*to all the*

# SAINTS

*as we forward move!*

PHILIPPIANS 1.1








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*as we forward move!*

PHILIPPIANS 1.1

You have made a difference in the world. You have fed the hungry. You have clothed the naked. You have welcomed the little ones. You have shared the Gospel. And I wouldn't expect anything less from you!

The Apostle Paul makes it clear in his letter to the Philippians that EVERYONE in the church is a saint. It's easy to think about saints as those extraordinary Christians who have courageous tales to tell or perfect virtue on display. Paul was writing to ordinary people: shop owners, laborers, parents, children, widows, and neighbors. They were not perfect, but they were perfectly loved by God and called to be partners with him in the Gospel.

I am calling on you, as one of the saints here at LCR, to commit yourself to the work and ministry of Jesus. Stewardship is not about what the church needs—it's about how God invites us to participate in God's mission with joyful, trusting, and generous hearts. We don't give for the sake of a budget. Our giving is an act of worship that helps us to remember who we are and what God is doing in our midst.

I trust that you'll find yourself reflected in the pages of this booklet and be inspired to "forward move" as the saints have always done!

Peace!

*Pastor Jeff Frohner*







LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION







# *Forward move in the Word.*

In our Baptism, God has claimed us as his own. We are forgiven, renewed, and called to be God's people in the world. Before we do anything for God, God has already done everything for us in Christ. This is where stewardship begins.

**"To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi…" Philippians 1.1**

Stewardship begins with identity, not obligation.
What identity does God give us in Jesus?

**"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." Philippians 1.3-5**

Everyone has a part to play in our common ministry.
What gifts have you been given to offer?

**"And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more …" Philippians 1.9**

Stewardship is one way our love is made visible.
Where have you felt love being poured out for you?
How might others recognize Christ's love in you?

**Prayer**

Dear Lord Jesus, remind me each and every day who I am. May this assurance strengthen me and help me to lay fear aside and let your love overflow in my words and deeds. Amen.







# Your gifts...

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, Candy Bar Bingo, Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, Trunk or Treat, Blessing of the Animals, "Honoring America" Concert, Wartburg Rosenchor Concert, "Joy" Christmas Concert and Reception
- LCR Gardening Group on its fourth year of production for the food pantry
- Helping Our Community: Souper Bowl Sunday collection supporting the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, Marion Lutheran Churches Blood Drives, Holiday Giving Project (12 families supported), Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits (church-wide packing event), MORE Mission of Hope Lunches (increased from every other month to serving every month), 50+ backpacks donated to the Marion Cares Backpack Program and over $2,000 raised for the Start School Right Shoe Drive, Advent Collections (supporting the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, Willis Dady Shelter, Catherine McAuley Center and the Teacher Store), Day Camp Service Project (Birthday Kits for the Churches of Marion Food Pantry)
- Lent Simple Soup Suppers raised money for Kairos Campus Ministry, with gifts matched by the Living Legacy Fund
- Special Worship Services: Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints Remembrance, Thanksgiving Eve
- Baptisms, weddings, and funerals
- Remembering Special Seasons: Advent: "Light the Way" and Lent: "On Our Way Rejoicing"
- Worship on the Wapsi Outdoor Service
- Epiphany and Easter cupcakes by Madelyn Olson
- New members received
- Dr. Robert Cargill, fall speaker sponsored by The Living Legacy Fund
- Biderman Scholarship awarded to Jenna Butz and Elliott Zrudsky
- Bible Studies, Womens Bible Study, and trip to Beth Moore's Living Proof Live Event
- All-Church Breakfasts and LCR Summer Picnic
- Hobby/Social Groups: Choirs, Bell Choir, Walkers, Painters, Knitters/Crocheters, Woodcarvers, Cribbage Players, Gatherings Discussion Group, Scrapbookers, New Beginnings Group for widows/widowers, P.E.P. 55+ events
- Guest musicians
- Youth Activities and Education: Wee Wisdom Preschool, Sunday School, 7th – 12th Grade Fellowship, Childrens Choir (NEW!), Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, EDGE, Middle School Activities, Vacation Bible School, Day Camp; High School Mission Trip to Louisville, Flat Jesus Summer Program
- "Let There Be Light" Youth Christmas Program
- Seder Meal for First Communion students and families
- First Communion and Confirmation Services
- Bibles for students
- Special Events: Bass Farms Youth Night, Pool Party, Skating Party, New Year's Eve Party, May Day Party, celebrations for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Advent, and Graduate Sunday
- Loving maintenance and improvements by LCR Property Team and volunteers

Your generous giving provided meaningful and much-needed support locally and beyond!

*as we forward move!*







## MISSION ENVELOPES and SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

*$31,062.90 Sep 2025 – Aug 2026*
*(Includes Living Legacy Fund matching gifts)*
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.

We made special collections as a congregation, including: Socks and Underwear Drive for Marion Cares, Holiday Giving Project, Souper Bowl for the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, increased meals for Mission of Hope, Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits, Kairos Campus Ministry, Start School Right Shoe Drive, Neighborhood Nights, Marion Cares Backpack Drive, and Lutheran World Federation for Humanitarian Relief.

## 2026 ONE-TIME SPECIAL GIFT

*$4,200 to The Living Legacy Fund*
Your one-time gifts for our 2026 stewardship campaign went to The Living Legacy Fund. The fund supports our Fall Speaker Series, special outreach matching donations, and provides scholarships.

## BUDGETED GIVING

*$68,900 Budgeted giving for 2026*
We supported these mission partners through budgeted giving: ELCA/Synod, The Churches of Marion Food Pantry, Marion Cares, Camp EWALU, Habitat for Humanity, Willis Dady Shelter, and Mission of Hope.

Your faithful giving also supports our excellent staff, programs, and daily ministry.

## 2027 ONE-TIME SPECIAL GIFT

Worship is at the heart of who we are at LCR and we would like you to consider a one-time — over and above — gift to our "Operation Worship Essentials."

Good sound, rhythm, and clarity are at the heart of this one-time special gift. We hope to replace our aging and obsolete drum set with a new Roland Worship kit, upgrade the confidence monitor in the back of the sanctuary so musicians, worship leaders, and pastors can clearly see the screen, and continue to add the next generation of digital microphones that allow for clear sound both in-house and online.

Total gifts of $7,000 will allow us to fully fund "Operation Worship Essentials."

# *Giving your way...*

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 the 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 make a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) directly from your IRA account. This tax-free gift can also count toward your required minimum distribution.

- **Simply Giving** — Join 90 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)







*as we forward move!*

# 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 Living Legacy 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 as we forward move!

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, if desired). Remember, your annual commitment of tithes and offerings supports LCR'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 22nd 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 Form so that we know you have received this packet, as it helps with our overall effort.

LUTHERAN CHURCH *of the* RESURRECTION