

## The Palestine Press

**December 2018**

Volume XXXII Number 12  
Monthly newsletter of  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**God's work. Our hands.**

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**Pastor Eric Klimpel**  
**Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison**  
**Oriett Snider, Editor**  
**Christa Hartsook, Webmaster**

### Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

#### *Our Vision:*

Palestine Lutheran Church will be a haven for all generations, a people worshipping and growing continually in relationship with Jesus, inspired by God's Word; a living example of stewardship, a loving and caring fellowship that reaches out in Christ-centered faith and love to the world.

#### *Mission Statement:*

"Palestine Lutheran Church exists to proclaim and live God's Holy Word, to nurture and support our membership, and to enable us to live our faith in our daily lives. As we are nourished, we are called to reach out to our communities, our spheres of influence, and to the wider world through the church-at-large."

**Driving Face Forward.....With Pastor Eric**  
***Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:18-19***

God is preparing Israel for a "change" in these verses. In fact, the change is happening as these verses are being uttered – change comes upon us quickly! Well, sometimes it's our ability to perceive it that makes the difference. Human beings are a success in nature because of our ability to adapt to circumstances. God has given us the gift of transcending thought! We pull ourselves above the moment and consider possible outcomes to many situations. Isaiah and the prophets tapped into this gift as they communed with God. Prophets in the Old Testament were great at observing and perceiving their surroundings, so that they could warn others of the dangers of "straying from God's way." Prophets provided hope for those who stayed true to God and God's covenant with Israel.

I do not consider myself endowed with the gift of prophecy but I do think that I am a pretty decent driver. I understand that you cannot drive down the road safely while fixating on the rear-view mirror. It's important to glance into the mirror but you need most of your focus forward toward where you are headed in order to perceive what is before you, and possibly down the road a ways. I believe that Isaiah teaches us this same idea in 43:18-19. Believe me – I love the past and its history and traditions. We need to know where we have come from – it is a part of who we are now. However, we cannot stay in the past at the expense of the present and "possible" futures.

Palestine Lutheran Church remembers its past well and celebrates the community of saints that has built up a strong faith community. I love this church for that reason but not only that reason. I love this church for its resilience and ability to perceive what is happening in and around it. You help me to grow every day into being more perceptive with God's help.

The key to receiving Isaiah 43:18-19 comes from the first few verses of that chapter. ***"Thus says the Lord...Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name and you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flames shall not consume you..." (Isaiah 43:1-3)*** As we trust God with what has been, what is, and what will be, we will be on the right track. Amen.

**Palestine Lutheran Church**  
**Worship & Study Opportunities-**  
**October 2018**



The "dial in" number for the worship service is no longer available.

Saturday, December 1

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 2 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church

6-7:30 p.m. Christmas program practice

Monday, December 3

2 p.m. Palestine Women of ELCA Bible study

Tuesday, December 4

6:30-8 pm GriefShare @ Sr Center in Slater

Wednesday, December 5

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6-7:30 p.m. Christmas program practice (dinner 5:30-6 p.m.)

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Midweek Worship: Make Us Bread for Others until all are fed

Saturday, December 8

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 9 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: Children's Church

10:45 a.m. Orientation Group Event

6-7:30 p.m. Christmas program practice

Tuesday, December 11

6:30-8 pm GriefShare @ Sr Center in Slater

Wednesday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:15 p.m. KICK Christmas caroling/skit @ Ballard Creek

Saturday, December 15

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 16 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church

10:30 a.m. to 12 noon All Christmas program practice

4:30 p.m. Special music begins with Christmas program to follow. Meal served by Confirmation group after the program.

Tuesday, December 18

6:30 pm Blue Christmas Service @ Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley

Wednesday, December 19

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Midweek worship: Make Us Bread for Others until all are fed

Saturday, December 22

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 23 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

2 p.m. Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve worship @ Ballard Creek

5 p.m. Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve candlelight worship @ Palestine

Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day

9 a.m. Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day worship @ Nazareth, Cambridge

Wednesday, December 26

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

NO Confirmation

Saturday, December 29

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 30

9:30 a.m. Worship: Christmas Lesson and Carols, Affirmation of Baptism, Order of Blessing for the New Year (during sending)

**Daily Discipleship** themes which will be used for Wednesday morning Men's Bible study (uses the text for the following Sunday).. They are available on the ELCA website— [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) → Resources → Downloadable Resources → Bible Studies

Dec 2 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent –

**Primary Text:** Luke 21:25-36

**Imperatives of Discipleship:** *Watch!*

Dec. 9 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent –

**Primary Text:** Luke 3:1-6

**Imperatives of Discipleship:** *Prepare!*

Dec. 16 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent –

**Primary Text:** Luke 3:7-18

**Imperatives of Discipleship:** *Bear Fruit!*

Dec. 23 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent –

**Primary Text:** Luke 1: 39-55

**Imperatives of Discipleship:** *Rejoice!*

Dec. 30 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas –

**Primary Text:** Luke 2:41-52

**Imperatives of Discipleship:** *Increase in Wisdom*

Jan. 6 Epiphany of Our Lord –

**Primary Text:** Matthew 2:1-12

No study is available for this text thru Daily Discipleship.



## **Palestine Lutheran Church** **Advent & Christmas 2018**

### **Advent Sundays – 9:30 a.m.**

*Blessing of Advent Wreath (Dec 02) - Make Wreath*  
*Blessing of the Nativity (Dec 02) – Make Nativity Scene*  
*Blessing of Christmas Trees (Dec 09) – Make Ornament*  
*Advent Hymn Festival (Dec 16)*  
*Christmas Children's Program (Dec 16)*  
*Affirmation of Baptism – (Dec 23)*

**Advent Mid-Week Services – Wed (Nov 28, Dec 5,19) at 7:30pm – Make Us Bread for Others: An Advent service of Lament and Hope (30 min worship/devotion)**

### **Christmas Celebrations**

***ROCK Christmas Extravaganza (Dec 08) – 9am-12pm***  
***Seniors Christmas Tea (Dec 02) – 11:00am***  
***Blue Christmas Service (Dec 18) – 6:30 pm***  
 @ Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley, Iowa

***Christmas Caroling (Dec 12) – 6:00pm at Ballard Creek***  
***Christmas Program (Dec 16) – 4:30 p.m.***  
*"The Midnight Miracle" & meal by confirmation class*

***Christmas Senior Service (Dec 24) – 2:00pm***  
 @ Ballard Creek Home w/Holy Communion

***Christmas Eve Family Service (Dec 24) – 5:00p.m.***  
***Christmas Day (Dec 25) – 9:00 a.m.***  
 @ Nazareth Lutheran, Cambridge w/breakfast

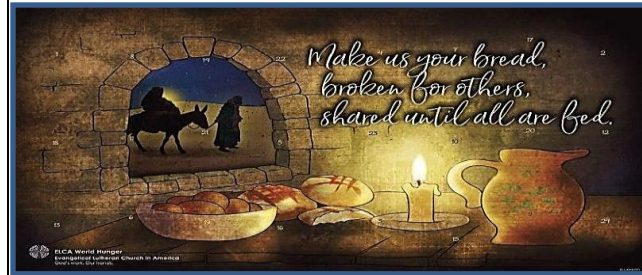
***New Dawn Worship (Dec 30) – 9:30 a.m.***  
*Affirmation of Baptism and New Year's Blessing*  
*Christmas Lessons and Carols 2017*

***Epiphany "3Kings" Sunday (Jan 6) – 9:30***



***God with Us***  
***Advent and***  
***Christmas***  
***Season 2018***

You can explore as a family the meaning, activities and prayers for the seasons of the spirit and soul. A copy of Palestine's Advent 2018 handout will be available on the "Advent table" in Fellowship Hall. It was sent as e-mail attachment with weekly announcements November 14th. A color version is available on line [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com).



**Advent Mid-Week Worship 2018**  
**Make Us Bread for Others Until All Are Fed**  
*An Advent Service of Lament and Hope*

***Advent is a season of anticipation and longing. This service is based on Psalm 80 and is structured in three main sections: Hear Us, Heal Us, and Send Us. Theme comes from the ELCA World Hunger emphasis for Advent.***

**When:** **Wednesday, Nov 28, Dec. 05 & 19**  
**@ 7:30pm**

*Offering for ELCA Global Barnyard*  
**Place:** **Palestine Lutheran Church**  
*(Ending confirmation class)*  
**Candlelight Service of Reflection**

## **Welcome to the Waiting Room**

Sunday Advent Worship

Experience

### **Sunday Series Overview**

Advent is a season of hoping, waiting, yearning, and preparing, but for what or whom and how?

These are some of the themes explored in this Advent series. The word "advent" is from the Latin *adventus*; it means "arrival" or an awaited coming. It's a season of big promises. We wonder, "Will God keep ancient promises or has God forgotten us?"

During these four weeks, the future and the past mingle together as we celebrate the Christ who came and is yet to come. Memories, inherited through scripture and tradition, are sparked in order to feed tomorrow's hope. The Spirit nudges the discovery, "If God came once, maybe God really will come again." Advent is a season largely forgotten by our culture of immediate gratification, and likewise we've forgotten what it means to wait well. In all of this waiting, God is creating desire within us. And we trust it's worth the wait. Along the way, there are a few things for which we're not yet ready, because when God comes close it's almost always accompanied by surprise or scandal.

**This is God's story. This is our story.**

**Welcome to the season of Advent.**

#### **Advent 1: Surprise (December 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

Salvation always comes as a surprise. It's what happens when God does for us what we could never do for ourselves. So when God comes close it is always unimaginable, yet God asks us to expect it.

#### **Advent 2: Prepare (December 9<sup>th</sup>)**

Hope might sound passive, but it's the farthest thing from it. Christian hope won't let you just sit on your hands. There are preparations to be made and roadwork to be straightened out because *God is coming*.

#### **Advent 3: Expectations (December 16<sup>th</sup>)**

How do we know when God has come close? What if it's not what we were expecting? Advent asks us to adjust some of our hopes and expectations.

#### **Advent 4: Scandal (December 23<sup>rd</sup>)**

More often than not, when God comes close it results in a major scandal. Our sensibilities are offended and misunderstandings fly about. When "God is with us" it's likely that public disgrace and secret dismissals will soon follow, because, essentially, when God comes close life gets disrupted.



We experience loss in many ways throughout our life. Some losses are small and some are life-altering and call us to provide a time and place of solace during the frenetic days surrounding Christmas. Not everyone feels like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas.

In the Northern Hemisphere, December 21 is the longest night, the winter solstice, which means literally "standing still." It marks the shortest day of the year, the official start of winter, when the sun traces its shortest, lowest path above the horizon in the northern hemisphere. Tradition says that nature and all her creatures stop and hold their breath to see if the sun will turn back from its wanderings, if the days will lengthen and the earth will once again feel the sun's warmth. We might feel like that in our circumstances as life seems to stop or take a detour and we wonder if we can go on. How will life be now?

In the gathering darkness of December, we anticipate the coming again of the Light of the world. It may only be the hope that marks Advent's waiting that keeps us looking toward the coming of Christ. It may also be that the blue of the Advent season (which symbolizes hope) is the very remedy we need for what makes us feel "blue" at Christmas.

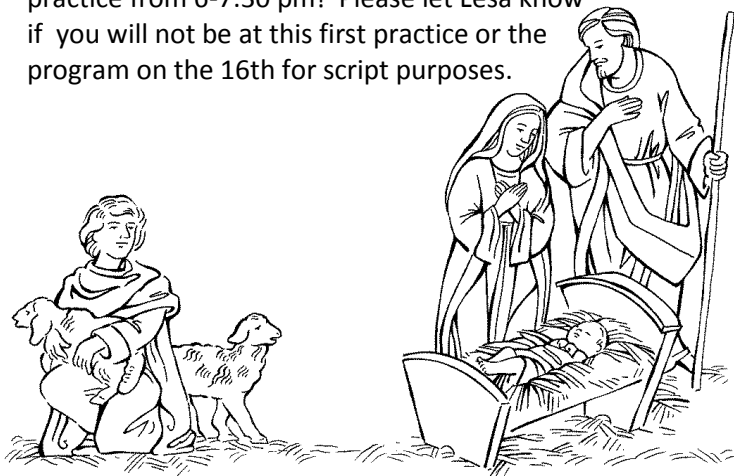
We celebrate a time of remembrance and hope by making Christmas ornaments and hanging them with family and friends on our Christmas tree.

**Blue Christmas service will be at Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley, Iowa on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.**



'Tis the Season! We will practice Christmas program music after church where music is normally held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. This is for ages preschool - 2nd grade specifically, but 3rd-6th graders are encouraged to help with actions! The 16th of December we will have full practice lines with the microphone after church for preschool-6<sup>th</sup> graders, so please plan on being there!!

3rd-6th graders start program practice Sunday, November 28th with dinner from 5:30-6 and practice from 6-7:30 pm! Please let Lesa know if you will not be at this first practice or the program on the 16th for script purposes.



#### Christmas program schedule --

Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> – 5:30-6 dinner, 6-7:30 practice (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6-7:30 practice (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – 5:30-6 dinner, 6-7:30 practice (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – 6-7:30 practice (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – all program practice until noon after church (10:45 am – 12 noon)

✱ 4:30 special music begins with program to follow

✱ Meal served by Confirmation group following

#### Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

– 6:15 Christmas caroling/skit at Ballard Creek



Contact any KICK advisor with questions!

Jody Calvert 515-451-3332 [jodycalvert18@gmail.com](mailto:jodycalvert18@gmail.com)

Lesla Lewis 515-669-3131 [lesalewis5@gmail.com](mailto:lesalewis5@gmail.com)

Lori Schonhorst 515-321-2833 [lschonhorst@gmail.com](mailto:lschonhorst@gmail.com)

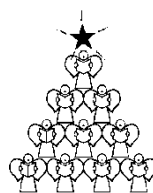
## Christmas Extravaganza



The ROCK group is hosting Palestine's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Extravaganza on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am – noon. There will be \$10, \$15 & \$20 cookie boxes to fill with your favorite Christmas treats along

with our local independent vendors: Thirty One, Stella and Dot, Ever Skin Care, Cindy's Christmas Cards, LipSense, Landy Lou and Devie Too, Creations by Kincaid, and Ann's Knitted Lids. Once again, we are asking for donations of home baked cookies and treats from the congregation. A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall. Please spread the word about the Extravaganza and invite your friends! Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards our mission trip to Costa Rica next summer. Thank you all so much for your support!

## Angel Tree 2018



ROCK is again sponsoring the Angel Tree project as part of the Ballard Clothes Pantry Wishing Tree. ROCK invites the congregation to help to fill wishes found on angel ornaments/ gift tags which will be available November 25. Items are to be

left unwrapped with the ornament/gift tag taped to the item. You may include wrapping paper with the gift. Gifts need to be at church by Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 5 p.m. ROCK members will be delivering them to the clothes pantry by 6 pm that night. If anyone has questions about this project they can contact McKenzie Shaffer!



Blumsters is offering Poinsettias for Palestine members. Each single-branch plant with 5-7 blooms is wrapped with foil and a bow at a cost of \$12.00 (tax included). Julie Huxford or Tracy Sheldahl will take your order after

worship. (You may also order a poinsettia by calling Blumsters @ 515/597-2200.) Order deadline is December 9<sup>th</sup>.

A bulletin insert will be published listing those who have given poinsettias. Please indicate when ordering if you are placing the plant in memory of or in honor of someone.

# December 2018

## Volunteer schedule

### Greeters

12/2 Lynae & Josh Kruse  
Holly & Wade Twedt  
12/9 Donna & Dennis Millang  
Jean Saveraid  
12/16 Doreen Blackmer  
Jen & Mark Pote  
12/23 Andrew & Cally Larson  
Tony & Jamie Ness  
12/30 Merle Brendeland  
Deb & Allan Kopaska

### Acolytes –

12/2 Nick Larson  
12/9 Grant Twedt, Derrick Rhoads  
12/16  
12/23  
12/24  
12/30

### Lectors -

12/2 .....  
12/9 .....  
12/16 .....  
12/23 .....  
12/24 .....  
12/30 .....

### Ushers

Brent Larson, captain  
Tim Wilson  
Mike Thomas  
Dennis Millang

### Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

### Communion Assistants

12/2 .....Brent & Missy Larson  
12/16 .....Henry & Jan Rumbaugh  
12/24 .....Brent & Julie Emerson

### Offering Counters

Brent Emerson, Jeannie Williams

### Altar Guild

Helen Kepler, Holly Twedt

### Snow Removal

• Sidewalks  
• Drives & Parking Lots  
Sign up in Fellowship Hall

### Deliver Food Pantry donations for Dec

"December is **Dinner for more** month at the food pantry - please donate boxed dinner mixes, such as mac-n-cheese and complete meals; rice mixes, pastas."  
Sponsored by Palestine Mission Outreach Committee.

### Looking Ahead

Annual Reports due January 2, 2019  
Annual Meeting January 27, 2019

Church Office: 515/597-2620 Fax number: 515/597-2621

Website: [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)

Secretary's Office: 515/597-2624

Church e-mail is: [PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net)

Pastor Eric Klimpel's email: [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

cell: 936/444-3895

## **Treasurer's Report**

Balance on hand November 18, 2018

Checking Account \$ 33,865.10

General Fund \$ 5,318.94

Designated Funds \$ 28,546.16

Benevolence 160.00

Building Improvement - 318.11

Technology 3,384.00

Kitchen 17,914.34

Parsonage 702.86

Confirmation 790.42

Evangelism/Fellowship 871.68

Piano Fund 3,906.84

Maland Fund 1,084.13

ELCA Disaster Fund 50.00

Principal balance for building improvement loan

\$ 3,584.64

Principal balance for general fund operating loan

\$ 13,700.00

(as of November 18, 2018)

## **Next Council Meeting – Sunday, Dec 2nd, 2018 at 8 am**

### **Church Council 2018**

Pastor Eric Klimpel

President: Matt Williams

Vice President: Jeff Van Pelt

Secretary: Ellen Longnecker

Treasurer: Deidre Qual

Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Council:

Nels Dovre

David Eisenmann

Cynthia Johnson

Laura Kepler

Brad Lewis

Jean Saveraid

Kristin Shelton

Tim Wilson

Lora Young



**Severe Weather Policy:** When school is canceled because of the weather, all church functions will

also be canceled. If weather hits when school is not in session, a message regarding cancellations will be put on the church answering machine (515/597-2620) and also on our church website [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com). We will notify the following radio/TV stations if worship or other events are to be canceled WHO, KCCI, KRNT, & WOI. For smaller functions phone trees will also be utilized.

**Special NOTE:** Please use your own judgment regarding traveling in severe weather conditions.

## Minutes - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting

[not yet approved] **November 4, 2018 Sunday**

Present: Pastor Eric, Matt Williams, Jeff Van Pelt, Tim Wilson, David Eisenmann, Cynthia Johnson, Brad Lewis, Laura Kepler, Lora Young, Dick Kepler, Kristin Shelton, Jean Saveraid, Deidre Qual

Devotions – Brad Lewis  
Stewardship

Read Vision and Mission Statements

Goals and Reflections

Kitchen looks great!

Minutes of the previous meeting

Jeff Van Pelt motions to approve minutes from previous meeting. Jean Saveraid seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report – Deidre presented report.

Approximately \$1,500 dollars paid for flooring.

General fund may look lower due to first insurance payment.

A motion was made by Lora Young to approve Treasurer's report. Tim Wilson seconded the motion.  
Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel presented his report.

New business:

1. Annual meeting date: January 27, 2019
2. Finance and audit committee meetings.
  - a. Need to meet during the first few weeks of December.
3. Evangelism/Fellowship recommendation to discontinue bulletins in mailboxes.
  - a. Possible options
    - i. Email with weekly announcements
    - ii. Upload on webpage

David Eisenmann motions to approve discontinuing bulletins in mailboxes, Kristin Shelton seconded the motion

4. Renewal of website domain and builder software.
  - a. Extending a year

Laura Kepler motions to approve one year renewal of website domain. Cynthia Johnson seconded the motion.

5. Duane Faas acknowledgment.
  - a. Coming on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and staying for Sr. tea.
6. Parsonage/church – hail damage roof repair.
  - a. Some items that need/have been addressed
    - i. Roof- Hail damage
    - ii. Gutters

1. Possibly solve basement window leak
- iii. Radon- Testing was done and radon was detected. Installation of radon mitigation is roughly 2 weeks out.
- iv. Sump pump- needs updated/fixed
- v. Curtains- current curtains are not salvageable- plan to put up rods and allow Nels and Alison to choose their own.

Unfinished Business:

1. Audit committee -Approval of Mike Thomas, Justin Sample, and Shelly Klingbeil.
  - a. Brad motioned to approve audit committee and David Eisemann seconded the motion.
2. Nominating committee – Need to start engaging.
  - a. Members: McKenzie Shaffer, Kari Sandquist, Aden Lewis, Greg Hartsook, Jean Saveraid, Bruce Hartman
3. Kitchen committee – Update
  - a. Down to the accessorizing
    - i. Dishwasher detergent, racks for dishwasher, adding shelves, going to cover cabinet up above electrical box, replace door, adjust stain on big opening to match, adjust pilot light, etc.
    - b. Looking into a possible “permanent” kitchen committee to help keep kitchen in good shape.
4. Parsonage – update.
  - a. Improvement needs. – listed above
5. Coffee enhancement update-Tim Wilson
  - a. In progress
6. ROCK group trip update – Nels
  - a. In progress
7. Piano investigation update.

Adjourn with Lord's Prayer

Next meeting – Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

December Devotions – Matt  
Treats – Kristin Shelton

Jeff Van Pelt motions to adjourn meeting, Lora Young seconded the motion.

Check out our NEW and IMPROVED website ([www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)) it has been streamlined for greater ease in viewing it on a mobile device.

### There's still time...

Thanks to those of you who have so generously supported the ministries of our church through your financial gifts! We are grateful for all that you have offered and for all the good things we've been able to do in Jesus' name because of them. Don't forget that your gifts are tax-deductible but must be received by December 31 to qualify for a 2018 deduction.

We need to catch-up with operating loans for the General Fund along with the Building Improvement Fund. (see the treasurer's report for details)

As a reminder...you can make contributions online or on any mobile device to these funds along with any other offerings. Just go to our website at [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com) and click on the "Online Giving" link on the homepage and you can set up an account to quickly and easily give anytime and anywhere!

### calling all college students

Treasurer Deidre Qual reminds college students desiring to receive a Palestine scholarship that they **must notify the church office by letter or e-mail** of their name, address and college or vocational school **by December 16<sup>th</sup>**. This information is needed to plan for distribution of the **Palestine Scholarship Fund**. \$100 is given to each qualifying student in December. This fund was set up to help provide encouragement for any student member of Palestine during the first four years after graduation from high school in any year which he or she continues his or her education at an approved college or vocational school.

**P.S. Parents please remind your college age student to apply for this scholarship.** We wouldn't want to leave someone out because they failed to submit their application.

E-mail: [PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net) Mailing address: 1375 HWY 210, Huxley, IA 50124

(We will reply when we receive your email so you can be sure that we received your request and that it isn't lost in cyberspace.)

### SNOW REMOVAL - Volunteers needed

1. Parking lots & drives
2. Sidewalks

Sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall. ?s check with Mike Larson. Special thanks to the many of you that have helped in past years.



The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 27. Deadline for submitting annual reports is January 2 to be sure copies of the report will be available to be picked up on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

## CAN YOU SHARE YOUR FAMILY TRADITION?

### *The Nativity Tradition*

*An exhibit of Nativity scenes from the collections of our friends and neighbors.*



*European Nativity 1955*

**Do you have a Nativity that's an heirloom? Was acquired in a unique way? Was handmade? Has special meaning? Has a story you want to tell?**

**TELL THAT STORY TO SAHA AND CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH US!**

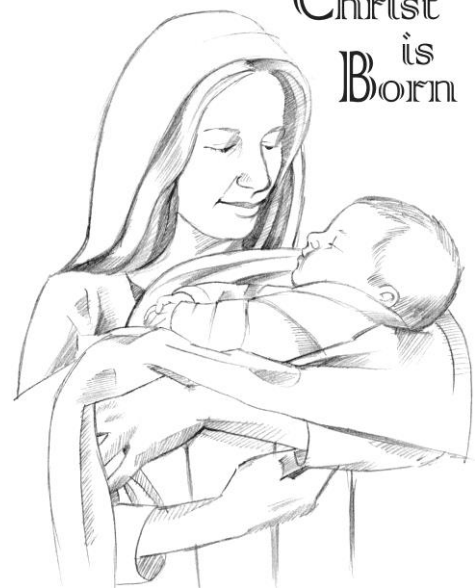
The Slater Area Historical Association is preparing a holiday exhibit featuring collected Nativities which have special meanings to their owners.

**This exhibit will be for only one day, Sunday, December 9, with a special reception and open house from 1-5 p.m.**

*Those who wish to continue to share their special Nativity can opt to have it on display with others until New Year's Day.*

**Call 515-480-9789 to join us for this exhibit. Nativities needed by the week of December 1. Include a description and story about the Nativity you are choosing to share with us. Thank you!**

Jesus  
Christ  
is  
Born





## December

## Celebrating Their ANNIVERSARY

### DECEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Rahner, Jill  
 4 - Calvert, Jody  
     Edwards, Jacey  
 5 - Klimpel, Austin  
     Young, Travis  
 11 - Hill, Laurie  
     Mueller, Christy  
 12 - Young, Lora  
 15 - Williams, Owen  
 17 - Polich, Andrew  
 18 - Klingbeil, Grant  
 20 - Harleen, Brian  
 21 - Larson, Louise  
 22 - Weikum, John  
 24 - Larson, Whitney  
 25 - Wilson, Tim  
 27 - Sorensen, Marvin (85<sup>th</sup>)  
 28 - Fausch, Cody  
     Larson, Ben  
     Madson, Rafe  
 29 - Clark, Max  
     Rittgers, Harold  
     Williams, Lucas  
 31 - Hill, Penn  
     Jolly, Adaline

- 5 - Bill & Sandy Harleen  
 14 - Del & Vivian Lundgren  
 10 - Joe & Emilee Thomas  
 19 - Scott & Alyssa Johnson  
     Mike & Cindi Thomas  
 27 - Donna & Mike Lisowski

If your birthday or anniversary was not included or was incorrect, please contact the church office so we can update our records. Thank you!



**Senior Member  
 Christmas Event  
 Sunday, December 2  
 11 a.m. short program  
 followed by light  
 lunch**

### Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during Nov.: Deb Bollmeyer; Anita Brendeland; Valerie Brendeland; Adrienne Brown; Joan Carson; Alisha Cox; Kim Fears; Grady Greco; Jackie Greene; Kai Johnson; Ralph Kalsem; Rob Larson; Merlin Lyon; Elias Samuel Moore; Chuck Ostermeier; Marvin Sorensen; Shannon Tope; Arlene Wee; Randy Young; Sarah JoAnn Young Family & friends of Duane Haglund (father of Lynae Kruse); Brett & Dan Van Ersvelde; Rod Wilson (father of Mindy DeVries)

- Our Compassion International child a 7 yr old boy Roberto Junior Perez Barreto in Columbia.
- Those impacted by hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms,



Following is a listing of Palestine's members who are 85 or older (denoted with a \*), widow/widower, and/or homebound to some degree, if you wish to send them a Christmas greeting.

#### Chuck Bowers

32310 560<sup>th</sup> Ave,  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### \*Anita Brendeland

Journey Senior Living of Ankeny  
 3602 NW 5<sup>th</sup> St  
 Ankeny, IA 50023

#### \*Valerie Brendeland

Windsor Manor, Apt 206  
 1642 S G Ave  
 Nevada, IA 50201

#### \*Dick & \*Bernadine Cast

3702 NE Cottonwood Ln  
 Ankeny, IA 50021

#### \*Bev Echtenkamp

3718 NE Cottonwood Lane  
 Ankeny, IA 50021

#### \*Nancy Fausch

52711 310<sup>th</sup> St  
 Kelley, IA 50134

#### \*Doris Halverson

Ballard Creek, Apt 257  
 908 N HWY 69  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### \*Wanda Halverson

Ballard Creek, Apt 231  
 908 N HWY 69  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### Dolores Hauge

1006 S Dayton Pl, #60  
 Ames, IA 50010

#### \*Warren Johnson

30545 560<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Cambridge, IA 50046

#### \*Ralph & Sandy Kalsem

175 Cardinal Rd  
 Ames, IA 50010

#### \*Alvina Larson

1675 NE 166<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### \*Leona O. Larson

56800 HWY 210  
 Cambridge, IA 50046

#### \*Del & Vivian Lundgren

1031 NE Greenview Dr  
 Ankeny, IA 50021

#### \*Doris Ness

304 E 4<sup>th</sup> St,  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### \*Roy & \*Elaine Paradise

3602 NE Cottonwood Ln  
 Ankeny, IA 50021

#### \*Harold Rittgers

165 Cardinal Rd  
 Ames, IA 50010

#### Katherine Saveraid

33845 585<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Cambridge, IA 50046

#### \*Shirley Saveraid

Ballard Creek #133  
 908 N HWY 69  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### \*Harriet Sheldahl

108 S 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### Marge Sheldahl

54183 320<sup>th</sup> St  
 Huxley, IA 50124

#### Marvin Sorensen

12635 NE 56<sup>th</sup> St  
 Elkhart, IA 50073

#### Arlene Wee

c/o Bickford Sr. Living  
 2418 Kent Ave  
 Ames, IA 50010

## PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA

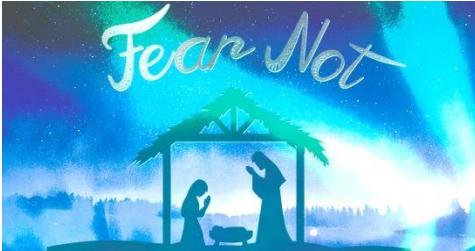
### PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA BIBLE STUDY

Monday, December 3, 2:00 p.m.

#### In the Gather magazine –

December 2018:

Fear not: an Advent/Christmas devotional



When God's people are afraid, it doesn't mean we are outside of faith. "Fear not" appears

frequently in the Bible, in a way that is comforting. Knowing God is with us, we can face our fears. As we enter the season of Advent, this devotional by the Rev. Katie Hines-Shah, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hinsdale, Illinois, will help us begin to see that the Christmas story is also the story of life in faith.

The theme for the December 2018 *Gather* magazine is – Fear not. God's message to the shepherds is also for us, lighting our way to Christ.

NOTE: Palestine Women will be on 'Winter Break' during the months of January, February and March.

## A Note of Thanks

Mange Tusen Takk (Many Thousand Thanks) to everyone who helped with this year's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Kumla Supper on November 10<sup>th</sup>! We thank you for your prayers, participation, providing and preparing. A thank you to the kitchen committee and all their work to have the "new kitchen" ready to be used for the Kumla Supper. Special thanks to our Kumla coordinators, the potato peelers, Kumla ball makers, servers, hostesses, diners, dish washers, those who set up & those who cleaned up, and the many who shared salads, desserts, roasters, and decorations. Thanks to the KICK group (and parents) for the great job you did serving the Kumla supper! Thanks to a Palestine Thrivent member for applying to lead a Thrivent Action Team and receiving a \$250 Community Impact Card that was used as seed money to purchase supplies for the Kumla Supper. Just a reminder that Thrivent Members can apply to lead up to 2 Action Teams each calendar year (details on the web [www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/](http://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/) ).

## Merry Christmas from LSI!

*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." — John 1:5*

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! Every day, as a ministry partner of LSI, you help bring the light of Christ to others.

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know parents who feel hopeless, with little to no resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of the foster care system, who fear they will never have a family to love them.

The holidays can be an especially difficult time for our most vulnerable neighbors. In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or

[Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org).

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

## Giving Back to Her Community

Two years ago, Sarah felt helpless. She struggled with her mental health, there was tension between family members at home, and she couldn't find support or resources that worked with her family's busy schedule. Sarah connected with LSI's Early Childhood Services, and through a local program she received flexible in-home parenting education to help her family thrive. Her LSI parent educator worked with her to learn about money management, healthy communication, and skills for parenting her two young children.

Now Sarah feels confident raising her family. She has found a support system and is ready to give back to her community and help other young mothers in need. Whenever she can, she tells other moms about LSI and helps refer them for services.

Because she felt empowered by LSI's Early Childhood Services, Sarah is creating a ripple effect across her community. She is passionate about lifting up and strengthening other families in need of the hope and healing she received.

**Community Events** - Check bulletin board & counter in Fellowship Hall for additional announcements & information.



Scan Away Hunger is our annual effort to provide meals and care for

hungry people in central Iowa...and you can help! Join Hope Ministries, Golden Rule, Hy-Vee and KCCI 8 Des Moines from Thanksgiving through Christmas by "scanning" a plate at a participating metro Hy-Vee store OR [give online](#).

[www.hopeiowa.org/pages/act/scan-away-hunger](http://www.hopeiowa.org/pages/act/scan-away-hunger)

Just \$1.85 provides a meal and care.



### Avenue of Trees and Wreaths Silent Auction

11/16/2018 – 10 a.m. 12/3/2018

We will have trees & wreaths to bid on at the main campus of Madrid Home Communities. Silent Auction bids on beautiful, fun, festive trees & wreaths!

Pictures of all trees will be displayed on our Facebook page, but actual bids must take place at the location.

How you can participate:

-Decorate a 3' tree or average sized wreath and bring it in to the Madrid Home before November 15<sup>th</sup>. If your tree or wreath receives the highest bid, you win a Casey's gift card.

-Come and bid on a tree or wreath from November 16<sup>th</sup> until 10 am on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The highest bidder gets the item.

#### **Volunteer Opportunities at the Madrid Home:**

1. You can help wrap gifts for residents in early to mid-December by setting up a time with Tanae Rankin at the Madrid Home (515) 795-3007.
2. The resident's Christmas Party is scheduled for Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:30-3:00 pm. Volunteers can assist residents unwrapping gifts, wheeling to the party, etc. Let Tanae Rankin know you would like to help by calling (515) 795-3007.
- 3.



3001 Riverside Rd, Story City, IA 50248  
1-800-372-7748

[rlbc@riverside.org](mailto:rlbc@riverside.org)  
[www.RiversideLBC.org](http://www.RiversideLBC.org)

"To Know Christ and to make Christ known to all."  
Online registration is now open for Summer Camp 2019! Check out what dates work best for your summer schedule, and get signed up today! A copy of the summer 2019 master calendar is available on the counter in Fellowship Hall or check it out online.



### **Ballard Community Performing Arts Association Presents 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Musical Celebration**

Featuring Ballard Community Band and Choir  
Fjeldberg Bell Choir -- Visitor from the North Pole  
Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 2 p.m. in Ballard High School Auditorium.

Cookies and juice after concert



Interested in become a member of the Altar Guild or being a communion assistant during communion? As an altar guild member you would be asked to help two months per year with communion, changing altar cloths, help with baptisms, and other responsibilities. As a communion assistant you would be asked to help with serving communion two or three Sunday's per year. If you are interested in helping with either of these or have questions about the responsibilities, please contact Donna Millang at "[donnamillang@gmail.com](mailto:donnamillang@gmail.com)".