

Cross



Talk

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Volume 54: Issue 2

February 2013



Annual Meeting Results

The annual meeting of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection was held on Sunday, January 27 at 12:15. Those elected to various positions include:

Church Council – Mark Bauermeister, Jessica Castelli, Karen Siefert

Auditing Committee – Terry Wegener

Nominating Committee – Michelle Shaw

Trust Fund Committee – Craig Van Dyke

The new five year Vision Goals for 2013-2017 were reviewed. A 2013 budget of \$678,150 was approved, a 2.3% increase over the 2012 budget. Copies of the annual report and the slides from the meeting are available at the welcome center window.

EWALU Sign-Up

Summer camp brochures will be handed out on February 3, along with an information sheet about scholarships and group weeks. Additional forms will be available at the Welcome Center. As in prior years, full week campers will receive a \$100 scholarship from the General Fund; mini campers will receive \$50 scholarships. Our group weeks will be week 3 (June 23-28) and week 5 (July 14-19). Day camp will be held at LCR the week of July 22-26.

Lenten Worship - "The Way"

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 13. Pages two and five have information on the worship themes and resources for "The Way," a series by Adam Hamilton.

Off-site Counseling Available

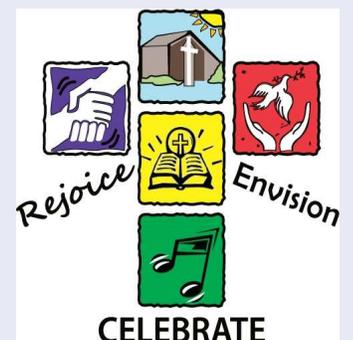
Pastor Blair is now offering off-site counseling free to members of LCR. It is often very difficult for people to take a first step toward seeing a counselor. It can be even more challenging to come into one's church for therapy. For this reason, Pastor Blair is inviting any members who would be more comfortable in meeting outside of the church to meet with him at his new part-time private practice, Live Well Counseling & Consulting.

The office is located at 99 N. Center Point Rd. in Hiawatha. Counseling is available for a variety of issues including: loss and grief, marriage/relationship struggles, addiction, depression/anxiety, surviving abuse, career discernment, faith struggles, family conflict and more. If interested, please contact Pastor Blair through the church office at 319-377-4689 or email him at blair@lcrmarion.org.

Pastor Dennis

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Worship

*In February we begin the 40 day journey of Lent that leads to Jesus' cross and resurrection. This year our Sunday and Wednesday themes will be tied together. We will be using **The Way** by Adam Hamilton as our guide. On Sundays you will hear sermons from our Pastors based on Jesus' ministry. On Wednesdays we will see a related video recorded in the Holy Land highlighting the actual places Jesus walked. A 40 day home devotional will be available as well as a companion book study on Sunday mornings.*

February 3 & 6: The Christian Family Photo

This story of Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth is both convicting and redeeming news to us. It reminds us that we have a tendency to claim Jesus as exclusively one of us – to limit him to being part of our particular identity. But it also reminds us that when we confine Christ to our image, we do so to our exclusion. The Good News is that in and through Christ, all are included in God's family, even the least in our eyes.

February 10: The Voice

On the mountain top we again hear the Voice that spoke at Jesus' baptism but this time it speaks to the disciples commanding them to listen. It is a command that we, as disciples, need to heed today.

Ash Wednesday, February 13

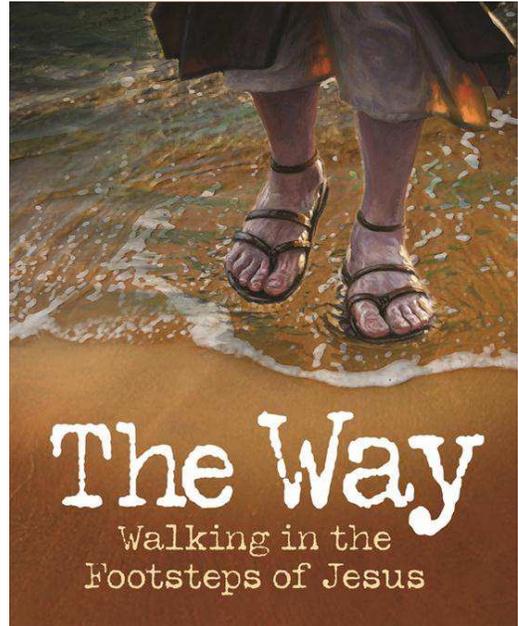
The Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion will be observed in worship at 6:00p and 7:00p as we begin the journey of Lent.

February 17 & 20: Baptism and Temptation

Jesus' public ministry begins with his baptism and subsequent temptation in the wilderness. The Jordan River and the rocky landscape of the Judean wilderness play an important role in these formative events in Jesus' life and faith.

February 24 & 27: The Healing Ministry

Healing people is a significant part of Jesus' ministry. In his travels to Capernaum we see people come to Jesus in hope that he will heal the broken places in their body, mind and spirit.



Nursery Help Needed

LCR is in need of an adult (age 21+) to work in our nursery. This is a paid, part-time position that is shared with Niedja Jensen. The hours are: Sunday mornings from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm; Wednesday nights from 5:50 to 7:10 pm. Each week you will work either Sunday morning or Wednesday evening. This is a 12th-month position.

Starting in February 2013, we'll also need a second adult (age 21+) to work in the nursery. This is a paid position for 2.5 hrs every Sunday, February-May and September-December. Hopefully more than one person will be available so as to make it a shared position.

If you are interested in either of these positions you may pick up a job application in the office, or you can email us (office@lcrmarion.org) and an application will be sent to you. A background check is required for any person applying. If you have any questions, please call Evelyn at the church office.

Average Worship Attendance

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
January	482	483	511

Ministry

Time and Talent

February 6th and 10th are the dates we will indicate how we will use our special gifts for this group of Christian believers. What are your interests? We are asked to share our gifts with others. Peter 4:10 says "Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he/she has received from God." We will take time during the services on the 6th and 10th to indicate how we will do our part in the life and work of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

If you do not fill out a new Time and Talent Sheet, we will keep your name as a volunteer for the categories you listed last year. If you do fill out a new sheet, we will only list your name for the serving opportunities that you indicate for this year.

Take time to read the front of the catalog which describes our spiritual gifts which can be used in the life and work of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection and life gifts. In addition to spiritual gifts, God has given us life gifts that we have cultivated and grown throughout our life. These life gifts can be used to supplement our spiritual gifts.

There will also be Time and Talent sheets for the youth that are different from the adult forms.

LCR Social Concerns

The Alternative Gift Market that was held in the LCR Bookstore in October and November contributed close to \$1,600 towards the Lutheran World Relief Handcraft Project. The 4th Quarter Mission Envelopes raised almost \$500 and will be used to purchase a llama, 2 flocks of chicks, and a trio of rabbits to benefit families in Africa and South America. Thank you for your support.



In 2013 LCR will be joining the fight against malaria with other congregations in the ELCA. It is estimated that a child dies of malaria every minute of the day. A music

concert is being planned for later this year along with other opportunities for the congregation to help reduce and fight infections of this disease.

Lenten Services

It seems that we have just taken down the Christmas decorations, and now it is time for Lent. February 10th is Ash Wednesday, and we will have services at both 6:00 and 7:00 pm. For these services, we will need people to run PowerPoint, read, greet, usher, set up Communion, serve Communion, and acolyte. Please sign up on the back of your Welcome Card if you are able to help with any of these or call Marcia at the church office.

The Lenten services will be February 20, 27, March 6, 13, and 20. At these services we will need PowerPoint, greeters, ushers, and a reader. If you can help, please sign up on the back of the Welcome Card, and also indicate which service (the 7:00 or the 8:00) you will be available.

There is one date left to do a Lenten supper - that is March 13. This is an opportunity for your group to fund raise for a special project. If you would like to claim this date, please let the office know.

Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras

Pastor Paul Baillie of San Lucas Lutheran in Eagle Pass, TX led a forum at St. Marks in January. A common question on many peoples' minds was safety/violence. He has crossed the border and held services at Cristo Rey almost every Sunday and feels fairly safe. Precautions definitely must be taken. The toughest repercussion from the violence is the fact that the last group to visit Cristo Rey was the group from Marion in the fall of 2011.

A question was asked about how we can help support Pastor Paul and the churches. He said, "Pray for us." They need our prayers more than ever for their safety, health, influence on the community, and for God's guidance. Please keep them in your prayers.





SS Disciple Ship

9:45-10:45 Sunday School Program

Tammy Evans: SS Disciple Ship Coordinator

tammy@lcrmarion.org

Baptism

1st—5th graders are in the middle of a Workshop Rotation unit on Baptism. They are experiencing the gift of baptism and God’s presence with us, learning about what a sacrament is, and exploring what it means to prepare the way by loving and serving others. A special keepsake art project is the highlight.



Jesus Grows Up

Preschool and Kindergarten students have been learning about Jesus growing up and getting ready to go out and show people how to “love our neighbors”.



EWALU Day Camp at LCR 2013

The date has been set for Day Camp so mark your calendars for **July 22-26!** This is earlier than previous years and it is also under new leadership. Katie Kascel is looking for a **group of people** to help with various parts of the organization, such as planning counselor meals, afternoon activities, registration, Thursday night program, etc. We are seeking a team to divide up these jobs and assist Katie with all of the details it takes to make Day Camp a super special week at LCR. If you are interested in being on this planning and organizational team, please contact Katie or Tammy at the church.



Praise Island 1st—5th Grade participated in a Reader’s Theater activity. 12 wise men bumped along on camels in search of the “new King.”



EWALU Camp Early Registration Deadline is Feb. 28.

Register on-line or turn form into the church by Feb.17.

E-mail Jill Hansen if you wish for your student to receive a scholarship; include student’s name, program they are attending, & program date..

Praise Island Preschool and Kindergarten have begun the journey through Jesus’ life on earth. The kids have been busy with art projects, music, and dramatic play.

The 1st—5th Grade students are on a Treasure Quest to find the greatest treasure ever. They join famous treasure hunter Kit Windswept and her well educated assistant Andi Bennett each week in search for clues leading to the treasure.



Praise Island

11:00 - 12:00 Sunday School Program

Jill Hansen: Praise Island Coordinator

jill@lcrmarion.org



Adult Faith Development

Lent Adult Faith Development

During the season of Lent, the Adult Faith Development opportunities will center around our theme for worship, “The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus.” Sunday morning sermons, a 9:45 Bible Study, Wednesday evening presentations and in-home devotions will be offered on this theme. The material comes to us from Adam Hamilton, a Methodist pastor and teacher. Using historical background, archaeological findings and stories of faith, Hamilton retraces the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the enemies he made, the parables he taught and the roads that he traveled. Through these offerings we will come to know, understand and walk more closely with him as we follow Christ in his life then and in our lives today.

Sunday Morning Offerings

Bible Study with the Cornally’s will continue in the conference room at 9:45. We’ll be discussing the Book of Acts.

“**The Way**” is a series of classes which will include reading from the book accompanying the material offered in Sunday and Wednesday worship. It will also include Bible study, video presentation and discussion. The class will focus on taking participants deeper into the physical and spiritual journey of Christ. It is offered at 9:45 and will be led by Pastor Blair in the middle of the Fellowship Hall.

In-home Lenten Devotions

Following the theme of “The Way,” these devotions offer households readings and questions for reflection and discussion. The material is appropriate for individual, couple or intergenerational use. Families are encouraged to pick up a copy at the table in the gathering space and invited to make a donation to offset costs.

Brewing Up the Bible

A change of date for this monthly event is due to conflict with Ash Wednesday. All those interested in attending are invited to join Pastor Blair at Bill’s Tap on 7th Ave. in Marion, **the first Wednesday of the month, February 7 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm.** The evening Bible study is based on the present concerns and questions of those gathered together.

Spiritual Autobiography

Pastor Kevin will lead this 6-week course exploring your personal connection to God. This will be done through short memoir writing exercises that draw on personal experiences and seek to discern how God was/is present in those events. The class will meet Saturday mornings, Feb. 16 - Mar. 23, from 9-11 am at the church. Class is limited to 12 participants. Contact Pastor Kevin to register or for more information.

Pathways Small Groups

Consider a one time visit! The small groups are currently inviting people to join them. Stop by the Pathways display in the gathering space and review current offerings, facilitators, and group members. Contact any of them or Pastor Blair if interested. Those interested can sit in on a group meeting for a one-time experience or give it a few meetings. Either way the door is always open and you are always welcome.

4th Grade First Communion Class

Our annual first communion course for 4th graders or anyone older who would like to come will begin on *Wednesday, February 27* at 7:45 in the fellowship hall. The course will meet for 4 consecutive Wednesdays. An alternative one day seminar will be held on *Saturday, March 23* from 9-12. At least one parent or grandparent are asked to attend each session with your child. Pastor Dennis will lead the course. First communion for the group will be received on Maundy Thursday, March 28.

Fellowship

Chili Challenge & Sledding Party

Join in the fun on *Sunday, February 10* at Red Cedar Lodge (Squaw Creek Park). Doors will open at 1:30 pm and chili-tasting starts at 2:00. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway for our chili-makers. We also need helpers to do small but important tasks on the day of the challenge. Contact Susan Conway (drskconway@msn.com or 447-1165). For those attending but not making chili, please bring snacks or a dessert to share. Tableware and drinks will be provided. In case there is no snow, please bring along a game you can play with your church friends.



LCR Scrapbookers

Food, fun, photos, and fellowship on *Saturday, February 23* from 9 am to 9 pm. Bring your albums, photos and tools. Ask your scrapbook friends to join us. We have reserved the fellowship hall to have plenty of space to spread out. Contact Donna Dennis at 854-7752 or odonna@netins.net for more information or to be added to the e-mail list.



XYZ Big Band Concert

We'll gather at the church at 2 pm on *Sunday, February 24* for fellowship and fabulous music provided by Dixie Notes Plus (Marilyn Carstens' band). Bring a snack to share and bring your friends!



IGNITE

Young Adult Ministry

Our Young Adult Ministry is available for anyone 18-25! We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month. We will meet February 21st in the YAC. Snacks are provided. Please contact Katie Kascel if you plan on attending or have more questions: Katie@lcrmarion.org

WEE WISDOM

Preschool News

Registration for the 2013-14 school year begins in February. New this year is a two-day program on Mon and Wed mornings. The regular Tues, Thurs, Fri morning program will continue. Both sessions are from 9:00-11:15. Brochures and registration forms available at the Welcome Center.

Please call the church 377-4689 or email www.weewisdom.lcr@gmail.com



Thursday afternoons, a small group of students stay for "Lunch & Learn" time. This allows for extended learning for older preschoolers.

Wednesday Youth Education

Wednesday Night Live: Grades 3, 4, & 5 meeting from 6:30–7:30 pm

February 6—Valentine’s Party in the YAC

February 13– Ash Wednesday NO WNL

February 20th—WNL Serves Lent Meal at 5:15 pm

February 27—March 20th NO REGULAR WNL

Due to the two Lent services overlapping the WNL time slot and the inability to move WNL to 7:00pm because of lack of space we will not be able to have WNL during Lent. Please check your emails and watch the bulletin for updates on family events during Lent. Thanks and sorry for any inconvenience.



The kids and adults enjoyed a loud, fierce and often silly game of UNO in January.



Contact

Jill Hansen with questions
jill@lcrmarion.org 319.377.4689

Confirmation & Middle School: Grades 6, 7, & 8

Feb 06, Large Group: Healthy Family Relationships

Feb 13—Mar 20: During Lent we will not meet for Confirmation in large or small groups. Students are required to attend 5 out of the 6 Lenten worship services at either 6:00 or 7:00 pm. Students are encouraged to sit with their family or with their small group guides during worship.

Contact Pastor Kevin with questions about Confirmation
kevin@lcrmarion.org 319.377.4689



E.D.G.E.: High School, Grades 9-12

February Schedule

February 6th- Large Group/Small Group:

February 13th - Large Group/Small Group AND Mission Trip team hosting Lenten Supper!

February 20th - Large/Small Group:

February 27th - Large/Small Group:

March 6th - Large/Small Group AND Mission Trip team hosting Lenten Supper!

Katie Kascel, Youth Director
katie@lcrmarion.org or 377-4689

Prayers



Prayers are Requested for:

Those hospitalized in January: Lareen Gull, Trudy Albaugh, Bryson Hartman, Marilyn Sell, Sheryl Knodle.

Those dealing with, or recovering from, illness or surgery:

(Resurrection members) Lareen Gull, Bryson Hartman, Marilyn Sell, Cathy Soppe, Helen Sommer, Kathryn Sutton, Janet & Norm Nesley, Don Schantz, Heide Sletteland, Lori Morgan.

(Family and friends of our members) Jared Wilkinson, Mike Lewis, Amy Engebretson, Clare Wallace, Marldine Moeller, Kendra (Petrick) Langert, Elvira Patey, Alison Frerking, Pete Sharbo, Ann Archibald, Jon Lochner, Nancy Cox, Annessa Pruisman, Mike Nicholls family, Robert Conrad, Ally Finch, Keith Slaymaker, Dennis Wers, Judi Conrad.

Those living in care facilities: Edna Miller *(Meadowview Village)*, Bernice Harstad *(Keystone Cedars)*, Dorothy Luedtke *(Linn Manor)*, Virginia Smart *(Winslow House)*, Delores Anderson *(Westridge)*, Marilyn Sell *(Village Ridge)*, Dick Novotny *(Northbrook)*.

Those in military service: Drew Bixler, Trevor Anderson, Jacob Anderson, Thomas Mastroddi, Juanita Cooper Carlson, Kyle Cirkl, Eric Krause, Matthew Courter, Nate Hatch, James Vick, Adam Eilers, Andrew Zimmerman, Caleb Redell, Alex Bruce, Jonathan Almestica, Kyle Harding, Todd Christopherson, Ashley Parker, Nicholas Eilers, Nick Thompson, Matthew Clark, Joe Hollister, Garrett Wood, Jason Sams, Brad Kielty, Anthony Martin, Matt Carson.

Those who rejoice:

- ◆ Matt & Amanda (Reck) Thoendel and Steve & Sally Reck on the baptism of their daughter and grand-daughter, Elizabeth Esther Thoendel, on January 13th.
- ◆ Derek & Aaron-Marie Thoms on the birth of twin boys, Davis Christian and Drew William, on January 25th.

Those who mourn:

- ◆ Shirley Engelbart & Brenda Randall on the death their son-and brother-in-law, Gary Stenerson, on Dec. 30th.
- ◆ Jen Christopherson, Ethan and Fynn on the death of Adam Christopherson on Jan. 4th.
- ◆ Dick & Avona Lehmann on the death of Dick's sister-in law, Audra Lehmann, on Jan. 18th
- ◆ Dave & Julie Jensen on the death of Dave's father, Ray Jensen, on Jan. 22nd.
- ◆ Family & friends of Florence Thomas, who died on Jan. 25th.
- ◆ Kris Klaman & Kim Sanders on the death of their grandmother, Gretchen Supp, on Jan. 26
- ◆ Cindy & George Swanson on the death of Cindy's sister, Sharon Parker, on Jan. 28th.

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.

Stewardship

Treasurer's Report for December 2013

	<u>December</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$104,155	\$653,471	\$611,062
General Fund Expenses	\$ 55,840	\$634,181	\$604,175
Cash Balances	<u>12/31/2012</u>	<u>12/31/11</u>	<u>12/31/10</u>
General Fund	\$ 34,204	\$18,663	\$ 9,922
Clearing Accounts	\$ 53,505	\$56,267	\$162,240
Building Fund	\$ 31,688	\$46,577	\$ 34,690

Building Fund Update

Building Fund total gifts in 2012	\$151,119
Rejoice-Envision-Celebrate pledges-2012	\$154,686
Building Fund gifts toward pledges	\$130,996
% of Building Fund pledges received	84.7%

Our mortgage principal going into 2013 has been reduced to \$524,740. Your Building Fund gifts over the next two years will reduce the balance to \$343,000 by the end of 2014, and \$0 by the end of 2017.



General Fund Update

Thanks to some very generous gifts in the last week of December, we met our "\$94,000 Challenge" and ended the year with a General Fund checking balance of \$34,204. Our 2012 receipts of \$653,471 were up 6.9% (+\$42,409) over 2011 receipts. Our 2012 expenses of \$634,181 were \$28,900, or 4.4%, under the 2012 budget.

Here are some other 2012 highlights:

- ◆ We met 100% of our mission partner commitments, and gave \$15,105 in Building Fund tithes to Ewalu and San Lucas Lutheran in Eagle Pass.
- ◆ Simply Giving (Electronic Funds Transfer) gifts were over \$229,000 to the General & Building Funds.
- ◆ 101.5% of General Fund pledges were received as cash in 2012.
- ◆ Building Fund gifts lowered our mortgage balance to \$524,740.
- ◆ Thanks to everyone for your generous support of LCR in 2012!

Church Council

The Church Council met on January 15 at 7 pm. The secretary's, treasurer's, and pastors' reports were approved. The General Fund balance on 12/31 was \$34,204.

Approval Items: *Budget* - The revised 2013 budget of \$678,150 was discussed and approved. *Nominating Committee* - The Nominating Committee candidates for various offices were presented and approved for the annual meeting. *Trust Fund* - A recommendation was presented by Dave Stadtmueller and Mike Almasi to invest some of the Bidermann scholarship funds in the ELCA Endowment Fund in order to earn a higher interest rate, so that scholarship amounts would be higher. Their recommendation was approved. *Housing Al-*

lowances - 2013 housing allowances were approved for the pastors.

Discussion Items: *Counseling* - Pastor Blair visited with the Council about his new counseling office in Cedar Rapids and how LCR members can receive counseling either at LCR or at his new office. *Council Installation and Retreat* - the new council will be installed on Feb. 3, with the annual retreat on Feb. 23. *Thanks to outgoing members Michelle Shaw, Rebecca Paulson, and Greg Meier.*

Agenda items for the February Council meeting are due by 2/13. Copies of the minutes and treasurer's reports are available in the church office.

Fall Appeal Update

As of the end of January, we received:

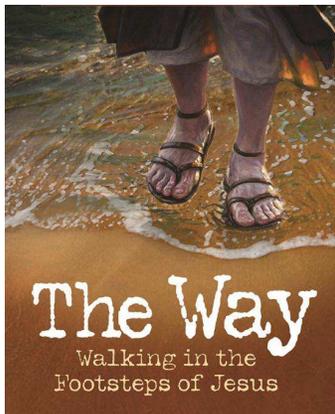
- **256** commitments for our 2013 General Fund ministries totaling **\$504,383**
- **63** new or revised commitments to the Building Fund totaling **\$491,279**

In 2012, those who pledged to the General Fund gave 101.5% of their commitments in offerings. Thanks!

2012 Statements

Giving statements are in your entryway mailboxes. Contributions for 11/4/12 were posted as 4/11/12; and contributions for 11/11/12 were posted as 11/4/12. The totals for the year are correct, just the weekly details are off. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. If you desire a corrected statement, please contact me and I will happily provide a replacement.

Bob Patterson
377-7801 or cp727rp@mchsi.com



In February we begin the 40 day journey of Lent that leads to Jesus' cross and resurrection. We will be using **The Way** by Adam Hamilton as our guide.

Contact Us

Church office hours:
Monday – Friday,
9 am – 4 pm
Phone: 319-377-4689
Fax: 319-377-4680

Pastor Dennis Johnson - dennis@lcrmarion.org
Pastor Kevin Jones - kevin@lcrmarion.org
Pastor Blair A'Hearn - blair@lcrmarion.org
SS Disciple Ship Coordinator - Tammy Evans, tammy@lcrmarion.org
Praise Island & WNL Coordinator - Jill Hansen, jill@lcrmarion.org
Youth/Young Adult Coordinator - Katie Kascel, katie@lcrmarion.org
Secretaries - Anne Armstrong & Emily Carson, office@lcrmarion.org
Office Manager - Evelyn Beck, evelyn@lcrmarion.org
Volunteer Coordinator - Marcia Edwards, marcia@lcrmarion.org
Custodian - Pat Knight, p.knight@mchsi.com

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