

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

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THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2020

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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.”

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.



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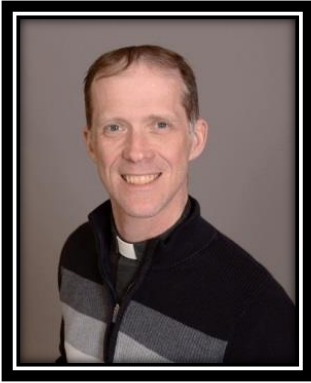
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Palestine will accept your offering!

- 1. **Bring** to worship service with you.
- 2. **Mail** check to:
Palestine Lutheran Church
1375 HWY 210
Huxley, IA 50124
- 3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website www.plchuxley.com and click on the bright red ONLINE GIVING tab on the right located above our “Reaching out in Christian love to all” statement.

Thank you. Continue to pray and know God is with us.



With Pastor Eric

Considering the Sign of the Time

"Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Isaiah 35:4

Some people have inquired as to why the phrase "Be strong, do not fear!" is on our sign along highway 210. Instead of rushing right in with an answer I ask, "What does it say to you?" I have discovered some surprisingly diverse responses as I'm sure that you have your own as well.

You might read it as "do not fear the virus" and take a stand against it, or "fight it!" The message might be not to "flee from the virus," or "hide from it". Don't let it inconvenience you or take away anything. I read an article that suggested that we are grieving already, and denial is a big part of that along with the uncertainty. The world is different than it was three or four months ago and most of us are still trying to wrap our minds around it as we are forced to live it. The denial turns to anger and frustration quickly because things are different now.

You might read it as "do not fear to do what is necessary to love your neighbor." We are asked to make sacrifices and be inconvenienced for the most vulnerable people in our communities. How do we help protect those whom we love and those whom God loves daily during this trying time of pandemic? What is reasonable to give up in face of evolving data from the

experts? How will we model love and care for others as we live into this new situation? What message do we give? The virus will be with us and a vaccine will come our way, but the message about the type of community we are will live on and shape us well beyond this virus.

You might read it in the context of Isaiah from which it came. “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God...”. God is about to do a “new thing” in the midst of Israel. He will come and save them. They are told not to be afraid because what God is doing will be different and unexpected. The people might not even realize what is happening at first. God winds up using a pagan conqueror named Cyrus to deliver Israel by conquering Babylon. Cyrus becomes the “messiah” of God and liberates Israel from captivity!! There will be death, hardship and suffering to everyone as this liberation comes about for Israel, so God reassures them to keep their faith during this hardship. When you read Isaiah, you know that everything changes for God’s people. They live into a new reality with God who does something new and different for their benefit.

Go ahead and read that sign again when you drive by. I hope that you might read it with a mind that is open to what God is doing that is new in you and hear that you don’t have to be afraid of it.

Let us pray. Our Father, who calls us to love as we are loved, open our minds to new ways of seeing you at work in our lives and make us strong in faith as we continue to figure out the obstacles of both living together and for others in your love, so that we might be witnesses to Jesus who gave up everything for us so we could have everything in him, in Jesus’s name we pray. Amen.



“We’re Back!”

We are **RESUMING** our normal worship service at **9:30 a.m.** Slides will be utilized for worship, or you can download the bulletin and bring it with you.

Please watch the short video on **YouTube** (if you haven’t already) about what to expect at our REGULARLY SCHEDULED 9:30 a.m. worship service.

<https://youtu.be/3XBExK8KZQE>

This video will show you what to expect when you come to worship “on site” this summer. The practices will change over time as the COVID-19 rates of infection change for our area with the goal of full gathering as before the pandemic.



Just a reminder that for the moment-

- *Children are to stay with their parents*
- *Nursery is closed*
- *Fellowship activities in the church are suspended*
- *Church building will be open 15 minutes before worship and closed 15 minutes after*

LIVESTREAMING is still available during our 9:30 service. Go to our Facebook page <https://m.facebook.com/PalestineLutheranChurch/> and/or our website at www.plchuxley.com and click on the Livestream tab in the upper right.

If you are considered vulnerable, or have regular contact with someone who is vulnerable, or feel sick, then we urge you to please stay home for the time being and participate in the on-line streaming worship!

Study and Prayer Opportunities

<p>Sundays @ 7:00 a.m.</p>	<p>ZOOM Dawn Dialog with Jesus Reflection and prayer on Gospel text for the Day <i>"Where two or three are gathered in my name, then I am there among them." (Matthew 18:20)</i> An invitation will be sent on email to those interested in discussing the Sunday morning texts using the Daily Discipleship Material.</p>
<p>Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m.</p> 	<p>ZOOM Bible Study An invitation was sent to all congregation members on July 1st and will begin Tuesday, July 7th. The topic for discussion will be based on the Discipleship Series. We will send an attachment on the appropriate topic to be used. (Prayer, study, worship, invite, encourage, serve, give) along with other topics more specific to Biblical worldview. Pastor Eric will host the meeting on: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. You can participate either by audio (phone) or video (computer). Have your Bibles in hand.</p>
<p>Wednesdays @ 7:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Men's Bible Study in the North Hall</p>
<p>Wednesdays @ 12:00 noon</p> 	<p>ZOOM Power of Prayer An invitation was emailed out to enter into prayer together every Wednesday. You can email in a prayer request or call the church with a special request. We will pray together for 30 minutes. Join once or every Wednesday! If you would like an invite, call or email Pastor Eric.</p>



Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website www.elca.org
→Resources→ Downloadable Resources→ Bible studies

Pentecost Week 5

Focus: *When and how do you take rest in God?*

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Pentecost Week 6

Focus: *How has God’s Word grown in your life and produced fruit?*

“But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” Matthew 13:23 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Pentecost Week 7

Focus: *How do you listen to God’s Word?*

“Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!” Matthew 13:43 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Pentecost Week 8

Focus: *What is one choice you made this week because you were a Christian?*

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” Matthew 13:44 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Jax Clark | 20 | Brayden DeVries |
| | Charlie Rhoads | 21 | Paris Hithcock |
| | Marshal Sheldahl | 22 | Henry Sandquist |
| | Michelle Siepker | 23 | Apollo McKenna |
| 2 | Julie Huxford | 24 | Ron Locker |
| | Emmett Johnson | | Matt Siepker |
| 3 | Mitchell Peterson | 25 | Deb Ness |
| | Deidre Qual | | Benjamin Williams |
| | Jean Saveraid | 27 | Scott Johnson |
| 4 | Dolores Hauge | | Shannon Wilson |
| 6 | Melanie Fausch | 29 | Josie Jensen |
| | Kevin Rahner | | Teri Klimpel |
| 7 | Holly Larson | | Abbie Larson |
| 9 | Shane Harmon | | Pat Martin |
| | Annika Larson | 30 | Shelley Klingbeil |
| | Jacob Saltzman | 31 | Taylor Sample |
| | Tim Wise | | |
| 10 | Lori Edwards | | |
| | Amber McKenna | | |
| 11 | Kevin Rowedder | | |
| 13 | Sandy Harleen | | |
| 14 | Leslie Harris | | |
| | Jamie Ness | | |
| 15 | Kiley Calvert | | |
| 16 | Brent Larson | | |
| | Donna Millang | | |
| | Ila Russell | | |
| | Kari Sandaquist | | |
| 17 | Jenny Gallagher | | |
| | Greg Hartsook | | |
| | Gus Madson | | |
| 18 | Merle Brendeland | | |
| | Roger Larson | | |
| | Aldo Medici | | |



- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Paul & Deb Ness |
| 14 | Tracy & Doreen Blackmer |
| | Kevin & Melissa Kopaska |
| | Garrett & Ellen Longnecker |
| 15 | Doug & Lori Schonhorst |
| 17 | Shane & Jennifer Harmon |
| | Wade & Holly Twedt |
| 20 | Tom & Kristin Shelton |
| 22 | Nels & Allison Dovre |
| 25 | Dennis & Donna Millang |



Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a chair and water bottle for our outside service on the 5th!



SUNDAY	MONDAY
5 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion OUTSIDE weather permitting (Online service will be pre-recorded unless we can work out Livestream)	6
12 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) 4:00-7:00 p.m. Gather at the Garden @ the Blackmer Farm.	13
19 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion & First Communion (Livestreamed)	20
26 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) 4:00-7:00 p.m. Gather at the Garden @ the Blackmer Farm.	27

JULY 2020

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	2	3	4 Happy 4th!
7 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	8 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	9	10	11
14 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	15 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	16	17	18
21 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	22 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	23	24	25
28 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	29 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	30	31	

***** See notes about worship services in the Worship and Study Opportunities part of the newsletter – page 6**



Agenda - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Sunday, June 7th, 2020 @ 6:00 PM at Palestine Lutheran Church
Zoom link for those who are remote:

Kristin Shelton, Tim Wilson, Pastor Eric, Nels Dovre, Cynthia Johnson, Deidre Qual, Haylie Clark, Jean Saveraid, David Eisenmann, Brad Lewis, Brent Emerson, Candi Engler

A quorum was established.

Devotions Jean Saveraid. Great video about Lutherans finding Jesus with Sabbath

Read Vision and Mission Statements

Goals and Reflections 8 AM (8:30 for Jean) services are getting better by the week. Video Screens are working better.

Minutes of the previous meeting- David Eisenmann motioned to approve. Jean Saveraid seconded. Everyone approved unanimously with gusto...

Treasurer's Report Deidre. David Eisenmann motioned to approve. Kristin Shelton seconded. All voiced unanimous support
General Fund : \$3475.53 (with today's giving approximately \$5600)
Checking Balance Total:\$16,682.44

Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel

Refer to Pastor's Report. Highlights include: Blood Drive June 30th, Synod Assembly will be only one day in August and they are electing a new Bishop, Licensing for posting music and liturgy (could need funding), Funerals during the Pandemic, Snackable communion packages?,

New business:

1. Re-integration of Worship Services

Motion from Nels. June 14th. 8:00 service with music. 9:30 live stream with music. June 21 8:00 live stream with music. 9:30 service with music. Eventual date to be named when sound board arrives to combine into one service per socially distance. The damaged sound board will need to find funding for this...This is per Mindy's approval to play both services short term.

Candi Engler seconded. Motion passed unanimously....

2. First Communion — Discussion for July meeting. Baby Steps...(Maybe late July or early August for First Communion)(Communion itself may start second week of July)

3. Building Usage -- Charlie Brendeland July 18th or July 25th? Dean Simmon's is this weekend. Pastor will not be performing this service. It is at 1:00 or 2:00. Need to call Bob Knight and line up a second dusting...

Unfinished Business:

1.VBS Update — Thoughts — Shelve material "Mission to Mars", we still host next year. Use an intermediate craft for three days. Use a more temporary Template for this year.

2.Caroline's Baptism — already has been approved. Private baptism. June 27th, 1:00 at the church. 25 people roughly. Currently not wanting to Live Stream.

Motion to Adjourn & Adjourn with Lord's Prayer --

Tim Wilson motioned to adjourn. Brent Emerson seconded.

Next Meeting : July 12th, 2020 6:00

Treats- Pastor Klimpel

Devotions- Brent Emerson



Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during June:

Laura Aust, Dianne Blackmer, Anita Brendeland, Dick Brown, Joan Carson, Alisha Cox, Bev Echtenkamp, Lowell Elliott, Jane Gordan, Jackie Greene, Bruce & Sandy Halverson, Warren Johnson, Kevin Klingbeil, Alvina Larson, Ardell Lundgren, Merlin Lyon, Roger Moore, Loree Ness, Deidre Qual, Jody Schuman, Shannon Tope, Marissa Vermeer, Joyce Volz, Nova Lynn Walte, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller

Family & friends of: Charles Brendeland, Valerie Brendeland, Angie Claude, Bruce Cox, Bonny Erickson, Wanda Halverson, Tanner Houseman, Sue Ihle, Ralph Kalsem, Donna Keiser, Sharon Mortenson, Mark Richter, Dean Simmons, Judy Smith, Don Trautner, Arlene Wee, Tanner Houseman, Rev. LeRoy Dobbe



WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST BAPTIZED MEMBER:

CAROLINE CHRISTINE THOMAS

Born February 18, 2020

Baptized June 27, 2020

We celebrate the baptism of our new sister in Christ – **Caroline Christine Thomas**. **Caroline** is the **daughter** of **Joseph and Emilee Thomas**. Her baptismal sponsors are Alex Thomas and Olivia Thomas.

† We welcome **Caroline** into the Lord's family as a child of God!



Love. Grow. Serve.

Gather at the Garden – Help at the Blackmer farm along with a devotion and s'more time **July 12 and 26**. Drop in to work in the garden between **4-7 p.m.** S'mores and worship at 6 p.m. Wear work clothes, bring gloves and masks as needed. Tracy will provide water and sunscreen.

Food Pantry Ministry – Help serve at the local food pantry in Huxley with our Fjeldberd friends. Contact Jackie Rasmussen (catsrus@huxcomm.net)

To my Church Family

Thank
you

Thanks you for my 98th Birthday
greetings and Well Wishes.
We have much to be thankful for
God-willing-We can worship
together in church again,
Lamentations 3: 22, 23

The steadfast love of the
Lord never ceases

His mercies never come to an end

They are new every morning

Great is Thy Faithfulness

(Revised Standard Version)

With Appreciation

Love & Prayers

Leona Larson

Thank
you



ATTENTION FIRST COMMUNION PARTICIPANTS:

Please stop by the fellowship hall during open hours (Tuesday-Friday 8-1) and pick up a banner kit and bottle of glue to make a personalized banner that will be displayed at church the day of your first communion. The box with the kits and glue is along the west wall. Please have your banner completed and back to church **by July 17th** (put in workroom) so they can be displayed for your First Communion on July 19th!



Pastor Eric will begin limited visitation for members who would like to have one. We will begin Holy Communion in the month of July as enabled week to week. Please contact Pastor Eric if you would like to have a visit. You do not have to wait for him to call.

Call 515-597-2620 or email ericklimpel@gmail.com

We would like to work out what is best and safest for the visit and distribution for each person.

LSI's Host Homes Program

Each year, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) empowers hundreds of Iowans with disabilities. And despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this year is no different. There is no greater joy for us than seeing an individual develop greater independence, find their confidence, and thrive. And through our innovative Host Homes program, LSI has found a new way to lift up our Iowa neighbors and keep them safe in times of crisis.

Through the program, adults with disabilities (or “mentees”) move from a supported community living setting – like a 24-hour, fully staffed home with roommates – and into a private family home with a Host Homes “mentor.” LSI collaborates with the individuals we serve and the contracted mentors to ensure each match is the perfect fit and create a shared living opportunity that is beneficial to mentors and mentees. With the extra safety precautions associated with COVID-19, this program is a safe option where participants are in a home setting, interacting with one trusted mentor instead of several staff members.

LSI is seeking compassionate and dedicated caregivers to join us in the mission. If you have room in your heart and in your home, being a Host Homes mentor might be for you! Visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes to learn more. If you are interested in supporting crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

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 and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

We are Still Here: LSI's Services for People with Disabilities

Becky, an LSI Direct Support Professional, supports her client every day through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. During the COVID-19 crisis, Becky has spent her shifts adding extra safety measures and precautions so she and her client could safely go to the grocery store for food and supplies when the time came.

But her client regularly experiences PTSD, depression, and anxiety, among other mental health conditions, and the isolation and crisis measures around COVID-19 only heightened her experience of these conditions. Becky knew she needed to do something to keep her client feeling comfortable and safe.

During their sessions together, Becky makes sure they practice good hand washing and wear masks. Her client knows she has someone walking alongside her every step of the way, and the client's young daughter found a way to thank Becky for her work: a picture with the words, "I don't like COVID-19, but I'm happy when you come over." "I can't imagine not seeing my clients through this," Becky says. "We are all in this together."



Nels Dovre will be posting children messages monthly!

Check out Facebook page

<https://m.facebook.com/PalestineLutheraChurch/> and/or our website
www.plchuxley.com





COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Iowa

GENERAL INFORMATION

More information about public assistance and the state's response to COVID-19 can be found at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19>.

NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a 24/7, toll-free hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Call 800-273-8255 for support or go to <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

The National Domestic Violence Hotline can be reached at 800-799-7233. You can chat online with an advocate at www.thehotline.org or text LOVEIS to 22522.

FARMER CRISIS HOTLINE

Farmers who are facing challenges during the pandemic can contact Farm Aid at 800-FARM-AID. More resources can be found at the National Farmers Union's Farm Crisis Center at <https://farmcrisis.nfu.org/>.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Federal legislation has made unemployment benefits available to workers who may not have qualified before. To learn more and to apply, visit <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/file-claim-unemployment-insurance-benefits>.



SNAP

For more information on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Iowa, visit <https://dhs.iowa.gov/food-assistance>. To apply for SNAP benefits and other public benefits in Iowa, visit <https://dhsservices.iowa.gov/apspspp/ssp.portal>.



UTILITIES ASSISTANCE

Energy assistance programs are administered by community action agencies. Visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to find your local office. Contact your local office to apply.



RENT AND EVICTIONS

Federal law has placed a moratorium on evictions from certain properties, including those backed by federal mortgages through Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. To learn more, visit https://arsen.house.gov/uploadedfiles/covid_toolkit_3.30.20.pdf. This, however, does not apply to most private residences. For rental assistance and housing help, visit <https://www.hud.gov/states/iowa>.



NUTRITION FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN

For more information about WIC in Iowa, to locate your local WIC agency and to learn more about applying, visit <https://idph.iowa.gov/WIC> or call 800-532-1579. Federal law has waived the requirement for applicants to appear in person. Check with your local office to verify the application process.



CHILD CARE

Information about child care assistance can be found at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/childcare/families>. The Centralized Child Care Assistance Eligibility Unit can also be reached at 866-448-4605.



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Palestine Lutheran Church
1375 HWY 210
Huxley, IA 50124-8110
Address service requested