



The Palestine Press

May 2016

Volume XXX Number 5
Monthly newsletter of
Palestine Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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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."

Making Disciples of Jesus who Make Disciples of Jesus -

---With Pastor Eric

I've had a small voice inside my head that I hope is the "Holy Spirit!" When I feel lost in my schedule, or if someone asks me about my purpose in ministry and I need focus, I hear this small voice say, "***Disciples who make disciples.***" I believe that I have to pay more attention to this guidance especially as a pastor. Here is where I'm at today in my reflection. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus the Christ? Well, Christian disciples are followers of Jesus. I believe that disciples are made over time and require a community to mentor and coach, as well as the resources of God's Word and the ever present Holy Spirit to form and direct our inner and outer being. What does the Bible say about following Jesus?

"If anyone wants to be my disciples, then let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."(Matthew 16:24) I was impressed by Peter Marty's article on "Fear" in the Living Lutheran, April, 2016. He writes that "taking up our cross" is really about facing our fears. I like that idea since there seems to be a great deal to fear in our world. Disciples of Jesus can face their fears but first they need to look outside of themselves. "Deny self" points outward to the power and presence of fellow human beings who are struggling like you and I, in order to find strength together to face our fears. Thus, God gathers a community which we call the church, or what Jesus refers to as the **"two or three gathered together in his name."(Matthew 18:20)**

Following Jesus implies the need for community. Our community of faith is forming by both God's Word which is speaking to us, and the Holy Spirit, who gathers, enlightens and sets us apart for growing and making other followers of Jesus. As a community, we practice the disciplines of growth and formation to include Sunday school, Confirmation, Small Groups, prayer in and outside of worship, participation in service projects, all for the purpose of knowing the shepherd and one another more intimately.

Having considered the practices of "making disciples" we will be sending out surveys this summer to help us target topics and interests that will serve to grow the community and encourage faithful living as followers of Jesus. In the fall season, we will have scheduled "round tables" in which we will invite guests to inform and teach us about topics that impact our lives. As we graduate into another summer of sunshine and warmth, let us take time to consider our community of faith with thanksgiving and its essential role in helping "make disciples who make disciples". Peace!



Palestine Lutheran Church
Worship & Study Opportunities-
May 2016

Call in number to listen to worship services: 597-3994
[Please be sure to put your phone on mute or sounds from your home will be carried to all phones that have dialed in for the service.]

Sunday, May 1 6th Sunday of Easter
Celebration Sunday!

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion

Monday, May 2

2 p.m. Palestine Women of ELCA Bible study

Wednesday, May 4

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7

2016 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly – Drawn to
the Light of God @ Coralville Marriott Hotel and
Convention Center, Coralville

Saturday, May 7

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

9 am Cluster 1 SEIA Synod Women's meeting @
Memorial, Nevada

Sunday, May 8 7th Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

9:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, May 11

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, May 14

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

Sunday, May 15 Day of Pentecost

WEAR RED TO CHURCH

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion

Wednesday, May 18

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

6:30 pm Confirmation (final scheduled class this school
year)

7:30 p.m. Ballard Baccalaureate in HS Auditorium

Saturday, May 21

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

Sunday, May 22 The Holy Trinity

9:30 a.m. Worship: Recognition of HS Senior

Wednesday, May 25

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

Saturday, May 28

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

Sunday, May 29 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship: Dedication of Memorial & Gifts



Children's church trial in April is going great!
Students are singing with Nels for the first 15 mins
and then separate to go into two groups. Teachers
are running through the weekly lesson from the
SPARK lessons! They are really enjoying it!

Celebration Sunday - Sunday, May 1st.



Celebrate our teachers and the
paying off of the church addition.
Potluck event after worship. Each
family is asked to bring a hot dish
and a salad or dessert to share for
the potluck. Christian Ed will be doing outdoor
games and activities!



June 13-16 Vacation Bible School!

VBS will be held in partnership with Fjeldberg
Lutheran and it will be operated by Riverside Lutheran
Bible Camp staff.

It will be at our site this year. If anyone has an
interest in helping with food, classroom
chaperoning or planning, please contact Michelle
Siepker. We will also need one or two host families
for daycamp counselors from Riverside.

Registration forms will be available at church May
1st! They also will be available on our website –
www.plchuxley.com under the calendar/form
button following an organizational meeting with
Fjeldberg on April 25th!

Confirmation Group

Watch for donation boxes for personal care items for a confirmation service project. The confirmation kids will be taking these donated items to a child care facility where they will be doing a service project at when they go to Chicago in June.

Diapers size 1-6 (especially size 5 and 6)

Pull ups size 4T&5T

Wipes with no fragrance

Formula

Laundry soap

Regular soap

Deodorant

Female pads, tampons

Lotion

Vaseline

Socks

Kids movies DVD's



Round Tables

Round Tables - Beginning in the Fall we will be offering adult enrichment time after worship with organized presentations and discussions about topics of interest, both spiritual and practical in nature.

To help us plan for these opportunities you will be receiving a survey available both on-line and in the Fellowship Hall from which our topics and interests will be collected. We will publish and arrange for speakers and topics with enough notice to prepare adequately. If you have an particular interest which you would like to share or know more about, then please consider offering it for the community. We would like you to begin thinking and praying about this right now and look for a survey in the next few weeks.

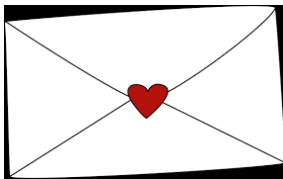
CAN DRIVE! Thru May 1st



Confirmation Group will be putting on a CAN DRIVE thru Sunday, May 1! Bring your pop cans, plastic

bottles or glass bottles to help support the Confirmation Group's trip to Chicago in June!

There is a black garbage can in the west entry to collect your donations.!



Dollars for Lutheran Scholars

The **confirmation class** is working on fundraising for their **trip** to the ELCA Seminary and other Chicago

sights **in June**. As part of this process, we've created a bulletin board in the north hall with dollar amounts on envelopes. Please take down the envelope with your dollar amount, fill it and drop it in the container. We appreciate our congregation's support as we work toward funding this trip with our confirmation classmates.

Daily Discipleship **themes which will be used for Wed. morning Men's Bible study (uses the text for the following Sunday).. They are available on the ELCA website – www.elca.org → Resources →**

Downloadable Resources → Bible Studies

May 1 6th Sunday of Easter – **Primary Text:** John 14:23-29

Prayers of Discipleship: *To Keep God's Word*

May 8 7th Sunday of Easter – **Primary Text:** John 17:20-26

Prayers of Discipleship: *To Pray as Jesus*

May 15 Day of Pentecost – **Primary Text:** John 14:8-17

Stories of Discipleship: *An Advocate's Story*

May 22 The Holy Trinity – **Primary Text:** John 16:12-15

Stories of Discipleship: *A Finite Person's Story*

May 29 2nd Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Luke 7:1-10

NO study is available in the Daily Discipleship series for this text.

June 5 3rd Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Luke 7:11-17

Stories of Discipleship: *A Dead Man's Story*

June 12 4th Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Luke 7:36-8:3

Stories of Discipleship: *A Forgiven Woman's Story*

Looking Ahead

June 5 weather permitting we will
journey to the first site of Palestine
Lutheran Church (plans are still
underway for this – Palestine's 161st
birthday will be June 7)
June 9-11 Confirmation group trip to
Chicago
June 13-16 Vacation Bible School



The Congregation's 1st Church

Following are a couple of events that
have been held at the 1st church site.

June 12, 2005

✠ June 12th the Vacation Bible School
students presented their closing
program in a replica of the first
church built on the original site. It
was interesting for children and
adults to work together in building
this replica and considering some of
the challenges that the Norwegian
immigrants faced as they established
Palestine 150 years ago.

November 2, 2008

✠ We celebrate "All Saints Day" on
Sunday, November 2. It is a day we
remember with thanksgiving all the
saints who have gone before us. So,
weather permitting, we are planning
to visit the first site of Palestine
Lutheran Church. And when we get
back, we might be cold. In fact, we
might want a nice hot bowl of soup!
The R.O.C.K. group will be serving
"Soups of the Saints". We are using
recipes from women who were
faithful servants of Christ, and who
still inspire us. The R.O.C.K. group will
accept your free will donation for this
meal. We are raising money to
attend the 2009 ELCA Youth
Gathering in New Orleans, where we
will participate in service projects,
Bible study, worship with 36,000
young Lutherans, and more!



Volunteer schedule

Greeters

5/1 ... Leonard & Sue Larson
..... Bruce & Angela Hartman
5/8 ... Brent & Missy Larson
..... Monica Morse Ewing
5/15 . Kris & Andrew Polich
..... Joyce Carlson
5/22 Nina & Jim Gotta
..... Denise & Lowell Elliott
5/29 Jeff & Kim Van Pelt
..... Dennis & Donna Millang

Acolytes –

5/1 ...
5/8 ...
5/15 .
5/22
5/29

Lectors -

5/1 David Eisenmann
5/8 Lesa Lewis
5/15 Youth
5/22 Kristin Shelton
5/29 Brent Larson

Ushers

Virgil Larson, captain Del Lundgren
Doug Schonhorst Ashley Klimpel

Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

Communion Assistants

5/1 Tracy Rhoads, Kim Van Pelt
5/15 ... Tim Wilson

Offering Counters

Doreen Blackmer, Joyce Carlson, Jeannie Williams

Altar Ministry

Teri Klimpel, Vivian & Del Lundgren

Mowing (church & parsonage grounds)

April 25 – May 1

May 2-8

May 9-15

May 16-22

May 23-29

May 30-June 5

Deliver Food Pantry donations for May

May is Health & Beauty month at the food pantry - please donate toothpaste, shampoo,
soap, toothbrushes. Sponsored by Palestine Mission Outreach Committee

Review of Membership status

The church council is in the process of review of the membership roster. Listed below are members who we have not been able to contact by phone. If you have contact information or are aware of their membership status please contact the church office by phone 515/597-2620 or plc@huxcomm.net. If we do not hear back by May 15th we will move to inactive or removed as appropriate.

As stated in the constitution and bylaws

C12.07. The Congregation Council shall provide for an annual review of the membership roster.

C8.05.01 An individual is inactive when he or she has not communed and made a contribution of record for at least twenty-four consecutive months. When an individual is so defined, the congregation council, with the aid of the pastor and the evangelism committee, shall attempt to contact the inactive member to determine that person's desire pertaining to membership. Thereafter, the congregation council shall take action to either retain the member on the membership roll or to remove the member from the membership roll.

Unable to contact by phone Jean Bair, Katie Nicholson, Annie Millard, Joe Bair, Sam Bair, Allen Brendeland, Tate Brendeland, Bryan Brendeland, Chris Brendeland, JC Brock, Loren Bryant, Doug Cooper, Dianne Cooper, Inger Cooper, Christie Huffaker, Holly Kauffman, Jameel Fort, Steve Lee, Connie Lee, Cory Lee, Christina Lee, Vanessa Lindsey, Tucker Lindsey, Tate Lindsey, Ashley Martinez, Angee Martinez, Christopher Martinez, Noah Martinez, Bill Napier, Sheila Napier, Colleen Nielson, Tegan Nielson, Paul Porter, Katie Porter, Garrett Porter, DeAnn Schmidt, Omar Tesdell, Ramsey Tesdell, Lee Tesdell, Heidi Van Wyk, Brett Walton, Elizabeth Wilson

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

Website: www.plchuxley.com

Secretary's Office: 515/597-2624

Church e-mail is: PLC@huxcomm.net

Pastor Eric Klimpel's email: ericklimpel@gmail.com
cell: 936/444-3895

Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand April 20, 2016

Checking Account \$ 13,106.67

General Fund \$ 6,529.63

Designated Funds

Benevolence 160.00

Improvement 2,457.49

Technology 1,350.00

Confirmation Class 2,609.55

A check was sent for \$884.00 to Water to Thrive

Next Council Meeting – Saturday, April 30 (during the retreat)

Volunteers are needed mowing around the church & parsonage.

Church Council 2016

Pastor Eric Klimpel

President: Matt Williams

Vice President: Jeff Van Pelt

Secretary: Jacob Huxford

Treasurer: Deidre Qual

Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Council: Mark Doty

Nels Dovre

Jean Saveraid

Bruce Hartman

Kristin Shelton

Cynthia Johnson

Tim Wilson

Laura Kepler

Lora Young

2016 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly

Drawn to the Light of God

The 29th Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be held May 6-7, 2016, at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Coralville, Iowa. We will gather under the theme, Drawn to the Light of God, with an eye toward how Christ, the Light shines in our varied ministries and in every corner of our lives.

Pre-assembly materials Agenda, reports, nominations, resolutions is available on the synod's website:

www.seiasynod.org/assembly. Check out these

materials to learn what's been happening in the synod over the past year.

Stay Connected Can't attend this year's assembly?

Follow what is happening live through social media via Twitter by using and searching #seia16 or following @seiasynod. You can also follow what is happening at assembly on the synod's Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/southeasterniowasynodelca.

**Minutes -- Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting
April 3, 2016-- Sunday -- 8:00 AM
[not yet approved]**

In Attendance: Pastor Eric Klimpel, Matt Williams, Dick Kepler, Laura Kepler, Bruce Hartman, , Jeff Van Pelt, Jacob Huxford, Mark Doty, Jean Saveraid, Deidre Qual(Brad Lewis filled in), Lora Young, Nels Dovre, Cynthia Johnson, and Tim Wilson. A quorum was established.

Devotions – Jeff Van Pelt

Read Vision and Mission Statements

Goals and Reflections – Feedback from Lent/Easter

Minutes of the previous meeting –

- Mark Doty moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Lora Young seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Deidre

(Brad filled in for Deidre)

PLC Checking Account	
Benevolence	\$ 115.00
Building Improvement	2,332.49
Confirmation	2,609.55
General Fund Checking	4,537.23
Water to Thrive	884.00
Technology Fund	1,300.00
Total PLC Checking Account	\$ 11,787.27

- Jeff Van Pelt moved to approve treasurer's report, Bruce Hartman seconded it. Motion passed unanimously

Pastor's Report -- Pastor Klimpel

- See his report

Unfinished Business:

1. Appoint audit committee. Dick Cast, Jim Gotta, Holly Larson.
- Jacob Huxford moved to approve the audit committee, Jean Saveraid seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously
2. Lori Schonhorst agreed to be on mutual ministry committee.
3. Council leadership/training retreat – Sat, April 30th at Riverside.
- Will be from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Cynthia volunteered to bring morning treats.
4. Celebration/mortgage burning for paying off of addition. May 1st.
- Will be a potluck dinner after church.

5. Video screens-update

- Brad has been having a party since January and will be getting pricing this week and additional information this week. The screen size will be 72 inches. Brad will have the details all squared away for approval by the May Council Meeting.
- 6. Parsonage update – Tim W.
- Spoke with Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Okoboji about what they do with their cabins during the offseason. They charge a \$50 deposit to stay in one of their cabins (enough to break even). They don't have to pay taxes as long as they justify that it was for their ministry. The spokesperson for Lutheran Lakeside Camp thinks that it is a great idea and that our insurance should cover us.
- Next main goal, look at other avenues to utilize the Property.
- Going to have to have a person to do the upkeep if we do rent the parsonage to visitors of Ballard Creek. Ballard Creek would only utilize the parsonage three times a month.
- Vicar program.
- We need to get use of the parsonage, no matter what that use may be.
- 7. Music ministry/director.
- Worship committee is meeting April 10th.
- 8. Kitchen committee – Update

New business:

1. Rescind approval of official list of membership status. Need more verification of inactive vs. removed. Publish list in newsletter.
- Nels Dovre moved to resend the approval of the official list of membership made on March 3rd, 2016, Bruce seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Next step to publish list of inactive members in newsletter to try and get a verification of who is an inactive member vs. no longer a member.
2. Special offering for SE Iowa Synod.
- Would be an addition to the benevolence. Pastor Eric will get more information before a special offering.
3. Need chair for property committee.
- Matt will contact the committee and help get the ball moving.
4. Next town hall meeting date. Topic?
- Table until after the May meeting

Jacob moved to adjourn meeting, Nels seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Adjourn with Lords Prayer

Next meeting – 4/30/16 during retreat

May Devotions – Pastor E.



May Birthdays

1 – Elaine Paradise
 2 - Nels Dovre
 Candi Engler
 3 - Tim Huxford
 5 - Dobbin Wilson
 6 - Jameel Fort
 Lucas Ness
 Joseph Thomas
 10 -Shane Kalvig
 Nicole Larson
 11-Brooke Dykstra
 Cory Larson
 13 -Mike Thomas
 15 - Ethan Johnson
 Kris Polich

16 - Ryan Polich
 17 - Tom Gallagher
 19 - Bill Harleen
 Henry Larson
 21 - Kelli Jo Emerson
 Olivia Thomas
 22 - David Eisenmann
 Deb Moore
 23 - Miles Gallagher
 24 - Robby Keltner
 26 - Nolan Larson
 29 - Caden Van Pelt
 30 – Isaac Larson
 Josie Van Gorp



MAY

6 – Matthew & Erika Williams (10th)
 15 – Richard & Bernadine Cast
 16 – Ben & Tera Reed
 19 – Chad & Lisa Elliott
 31 – Allen & Nicole Brendeland
 Joyce Carlson & Pat Murphy

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

from **Ballard** – Sunday, May 29th at 2 p.m.
 Jennie Huxford



H.S. Graduation Recognition at Palestine – Sunday morning, May 22nd, we will honor our High School Graduate during worship and fellowship. Please come and offer her your support, prayers, and praise!
Baccalaureate schedule Ballard: Wednesday, May 18 - Ballard HS Auditorium –7:30 pm following Senior Celebration Night (6-7 p.m. in HS Commons)

from **Mercy College of Health Sciences** – Friday, April 29th 2 pm @ HyVee Hall
 Mollie Sheldahl will receive a radiology tech degree

from **Iowa State University** - Thursday, May 5 7:30 pm @ Hilton Coliseum
 Kari Sandquist will receive a Masters degree in Higher Education

If you know of others who are graduating from either high school or college this spring, please notify the office so that we can acknowledge this achievement.

Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during April: Anita Brendeland; Ruth Hennick; Grace Johnson; Ordean Johnson; Diane Larson; Roger Larson; Merlin Lyon; Deb Moore; Deidre Qual; Lorraine Sorensen; Bob Wetzler

- Krishna & his family of India, child sponsored by Palestine's Sunday School students.
- Those impacted by flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, tornadoes, drought & wild fires.
- Those impacted by terrorist attacks in Paris, Beirut, Egypt and elsewhere in the Middle East, in Nigeria, Kenya, Bangladesh & the Philippines.
- Syrian refugees.

We welcome the newest members of our family of faith...

...received by Holy Baptism on April 10, 2016, **Evelyn Marie Johnson**.

Evelyn is the daughter of **Scott** and **Alyssa Johnson** and sister of **Ethan** & **Emmett**. Her baptismal sponsors are Katie Meyers and Kristina Johnson.

We welcome her into the Lord's family as a child of God!

We extend our prayers and sincerest Christian sympathy...

...to family and friends of **Lucas DeReus**

...to family and friends of **Janet Martin Joos** (sister-in-law of Lyle & Pat Martin)

May the risen Lord give his strength & comfort to these families in their time of loss.



On Maundy Thursday, March 24, **Brayden DeVries, Lucas Hartsook, Annika Larson, Nickolas Larson, Charlie Rhoads, Emma Sample, Chloe Shelton, Addyson Siepker, and Alise Van Pelt**.

received their First Communion.

We rejoice with these young people and their families and pray that they will remain faithful to Christ and to his Church, finding joy and strength in his body and blood, the signs of his love for the world.

Join Us In Celebration!

Graduation Open House for
Jennie Huxford, Ballard Class of 2016
 Saturday, May 28, 2016 6 – 9 p.m.
 251 NE 118th Ave, Ankeny, IA



Monday, May 2, 2:00 p.m. Bible Study.

In the May issue of the Gather magazine our Bible study is *Mary and Elizabeth: Sisters across the generations*. In Luke 1:26-56, we meet Mary and Elizabeth. In this study we reflect on their relationship and how we as women today relate across the generations. Our support for each other helps us to hear and heed God's calling to bear Christ to the world. The study is written by *Norma Cook Everist*.

Objectives for this study are:

- To understand one another across the generations as supportive sisters.
- To empathize with Elizabeth and Mary's grace and disgrace, fear, surprise and joy.
- To hear and heed God's calling to bear Christ to the world.

The theme for the May 2016 *Gather* magazine is **ACROSS THE GENERATIONS**. As sisters across the generations, Elizabeth and Mary offered each other support, to hear and heed God's calling to bear Christ to the world. Articles include – Generation to generation, Rediscovering motherhood, Resurrection as shared life, and Building the church.

Cluster 1 of SE IA Synod Women's Organization will meet May 7, 2016 at Memorial Lutheran Church in Nevada, Iowa. The speaker is Ron Krull "One Man's Story" about remember the Holocaust. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. Program starts at 9:30 a.m.



Thank you to everyone for their contributions for LWR Kits and Quilts. On April 16th we delivered for shipment:

- 65 quilts (45 quilts were sent in the fall shipment for a total of 110 LWR quilts created & sent during this quilting season *)
- 6 personal care kits
- 24 baby care kits
- 26 bars of soap

*NOTE: quilts were also created and given for Local use, Project Linus, "Over-the-Road" Midwest Ministry, and Riverside Bible Camp quilt auction. A more complete report will appear in the June Palestine Press, along with information for LWR school kits so items can be purchased during back to school sales.



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

rlbc@riverside.org
www.RiversideLBC.org

"To Know Christ and to make Christ known to all."

Upcoming Events in 2016:

- May 7 – Lil Cowpoke
- May 25-27 – Leadership Training
- May 14 – Volunteer Work Day (rain date)
- May 29-June 10 – Staff Training
- June 12 – 1st Day of Camp
- June 9 – Program Review
- July 5-8 – Family Camp
- Aug. 6 – Quilt Auction & 5K
- Aug. 26 – Golf Outing
- Aug. 12 – Last Day of Camp
- Aug. 27-28–Mother/Daughter Ride with the King
- Sept. 17-18 – Women's Retreat
- Oct. 1 – Ride with the King (3rd – 5th grade)
- Oct. 21-23 – Junior High Recharge
- Oct. 14-16 – Juniors Recharge
- Nov. 4-6 – Junior High Recharge
- Nov. 18-20 – Senior High Recharge
- Dec. 4 – Riverside Christmas Party

**Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp
Summer 2016: Released**

Registration is now open for Summer Camp 2016! You can head over to our [website www.RiversideLBC.org](http://www.RiversideLBC.org) to learn more about all of our camp offerings, dates, theme, and what it is like to be a camper at Riverside! Riverside Times booklet available on table below bulletin board in Fellowship Hall which includes a registration form. At registration there is a \$125 non-refundable deposit.



We are excited to see what the Lord will do in the lives of our campers, families, and staff, as we see God's love "Released" into the world through Jesus Christ and now through us. Our theme verse comes from Luke 4:18-19 and says, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." We can't wait to dive into this passage and our theme of "Released" even more this summer!

Discounts

MEMBER CONGREGATIONS - Campers from member congregations will receive a \$15 per week discount. Palestine is a member congregation.

ATTENTION PALESTINE YOUTH & FAMILIES – To support youth involvement in church sponsored camps and activities, the congregation provides financial support. Palestine pays \$75 of the fee for Alpha Camp (1st timers) & \$160 for other campers at Riverside. Please check with church office for details.

SIBLINGS DISCOUNT See website for details

LivingLutheran

The current issue of Living Lutheran is available on the table under the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

May cover story: Vocation—how does your faith inform your work, and vice versa.

Living Lutheran is your source for news, reflections and stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its local and global companions. We cover religious news and social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, family matters, spiritual practices and resources, and more.

As the magazine of the ELCA, our mission is to:

- Nurture awareness of Christ's presence in our lives and the world
- Share stories of God's people living their faith
- Connect readers with the global Christian community
- Provide an open forum for discussion
- Challenge readers to bring God's grace and care to all



In Celebration of Graduation

May's graduation season is often a celebration of what it takes to accomplish something.

We celebrate dreams, determination, hard work and support, and we celebrate the pride and joy of parents, grandparents, friends and other family members who help along the way.

We celebrate "graduations" at Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) all year round. We celebrate when a mom or dad has completed a parenting program. We celebrate when a child has completed all his goals in a skill-building program. We celebrate when an elder refugee attends a citizenship ceremony to take the oath of U.S. citizenship or when a refugee woman completes child care training. We celebrate when teenagers graduate from LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center and begin young adulthood, often with help from churches who have donated furniture or other supplies to help them set up their first apartment.

Graduation is a celebration of community. We don't get where we are in life on our own. We get there with support. With encouragement. With a mentor. With family.

You're the family standing alongside so many people served through LSI as they achieve life-changing milestones. Thank you.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Daring to Dream

Every day Taw Kaw Htoo pursues her dreams as a farmer, a child care provider and an English student. After fleeing violence and persecution in her native Burma, Taw Kaw Htoo lived in refugee camps in Thailand before being resettled to the U.S. She may have lost her home, but not her hope. With LSI's support, this strong, courageous woman is daring to dream.

Her day begins at dawn at LSI's Global Greens Farm where she farms a small plot, growing produce to sell to her community.

"I like farming because I grew vegetables back in my home country," she said.

After tending her crops, she moves on to her second business of the day: caring for children. LSI's child care business development program helps former refugees become state-licensed child care providers. Along with providing a small income, the program increases the availability of culturally appropriate child care for the refugee community, enabling more parents to enter the workforce.

"I didn't have any professional training on how to install a car seat or do CPR," said Taw Kaw Htoo. "LSI has helped with that. It's great that I am able to care for the children in my community."

Caring for children helps her pursue her third dream: learning English.

"My language is really important to me," she said. "I try to teach children my language every day, and they help me learn English. I really want to speak English. That's my biggest dream."