

CROSSTALK

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION

WWW.LCRMARION.ORG

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 7 | JULY 2025

“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share”

1 Timothy 6.18

Yes, I’m a tither, but what does that mean? I think sometimes in the church we are too shy talking about this spiritual practice. The following comes from a friend of mine, Eric Elnes, in a sermon he gave at First Congregational Church of Eugene, OR on June 22, 2025. I thought it was spot on. What do you think? Worship of Jesus is easy, following him is often harder!

“Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:21) He didn’t say it the other way around. He didn’t say, “Where your heart is, your treasure will follow.” That’s what we like to believe. But Jesus, in his divine realism, flipped it. He knew: our hearts tend to follow our money - not the other way around.

Which is why tithing - giving intentionally and proportionally - is a spiritual practice, not a fundraising tactic. It’s about deciding where our heart will live. It’s a declaration of allegiance. And it’s not new. It’s a practice that goes back to Cain and Abel, and to Abraham and Jacob. You see it woven into the life of ancient Israel and echoed in the early Christian community.

Now, if the word “tithe” makes you feel a little twitchy, you’re not alone. In fact, let me say something clearly: No one wants you to tithe because you feel guilty. And God certainly doesn’t want your gift if it comes from resentment or fear. That’s not generosity - it’s religious extortion.

Instead, consider this: what if tithing is freedom? What if it’s a way to push back against the culture of never-enough, of scarcity and stress? What if tithing is an act of resistance against fear? What if, like Sabbath, it’s a practice that reminds us: I am not my income. I am not my anxiety. I belong to something bigger - and I trust in something deeper. Tithing - giving 10% of your net usable income to your faith community - has been around for thousands of years. But if you’ve ever tried tithing, you know it isn’t just about math. It’s a spiritual practice. One that reveals where our trust lies.”

I love the idea of tithing (or any act of generosity) being an act of resistance against fear!

Peace! Pastor Jeff

~ City of Marion Pavement Patching Project 2025 ~

Be aware that our driveways may be blocked this month as road work is completed. If 29th Ave. entrances are blocked, feel free to go around to the 35th St. entrance, and vice versa.

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LCRYouTube

 x.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 receive **email alerts** from LCR about worship and other news.

Click on the 'Visitor Info Request' tab our homepage to sign up - https://www.lcrmarion.org/new_visitor.html

Alternately, you can contact us at the church office and we will sign you up:

319.377.4689 or [office\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto: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 on our website...

<https://share.hsforms.com/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwl3ZiDQ44ay4>

The Freedom to Dance

Several years ago I was playing bass guitar in a worship band. The music built to a great crescendo and I felt overwhelmed in the moment. I wanted to start leaping around, just as I did when I was in a cover band as a teenager. I stopped myself, however, with the thought, "I shouldn't do this, I'm in church." I was raised in a Lutheran church, attending faithfully as a youngster. Somewhere along the way, I got it in my head that I had to be 'prim and proper' in church, and my 'normal self' outside of church.

As my faith matured however, I began to notice several references in the Bible encouraging the praising of God with dancing. For example, 2 Samuel 6 describes the scene of David dancing before the ark of the Lord with all of his might. With this newfound knowledge, I began freeing up my movements while leading worship with swaying, stomping, and bouncing. To my pleasant surprise, over time, several of the teenagers in the congregation starting to move with me, jumping with great freedom.

Contemporary worship services in the month of July will bring many opportunities to 'praise the Lord with dancing'. On July 6th we'll welcome guest saxophonist Brock Whitham. Then on July 20th, cellist James Ellis will join the worship band for several up-tempo worship tunes. I look forward to praising the Lord together with you this next month!

- Ralph Kendrick (Contemporary Worship Director)



Voices raised in glory for Pentecost!



Men's Choir sings an Armed Forces medley

MINISTRY



Feeding Lunches to Youth

F.L.Y. feeds hundreds of students in Marion weekly during summer break. This year, there are 10 sites. You can sign up to help pack the lunches at Marion Methodist Church (5050 Rec Dr, along Highway 13), and you can also sign up to pick up, deliver, and distribute the lunches at the sites. FLY delivers lunches every weekday throughout the summer.

Sign up to volunteer at this link:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/901580700045/false#/invitation>

'Start School Right'

Our May/June shoe drive has collected **\$2,510** for new athletic shoes for gym class and recess. *Thank you for helping us pass our goal!*

LCR Raised Bed Garden

Over 100 pounds of fresh vegetables have already gone to the Marion Food Pantry from our garden! In June we harvested cabbage, kale, Swiss chard, and snow peas to donate, too. We usually work early in the morning on Tuesdays and ALWAYS appreciate helpers. Contact Larry Edwards or Ann Godar through the church office and we'll get you involved in this positive ministry.

July & August Mission Envelopes

...will benefit the **Churches of Marion Food Pantry**. CMFP is a group of eleven area churches organized to meet the emergency food needs of local families. Participating churches supply funds, food, and distribution volunteers. The Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 and operates from the Mission House of First Presbyterian Church (8th Ave & 12th St).



During the month of July, we will again be supporting the **Marion Cares Backpack Program**. Students in need from all districts in Marion are given the opportunity to sign up at Marion Cares for backpacks. *Last year, a record-breaking 810 backpacks were provided by the community to Linn Mar and Marion students in need.* You can help either by adopting a backpack, by signing up online (stay tuned for the link!), OR you can donate money, and we we'll pool our donations to adopt additional backpacks. Please mark your donations "backpacks."

If you plan to donate money, please have your donations turned in by July 20 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 27. 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!

We interrupt this regularly detailed newsletter page to share that there are...

**DAY CAMP
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

**Please email [childrens\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:childrens(at)lcrmarion.org)
or reach out to Jessi to get started.**

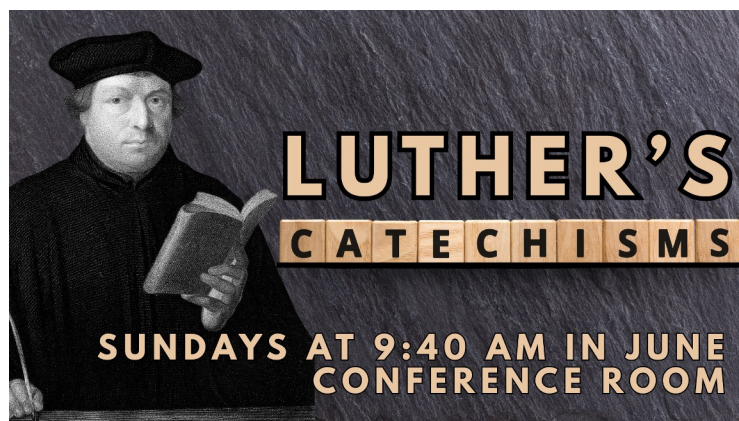
**Day Camp is August 4th-8th, need not be present
all week to volunteer, roles with any level
of time commitment are available!**

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Luther's Catechisms

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

Join Pastor Jeff and we'll examine Luther's Small and Large Catechisms to gain an appreciation for the fundamentals of the Lutheran approach to Christian doctrine.



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 - Our women's group will resume in September.

Email Lareen: clgull57(at)yahoo.com

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 - Our women's group will resume in September; mkpink6(at)gmail.com

JAM Study Group - women's group; Email Linda: lhayward495(at)yahoo.com

In June, JAM women finished our study of "A Shepard Looks at the 23rd Psalm."

Many thanks to Pastor Jeff, who joined the group toward the end of our session to share additional insights.

JAM will not be meeting in July and August, but we are searching for new study to begin in September.

Please jot down titles that are of interest to you. You can send your preferences to Linda or Michelle.

Blessings to you all as you relax and enjoy the beauty of God's summer months. See you on September 8th!

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals - You can view these brief, thought-provoking videos online, **at any time** - <https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

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** - topics to be announced

Everyone is welcome and beverages & snacks are offered.

Feel free to contact our organizer Tom with any questions: lillevig(at)outlook.com



FELLOWSHIP

Summer Picnic & Contest

Our annual LCR Picnic is **Sunday, July 13, starting at 11:30 am**. The church Council will be providing maid-rites and lemonade for all. This year, our theme is 'Lutheran Potluck,' so we invite you to share and enter your favorite jello salad, pasta salad, potato salad, or "other" in our Potluck Contest!

5th Annual LCR Car Show

...will be on **July 26th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**, with awards given at 3:00 pm. Our car show is great opportunity to invite people to LCR, but it's also the perfect time for you to bring your favorite ride to show, or to just come and check out all the terrific vehicles (including motorcycles). Registration is free and awards will be given in several categories.



LCR Book Club

Summer is in full swing, hope you are making time to read! We'll meet on **Tuesday, July 8th at 6:30**; please bring your book back by that night.

Our July reading is "The Paris Wife" by Paula McLain, a portrayal of love and torn loyalty in the 1920s. Hadley Richardson is a quiet 28 year old who has given up on love until she meets the intense young Ernest Hemingway. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding they set sail for the fast-paced life of Jazz Age Paris. Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome - [jonmaryhajek\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com)

Car Cruise-In

July Cruise-In will be on **Thursday the 10th at 5:00 pm**. Bring your coolest classic wheels, or just come and admire other people's rides. Pizza & pop are available for a donation.

Cribbage Group

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

Sunday In the Park

We are excited to welcome you to Pinicon Ridge Park on **Sunday afternoons this summer - July 20 and August 17**. We'll set up at **noon** at the Flying Squirrel Shelter. Pack a picnic lunch or dinner and come whenever you want. We'll have some outdoor games to play and you can rent a kayak/canoe or bring your bike to hit the trails. The shelter has picnic tables and restrooms, and there is an inclusive playground nearby. All ages are welcome to enjoy the great outdoors with us!



Neighborhood Nights

The coolest neighborhood party in town is back! Invite all your friends to LCR on **Saturday, July 26th at 5:00 pm** for a free dinner, excellent live music, and fun bounce houses and games. *Volunteers are welcome, too; check weekly bulletins and emails for sign-up info.*

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](mailto: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](mailto:volunteerLCR(at)lcrmarion.org)

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](mailto:john1400(at)q.com)

knitting - [PamKacena\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:PamKacena(at)yahoo.com)

2025 CONFIRMANDS



front row: Tyler Bendixen, AJ Halverson,
Laci Sletteland, Reese Fleming
back row: Harper Ryther, Kyanna Unruh,
Ava Meier, Kara Lovseth
not pictured: Ally Finch, Torie Johnson



Thanks to the
Christopherson
and Thompson
families for host-
ing our reception

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

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

Middle and High Schoolers 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. You are invited and welcome to join us during any of our Sunday morning get-togethers.

Middle School Pizza Party on July 6th at noon!

EDGE YOUTH

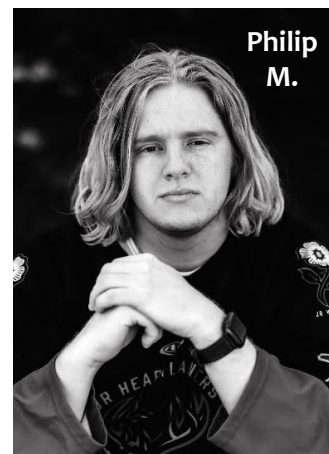
Nashville Mission Trip

During the last week of July, the LCR High School Mission Trip team will be traveling to Nashville, Tennessee to spend a week dedicated to helping others and building community. Please pray for our team as they embark on this journey. If you would still like to donate to the Mission Trip's funds for fuel or food, you can denote "Mission Trip" in the memo area.

All high schoolers are invited to sign up for EDGE High School Ministry. Sign up (QR code) to receive information about our upcoming volunteer and fellowship events. Watch your email for a survey regarding dates for a trip to Lost Island Waterpark and coffeehouse gatherings! Contact Hannah - youth@lcrmarion.org



CONGRATULATIONS!
to our 2025 seniors



PRAYERS

Those hospitalized recently: Jenna Butz

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Pam Miller, Emily Fredin, Bernadean Spilde, Bill Thompson, Betty & Gary Young, Betty Bendixen, Mary Possehl, Everett Lehrman, Phyllis Gordon, Eloise Heppler

(family and friends) Diane Petersen, Shawn Proksa, Andrew Howe, Mary Bran, Kimberly Richardson, Melody Yost, Becky Wadsworth, Stuart Burns

Those living in care facilities:

Larry Wogahn (The Views)
Marge Dryden (Terrace Glen)

Those who mourn:

Kirsten Corrigan and family on the death of her son Ryan
Janice Burns on the death of her companion,
John Gomez

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.



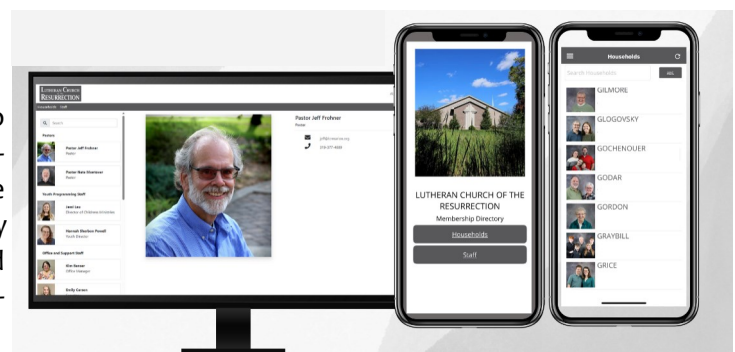
Summer Verse Challenge
at LCR

Each Sunday morning there will be a new memory verse for you to learn with your family. On the following Sunday, you can come in before or after service for a prize and the chance to enter for our monthly grand prize!

Please tell people you know about the great preschool program we have right here at Resurrection.
<https://www.lcrmarion.org/wee-wisdom-preschool/about-wee-wisdom.html>

LCR Church Directory

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!

STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for May 2025

	<u>May</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
Receipts	\$82,617	\$463,399	\$414,882
Expenditures	\$75,383	\$364,056	\$320,566
<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>05/31/25</u>		<u>05/31/24</u>
General Fund	\$251,434		\$155,555
Property Reserve	\$ 80,780		\$ 74,947
Savings	\$261,455		\$249,844

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



<< Middle School Pop Tart creations!

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, June 17, 2025.
May Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved.

Treasurer: YTD running ~\$100,000 ahead of budget; good position going into summer months. Concrete leveling was a major expense in May.

Pastor Jeff: New members - 13 family units joining us Sunday the 22nd. *Memorial funds* - Designated for patio upgrades; three new heavy duty picnic tables purchased. *Rally Sunday* - Worship on the Wapsi, 10:30 am on Sunday, September 7th at the Wapsi Bluff Shelter. *Vacations* - Pastors have upcoming vacation time during summer months. *Neighborhood Nights* - Will likely be a large turnout, please come help if available.

Outreach: Upcoming Car Cruise-In and Car Show in July. LCR Picnic will be July 13th; theme "Lutheran Potluck." Outreach will provide drinks and Maid-Rite type sandwiches; watch for sign-up link to bring salads to share.

Wee Wisdom: Still spots available for 2025/26.

Property: Concrete leveling complete. Pate should begin parking lot sealing soon. Back door will be replaced. Gathering Space AC will be replaced.

Education: Goal of bridging youth from confirmation through high school graduation. Looking for ways to involve parents in high school youth programming.

Old Business: *Long Range Planning Updates* - Goal to support LCR's mission. Categorizing projects by impact and need. Committee will communicate with congregation and provide updates to the council to assist with budgeting.

New Business: *Upcoming Road Construction* - starting now on 35th Street and 29th Ave. Will affect access to LCR's parking lot.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025
Agenda items should be submitted by 7/7/25.
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)

THE LCR SUMMER PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 13 AT 11:30 AM

SIGN UP AT
LCRMARION.ORG



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SUNDAY, JULY 13 AT 11:30 AM LUTHERAN POTLUCK CONTEST



COMPETE FOR:
BEST JELLO SALAD, BEST PASTA SALAD
BEST POTATO SALAD, AND "OTHER"

SIGN UP AT LCRMARION.ORG



Sunday In the Park

Flying Squirrel Shelter at Pinicon Ridge Park
Central City
Starting at Noon; Come As You Can
June 22, July 20 and
August 17



CONTACT US!

office hours:

**Monday - Friday,
9 am - 4 pm**

phone: 319-377-4689

email: [office\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:office(at)lcrmarion.org)

fax: 319-377-4680

www.lcrmarion.org

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)
HS Ministry: Hannah Sh. Powell - [youth\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:youth(at)lcrmarion.org)
Contemp. Worship: Ralph Kendrick - [worship\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:worship(at)lcrmarion.org)
Emily Carson - [secretary\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:secretary(at)lcrmarion.org)
Marcia Edwards - [volunteer\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:volunteer(at)lcrmarion.org)
Office Manager: Kim Benser - [business\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:business(at)lcrmarion.org)
Cari Redondo - [communications\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:communications(at)lcrmarion.org)
Esther Platt - [bookkeeper\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:bookkeeper(at)lcrmarion.org)
Custodians: Dave Steifner, Dave Cosgrove

