDRICK, Contemporary Worship Director

We have been seeking an individual who brings expertise in worship leadership, understanding of modern worship trends, humility, love of the Lord, and a passion for helping us provide the very best worship experience all to the glory of God - and as the scriptures remind us, “God will provide!”



Ralph Kendrick is a composer, arranger, and multi-faceted performer with wide-ranging musical interests. For the past 7 years he has served as a bassist, keyboardist, guitarist, vocalist, and worship leader for faithlife (previously known as St. Mark's Lutheran church) in Cedar Rapids. Ralph currently maintains a small studio of 13 students, teaching piano, guitar and vocal lessons. He has been married to his wife Lynne for over 30 years and together they have two adult children - Ashley and Zachary. Ashley is in her first year of law school at the University of Iowa. Zachary is in his first year of college at UNI, where he is studying music education.

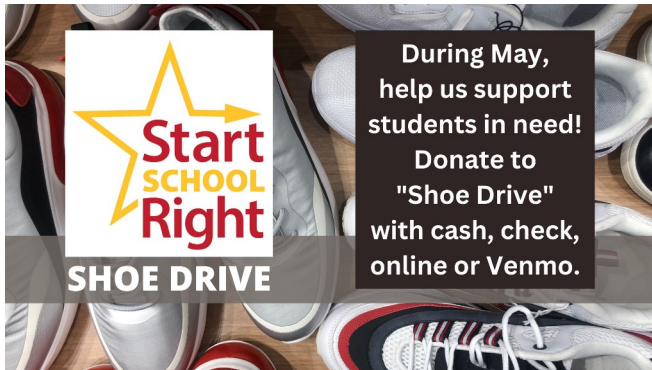
Ralph will serve as our Contemporary Worship Leader, Children's/Youth choir director (coming in the fall), and Manager of our Audio/Visual assets. *Help us welcome Ralph to LCR!*

Interested in becoming a Member of LCR? - Join us!

Members of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection are those folks who are committed to helping LCR carry out our mission in the world. They claim LCR as their church home and offer their support in a variety of ways. Members are also given the responsibility to vote on matters of concern for the congregation including budgetary and leadership decisions. And yet, mostly members are folks who pray for LCR and walk together as a faith community proclaiming God's love for the world. We will be holding two different opportunities to hear more about membership: **May 4th and May 18th, both at noon** in the sanctuary. You need only come to one of these sessions. For more information please contact the church office.



MINISTRY



May Ministry - Shoe Drive

During May, we will be supporting students in need through the “Start School Right” program. The money that you donate will be used to purchase shoes to be distributed to students in need of shoes for recess and gym class for the start of the school year. You can give using cash/check, [online](#), or Venmo - please mark your donation ‘Shoe Drive.’ Our goal this year is to collect \$1,800, which would purchase an estimated 60 pairs of good-quality shoes.

Start School Right is operated by members of the Marion Independent School District staff and community volunteers who come together to meet the needs of children in the community.

Thank you for all the ways you help those in need!

Care Kit Assembly

THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Lutheran World Relief Care Kits! A wonderful group of volunteers assembled 270 kits on April 6th.



Pancake Breakfast

We'll have a pancake breakfast on **Sunday, May 4th** to celebrate the last day of our awesome Sunday School ministry. If you can help out by donating some food, please sign up online (link below), or by calling the church office. Thank you so much!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CA8AD2EA7FA7-56163469-2025#/>

May & June Mission Envelopes

...are going to the **Community Free Health Clinic** in Cedar Rapids. CFHC provides free medical, dental, vision, and prescription services for those without access to, or the ability to pay for, healthcare in our community. CHFC never charges for services and is funded through the generosity of caring people in this area. <https://www.communityhfc.org/>

LCR Raised Bed Garden



We had a great work day in early April. Helpers came with wheelbarrows and shovels so we could haul and fill beds with compost and amendments. We subsequently started planting our cold crops. If you want to help out or have

gardening questions, feel free to talk to Larry Edwards or Ann Godar in person or by contacting the church office.

Mission of Hope Team

...served just over 100 people for our April lunch. They loved the home-cooked food!

Thanks to all who cooked, donated beef, transported, served, and baked. Our next MoH lunch will be in June.



LCR Summer Camps

Please save the following dates to volunteer at LCR this summer:

VBS: July 8-11 ~ Day Camp: August 4-8 | We'll need a number of people to make it all happen.

Serving in this way is great way to share God's wonderful message and it is SO FUN!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

Sunday School

MAY 11 - 2ND GRADE BIBLES

4 - LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

11 - NO SS - MOTHERS DAY EVENT

Wed. Night Live

all ages...
see page 8 for
Make & Take
Craft event

MAY:

REGULAR WNL - 7

LAST DAY OF WNL - 14

Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live are coming to a close for the school year! We finished up our units on the Fruit of the Spirit and have been having some messy fun in both programs while learning about Jesus.



summer programs

Save the Date!

Register at lcrmarion.org now!

Pre-K & Kinder. VBS: July 8th -11th
(for those entering PreK-1st grade
in the fall of 2025)

Elementary Day Camp: Aug 4th-8th
(for those entering 1st-5th grade
in the fall of 2025)

Contact Jessi with
any questions
[childrens\(at\)
lcrmarion.org](mailto:childrens(at)lcrmarion.org)

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Law and Gospel: A Practicum!

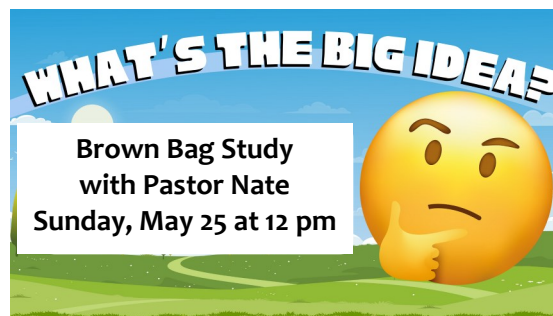
Sunday Morning Adult Study, 9:40 - 10:30 am in the conference room

In Lutheran theology, "Law" and "Gospel" are distinct but interconnected concepts used to understand the Bible and God's relationship with humanity. The "Law" reveals God's demands and exposes human sinfulness, while the "Gospel" proclaims God's grace and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Join Pastor Jeff on Sunday morning as we look at both Law and Gospel and how this Lutheran understanding can provide a balanced and faithful way to be ambassadors of Christ.



Brown Bag Study: The Freedom of a Christian

Join Pastor Nate on **Sunday, May 25th at 12:00 noon** as we explore some big ideas! Bring your lunch to the fellowship hall and we'll provide the coffee.



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 - Day and Evening opportunities

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - women's group; **first Wednesday each month at 1:00 pm**; meets at the church

Email Lareen: clgull57(at)yahoo.com

JAM Study Group - women's group; **second Monday of each month at 1:00 pm**; meets at the church

Email Linda: lhayward495(at)yahoo.com | current study "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23"

Donna Dennis - mixed group; **2nd & 4th Thursdays at 6:30 pm**; meets at the church

Email Donna: donnakdennis88(at)gmail.com

Dan Tegtmeier - mixed group; **first Monday evening of each month**; meets at group members' homes;

Email Dan: dt egtmeier(at)iowanorthern.com

Mary Kay Pinckney - women's group; **one Sunday evening each month**; meets at leader's CR home;

Email Mary Kay: mcpink6(at)gmail.com | current study "The Women of Christmas"

Gatherings @ LCR

'Gatherings' is a place and time to hear and share stories, and connect with others in our community.

It is a place where you can feel safe to say what you really think or feel without being judged or rejected.

Gatherings meet on **2nd & 4th Fridays from noon to 1:00 pm**.

Everyone is welcome and beverages & snacks are offered. *Our topics this month will be...*

Friday, May 9th: Mary Hajek presents "What Is a Conclave?"

Friday, May 23rd: Tom Lillevig; topic to be announced

Feel free to contact our organizer Mary with any questions: jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

FELLOWSHIP

Pancake Breakfast

We'll have a pancake breakfast on **Sunday, May 4th** to celebrate the last day of our awesome Sunday School ministry. Join us starting at **9:30 am** and feel free to bring friends!



If you can help by donating additional food items, please sign up online - see page 3 for link.

Car Cruise-In Is Back!

Car Cruise-Ins make their big return on **Thursday, May 8th at 5:00 pm**. Bring your favorite set of wheels, or just come and admire the great rides. Pizza and pop will be available for a donation, **starting at 5:00 pm**. *This is a great event to invite friends and neighbors to!*

LCR Book Club

We'll get together on **Tuesday, April 8th at 6:30 pm**. Our book this month is "Shark Heart: A Love Story," by Emily Habeck, a novel of marriage, motherhood, metamorphosis, and letting go. This intergenerational love story begins with newlyweds Wren & Lewis. Lewis, over the course of nine months, transforms into a great white shark! Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome.

jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com

Wood Carvers & Knitters

Carvers and knitters/crocheters meet weekly at the church on **Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm**. Bring your latest projects to work on. Woodcarvers meet in the red room and knitters/crocheters in the church lounge. *If you've never tried yarncraft or carving before, now is the time to learn!* Feel free to jump in any Thursday you can, we'll show you how it's done.

carving - john1400(at)q.com

knitting - PamKacena(at)yahoo.com

Cribbage Group

Join us on **2nd & 4th Fridays at 1:15 pm** for two or three games of cribbage. We are happy to teach you if you've never played before. Non-members are always welcome.

Mothers Day Make & Take Craft

Everyone is welcome to get crafty with us on **Sunday, May 11, any time between 9:30 am and 12:00 pm!** We will be making mini button bouquets with matching vases! We'll provide the materials, you make them special :-)



PEP 55+ Spring Potluck

Let's wrap up our year of great get-togethers with a spring potluck! Bring a dish to share on **Sunday, May 18th at 4:30 pm**. Beverages will be provided.



Painting Group

Love to paint? Want to learn? Join us on the **1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 pm** in the art room. This group is open to adults painting in a variety of mediums - acrylic, watercolor, oils, etc. If you have questions, or if you haven't painted before, please contact Evelyn: ebeck(at)jimonmail.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!

volunteerLCR(at)lcrmarion.org

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes meet on
Wednesday evenings from 7:15-8:00 pm
in the fellowship hall (7th - 8th grade)

I have had an awesome year partnering with parents and caregivers in the important ministry of faith development of our 7th and 8th graders. Confirmation remains one of the best parts of my work at LCR, and I appreciate all that everyone has done to connect our students to the life and work of LCR!

Our final Confirmation class this year is **Wednesday, May 14th**. For our last several weeks of class, we'll encourage our 8th graders to spend time with the EDGE high school youth group. We accomplish this by having the 8th graders join EDGE for a portion of the Confirmation class period. This is always a fun transition and it is our hope that our Confirmation students will find EDGE a joyous spiritual home as they enter their high school years.

Confirmation Service (Affirmation of Baptism) will be held at the **10:30 service on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th**. We'll have opportunities for individual and group photos on the 8th, and our 7th grade parents are taking the lead in hosting the reception.

Feel free to call or text Pastor Nate with questions:
563.320.3995

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sunday Middle School Fellowship
9:40-10:25 am in the fellowship hall

Middle school kids have been gathering **between worship services on Sunday** to share in a time of fellowship. Together we play games, talk about life, and make treats.

Middle Schoolers (and high schoolers, too!), please know that you are invited and welcome to join us in our Sunday morning fellowship times.

Neighborhood Nights!
Save these dates:
June 28, July 26, Aug. 23



EDGE YOUTH

EDGE Youth meet on Wednesday nights
in the YAC from 7:30-9:00 pm (9th - 12th grade)

In April, we created with Legos, made compliment collages for one another, and found ourselves playing games and singing karaoke. Earth Day inspired us to discuss Creation Care and ways that we can be good stewards of this planet and all the beings upon it. May will be spent in fellowship with one another as we enjoy our last few weeks of EDGE before summer starts. Our last day of EDGE for the 24-25 School year will be on **Wednesday, May 21st at 7:30 PM**. All incoming freshmen are invited to join us for the entire duration of the evening as well as during our Summer Activities. This summer, we will be focused on gathering during a few fun fellowship days and several volunteering opportunities. *Be sure to sign up for EDGE at lcrmarion.org/ministries to receive updates!*

The Mission Trip team is SO GRATEFUL for all of those who brought egg bakes, cinnamon rolls, and fruit to our Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast! (below) To all of those who donated both their time and money towards raising funds - we are incredibly gracious. With your help, our lodging and transportation costs have been completely covered, and we were able to help offset additional costs for families. We are looking forward to a transformative week in Nashville and your support for these young people is immeasurable.

We are still seeking donations of used Matchbox cars, Hot Wheels tracks, LEGOs, old magazines, or containers to be used as drums for youth activities. Thank you for your consideration!



- Hannah | [youth\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:youth(at)lcrmarion.org)



PRAYERS

Those hospitalized recently:

Sharon Lang, Ryan Corrigan

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Betty & Gary Young, Evelyn Garrett, Erv Oltmanns, Les Beck, Julie Jensen, Betty Bendixen, Phyllis Gordon, Mary Possehl, Everett Lehrman, Eloise Heppler, Deanna Harding, Gene Henry

(family and friends) Damian Pierce, Alan Engelhart, Charles Borsheim, Teresa McLaughlin

Those living in care facilities:

Bernadean Spilde (Garnett Place)
Bill Thompson (Emery Place)
Larry Wogahn (The Views)
Marge Dryden (Terrace Glen)

Those who mourn:

Family and friends of past LCR member Liz Zwanziger

Those in military service:

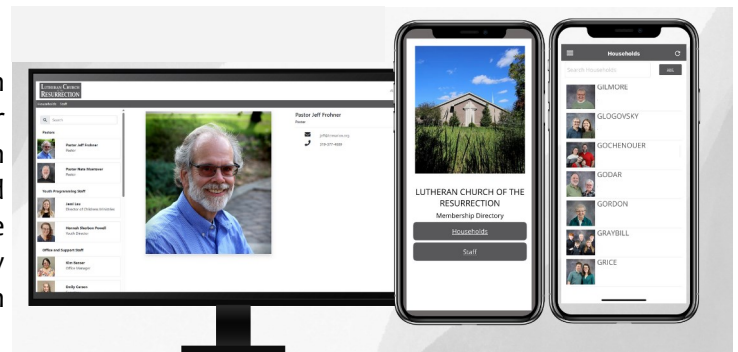
Todd Kopperud, Wyatt Ochs, Taylor Johnson

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.

LCR Church Directory

Thank you to everyone who has helped make our new church directory a reality! Those who have had their photo taken or submitted a photo for the directory should have received an email with instructions for accessing the online directory and the phone app. The online directory and phone app will be constantly updated - you are always welcome to send in a new photo and update your contact information. Contact Cari with any questions: [Communications\(at\)LCRMarion.org](mailto:Communications(at)LCRMarion.org).



*A gentle reminder... please respect the privacy of our church family members.
The church directory should never be used for marketing or solicitation.
Never share your personal login credentials. Thank You!*

WEE WISDOM PRESCHOOL



Spring is here! We spent April looking for signs of spring and learning the story of Easter. We had exciting Egg Hunts! Our pretend center turned into a flower shop, and we examined seeds in our science center. Parents came in for conferences so we could show off all we've been learning this school year.

We are currently accepting registrations for next fall.
Please help us spread the word about this great program.
<https://www.lcrmarion.org/wee-wisdom-preschool/about-wee-wisdom.html>

*<< Spring isn't just about ladybugs and flowers,
it's also the beginning of construction season!*

STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for March 2025

| | <u>March</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> | <u>One Year Ago</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Receipts | \$95,766 | \$298,327 | \$263,218 |
| Expenditures | \$68,474 | \$216,861 | \$192,104 |
| <u>Cash Balances</u> | <u>03/31/25</u> | | <u>03/31/24</u> |
| General Fund | \$245,306 | | \$107,919 |
| Property Reserve | \$80,780 | | \$73,280 |
| Savings | \$261,455 | | \$249,844 |

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our budget.

Digital Giving

* **Simply Giving** - Join 82 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.

* **Venmo** - Smartphone app for sharing money @LCRMarion



Augusta Victoria Hospital - Jerusalem Lenten Soup Offering

A huge thank you to everyone who was able to donate toward the ministry of the Lutheran World Federation's hospital, Augusta Victoria in East Jerusalem. Our total contribution, with the generous support of the Living Legacy Group, was \$6,152.61 (a clerical error had an erroneous earlier amount). This will positively impact their ability to care for those who are often forgotten and without hope. Well done, LCR!

<< Dr Khadra Salami, pediatric oncologist at Augusta Victoria Hospital

CHURCH COUNCIL

*Please reach out with
questions or concerns.*

The Council met on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.
March Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved.

Treasurer: 25K surplus for March. No major variances between budgeted and actual income or expenses.

Pastor Jeff: *Staffing updates* - Ralph officially started; his first Sunday leading worship will be Easter.
A pre-interview is scheduled for potential organist.
Lenten Wrap-up - Lenten offering designated for Augusta Victoria Hospital collected ~\$8,700.
First Communion - 20 kids will have first communion on Maundy Thursday.

Property: We are compiling a list of future projects.

Outreach: Record-setting Bingo in April with ~75 participants. End-of-Sunday-School pancake breakfast will be held on May 4th. Car Cruise-Ins begin on May 8th.

Governance: Will begin working on employee manual updates. Online church directory privacy policy was voted on and approved by council.

Old Business: Neighborhood Nights will be held in June, July, and August.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Agenda items should be submitted by 5/12/25.
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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Neighborhood
Nights!

Save these dates:
June 28, July 26,
August 23



CONTACT US!

office hours:

Monday - Friday,
9 am - 4 pm

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Pastor Jeff Frohner - [PastorJeff\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:PastorJeff(at)lcrmarion.org)
Pastor Nate Montover - [PastorNate\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:PastorNate(at)lcrmarion.org)
Childrens/MS Ministry: Jessi Lau - [childrens\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:childrens(at)lcrmarion.org)
Youth Ministry: Hannah Sh. Powell - [youth\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:youth(at)lcrmarion.org)
Emily Carson - [secretary\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:secretary(at)lcrmarion.org)
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Custodians: Dave Cosgrove, Dave Steifner

