

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

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THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
November 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.



Pastor Eric will be doing limited visitation for members who would like to have one. 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 <a href="mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com">ericklimpel@gmail.com</a>

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

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Palestine will accept your offering!

- 1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
- 2. Mail check to:

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Palestine Lutheran Church 1375 HWY 210 Huxley, IA 50124

3. Give online through Easy Tithe.

Go to our website <a href="www.plchuxley.com">www.plchuxley.com</a> 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.



## Avoiding the Broad Brush this Holiday Season With Pastor Eric

I used to put together plastic models of all kinds – planes, dinosaurs, tanks, space ships...- you name it. Model building was almost as fun as Legos and became one activity that I shared with my parents. My father trimmed the pieces and laid out the parts and I helped him glue those pieces together. He applied the glue and I held the

pieces together and blew on them with a steady stream of air. My mother was the painter. She asked me what color things should be and I would look at the picture on the box. At some point, I got to glue pieces myself and paint the models. I discovered the hard way that the key to success in gluing and painting was the motto "a little dab will do you!" I did glue my fingers together and ruin some clothes in the process, but more devastating was when I mangled the model. I cried for hours when my first model went from fighter plane to a red and purple mess, as if it crash-landed in the middle of a fashion show. I remember my mother telling me not to use such a broad brush because each part of the plane is unique and requires my careful attention. My father simply purchased a large can of turpentine and had some ready along with a box of q-tips rather than a glue brush.

When it comes to applying the Bible and its principles, directives and guidance we might apply the same broad brush without considering the complexities of life. I believe that grace demands that we listen and consider other's stories and situations before we make decisions and take steps. I am still frazzled by the parables of the workers in the vineyard in which the owner paid everyone the same daily wage from those who worked all day to those who only worked one hour (Rd Matthew 20:1-16) If that parable is not difficult enough, then I remember the parable of the prodigal son! The youngest son squandered everything while the eldest son worked hard and did what he was told and yet the father loved them both the same and wanted to celebrate the youngest son's return home! (Rd Luke 15:11-32) This

behavior vexes my sense of fairness from time to time and then I remember this story.

There's a play by Timothy Thompson based on this parable in which he depicts two brothers vying for work. John is strong and capable; Philip is just as willing but has lost a hand in an accident. When the landowner comes, John is taken in the first wave of workers, and as he labors in the field he looks up the lane for some sign of Philip. Other workers are brought to the field, but Philip is not among them. John is grateful to have the work but feels empty knowing that Philip is just as needful as he. Finally, the last group of workers arrive, and Philip is among them. John is relieved to know that Philip will get to work at least one hour. But, as the drama unfolds, and those who came last get paid a full days' wages, John rejoices, knowing that Philip – his brother – will have the money necessary to feed his family. When it comes his turn to stand before the landowner and receive his pay, instead of complaining as the others, John throws out his hand and says with tears in his eyes, "Thank you, my lord, for what you've done for us today!"

My struggles come with the sweep of the broad brush while God takes a loving and caring look at each person and each situation and covers it with grace in ways that I might never know especially if I don't ask, or at least consider. Entering into the holiday season of 2020 brings with it challenges to our sense of fairness and most likely some unreasonable expectations of both people and events? Let's try not to paint it with a broad brush but realize that this year is different for all of us and pay more attention to the details of God's love and grace at work.

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, who entered into my life at the beginning and took up residence at baptism in my heart, shower me and fill me with grace that leads to thankfulness and to generosity, so that each person might be blessed through me with your attentive love and care especially when it might not seem fair, or right, on the surface to others. Help my heart to know and act in grace always, in Jesus's name I pray. Amen

## **Study and Prayer Opportunities**

#### Sundays

@ 8:00 a.m.



#### **ZOOM Dawn Dialog with Jesus**

Reflection and prayer on Gospel text for the Day "Where two or three are gathered in my name, then I am there among them." (Matthew 18:20) Material will be emailed with the announcements for you to review on your own.

### **Tuesdays**

@ 6:30 p.m.



#### **ZOOM Bible Study**

The topic for discussion will be based on the Discipleship Series. We will send an attachment on the appropriate topic to be used. (Invite, encourage, serve, give) along with other topics more specific to Biblical worldview.

Robin Doty will host the meeting on:

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

You can participate either by audio (phone) or video (computer). Have your Bibles in hand.

#### Wednesdays

@ 7:00 a.m.



#### Men's Bible Study

in the Council Room

### Wednesdays

@ 12:00 noon



#### **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.



## Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website <a href="www.elca.org">www.elca.org</a>
→Resources→ Downloadable Resources→ Bible studies

All Saints

**Focus:** Who in your life models humility?

"The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted." Matthew 23: 11-12 (NRSV) Read Matthew 23:1-12

Pentecost Week 23

**Focus:** How do we get ready for an event at an unknown time and place?

"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Matthew 25:13 (NRSV). Read Matthew 25:1-13

Pentecost Week 24

**Focus:** What is your typical response when someone gives you a lavish gift?

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25:21 (NRSV). Read Matthew 25:14-30

Pentecost Week 25

**Focus:** When in the previous week did someone extend compassion to you?

"Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40 (NRSV). Read Matthew 25:31-46

Advent Week 1

**Focus:** How might you prepare this week for the coming of Christ?

"Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." Matthew 24:42 (NRSV) Read Matthew 24:36-44



## To our guest speakers who helped us with tough topics in our discernment discussions in October:



## October 4<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Don Dovre LGBTQ

How we can be loving and caring with all and how we can use the building to reach out in Christian Love to All?

#### Questions Asked:

- 1) What would it be for you? What would make it something that you would want to talk about? What would be that thing that would say, "I want to look into this"?
- 1) How will be a haven for all generations? The youngest generation, the oldest generation? How will be a congregation who would welcome someone who is gay and lesbian if they came out in our midst and not have them leave our congregation (as has happened in the past)? How would we help them be wholly who they are? How will we get along with the people that still believe this is sinful and we can't condone it? How are we going to, as a congregation, come together across the generations?
- 2) With regards to our derecho damage/remodel) How do you see this space as a tool for ministry now in a new way? What are some of the ways that you think we should be using this church building, or this space, to remodel or to re-energize the mission of this congregation? What are the new ways that you think we should be using our space?



### October 11<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Jeff Johnson SOCIAL INJUSTICE

Mr. Johnson shared the Jack Trice video and story as well as a letter written to the ISU administration with regards to his color on the football squad. He also shared personal background of growing up. His faith and knowledge of the bible are paramount in his life.

#### Questions Asked:

- 1) Have you ever done something racist, yet felt like it wasn't racist?
- 2) Do you feel that you have had a generational advantage, and how have you had that advantage compared with those that don't have that advantage?
- 3) How, as a church, can we be part of the solution of social injustice?

## October 18<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Cline WHERE HAVE WE BEEN AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Pastor Cline took us through the discernment process 8 years ago. He also showed us a video clip of what happens if you don't intentially nurture your pastor(!) As we discern and rebuild from the derecho damage, he encouraged us to read Mark — the first gospel — to read where Jesus goes.



#### Questions Asked:

- 1) What do you remember about our past discernment?
- What does God seek to provide today in this world? Where would God go today?
- 3) What are the ways we individually, or as a group, cross boundaries?



### Festival of All Saints Day November 1<sup>st</sup>

Have candle ready to light at home if you are viewing via livestream

We will be remembering the faithful who have departed their life and have now taken their places among the members of the Church Triumphant in the past 24 months. During the Prayers of Intercession Pastor will read from a shepherd's book names that been submitted. He has used this book on each All Saints' Sunday during his ministry.

If you have the name of a spiritual friend, mentor, family member or coworker that you want to include in the prayers on All Saints Sunday, please email the name to <a href="mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com">palestinelutheran@gmail.com</a>, or Pastor Eric at <a href="mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com">ericklimpel@gmail.com</a>, or print the name in the book at church. We will include names in the bulletin of those members of Palestine who have departed their life and have now taken their places among the members of the Church Triumphant since last All Saints Sunday and also the newest saints in our church family who were baptized this past year.



Community Thanksgiving
Worship
Tuesday, November 24th
@ the Safe Room in Huxley

6:30 - 8 p.m.

(service only, no meal)



- Mike Larson
   Christa Hartsook
- 3 Ivy Sickels
- 4 Andrew Brokofsky Brady Harmon Vivian Lundgren
- 7 Ellen Longnecker
- 8 Emma Hartman Jim Gotta
- 10 Thomas Kochheiser Mark Pote
- 12 Jane Reinhart Phyllis Prichard
- 13 Bruce Cox Jr
- 15 Doug Schonhorst
- 16 Elliott Johnson Helen Miller
- 17 Evelyn Kam
  Carter DeVries
- 18 Caleb Hartsook Roger Rittgers
- 19 McKenzie Shaffer
- 20 Lucas Schaudt
- 22 Blake Harmon Wade Twedt

- 24 Kinsey Calvert
- 27 Sarah Roelfs Sandra Kalsem Roy Paradise
- 28 Priya Roelfs
- 29 Holly Wise
  Danielle Edwards
  Jeff Van Pelt



- 5 Brent & Julie Emerson
- 11 Roger & Deb Moore
- 16 Thomas and Susan Kochheiser
- 18 Wayne & Jane Reinhart Lyle & Pat Martin
- 27 Aaron & Nicole Larson
- 29 Brent & Missy Larson

If there is a record of error or omission, please let the office know at <u>palastinelutheran@gmail.com</u> or 515-597-2624.



SUNDAY	MONDAY
8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion; All Saints Day	2
8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. KICK ornament making	9
8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion	16
8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship Third Grade Bible Presentation	23
8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship First Day of Advent	30



### November 2020

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	5	6	Kumla Order Pick up 5-7 p.m. west side of church.
10 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	7:00 a.m. Men's VETERANS Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	12	13	14
6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	19	Poinsettia Orders Due	21
24 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Community Thanksgiving @ Safe Room	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters	26	27	28
1 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	3	4	5



### **Agenda - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

Sunday, October 18th, 2020 @ 8:00 AM
at Palestine Lutheran Church
Zoom link for those who are remote:
Kristin Shelton, Jean Saveraid, Brad Lewis, Tim Wilson, Candi
Engler, Brent Emerson, Nels Dovre, Brent Emerson, David
Eisenmann, Hailey Clark, Chris Richter

A quorum was established.

**Devotions**. Jean Sevaraid — Struggles of the Farmer. Moments of Peace in the morning

#### **Read Vision and Mission Statements**

**Goals and Reflections:** We have had excellent turn out and fun guests to lead the discernment process. Thanks to Jean and Nels for leading the services. Roof has begun and it is dry. The work group is meeting and moving forward.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** David Motioned to approve. Kristin seconded. Everyone sang joyous affirmation.

**Treasurer's Report:** Deidre read the written report. Candi Engler motioned to approve. Chris Richter seconded. All chimed their ayes accordingly.

General Fund: \$13,256.18

Checking Balance Total: \$31,507.06

#### Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel - On Sabbatical

#### New business:

- 1. Confirmation Sunday next week .... Reception? Tim gets any leftover cake. Announcements for mitigation.
- 2. Kumla Dinner what to do? November 7th? Carry out and to go orders?
- 3. Pastor Appreciation Month Once.
- 4. Tree Clean up. Clean up pumpkins and then push pile to burn...

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- 1. Roof Update and insurance claim
- 2. Pastor's Sabbatical Return

Motion to Adjourn & Adjourn with Lord's Prayer -- Nels motioned to adjourn. David Eisenmann seconded.

Next Meeting: November 8th, 2020

Treats- Tim Wilson Devotions- Brad



#### **UPDATE:**

It was decided that insurance was going to pay for most of the necessary renovations. Therefore, a meeting was not necessary at this time.



### Remember in Prayer

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

Laura Aust, Dianne Blackmer, Anita Brendeland, Dick Brown, Penny Brown, Joan Carson, Alisha

Cox, Russ DeVries, Bev Echtenkamp, Lowell Elliott, Jane Gordan, Jackie Greene, Bruce & Sandy Halverson, Christa Hartsook, Warren Johnson, Dick Kepler, Kevin Klingbeil, Alvina Larson, Ardell Lundgren, Merlin Lyon, Mary Martin, Loree Ness, Jen Pote, Deidre Qual, Shannon Tope, Joyce Volz, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller

Family & friends of: Don Trautner, Wanda Halverson, Bonny Erickson, Angie Claude, Donna Keiser, Arlene Wee, Judy Smith, Sharon Mortenson, Valerie Brendeland, Sue Ihle, Ralph Kalsem, Mark Richter, Dean Simmons, Charles Brendeland, Tanner Houseman, Rev. LeRoy Dobbe, Jimmy Young, Darrell Rout, John Maier, Elaine Pote, Travis Ellis, John Johnson, Mae Rivard, Doris Ness, Nathan Stupka



## Kids in Christ's Kingdom (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders)

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS!**

- Sr. Tea Ornament-Making Event
   Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in fellowship hall at church
   6:00 7:30 p.m. dessert or snack only
- Christmas Program
   Virtual event this year. We will be providing more information soon!



### Wednesday, November 11, 2020



### Annual Kumla Dinner November 7<sup>th</sup>

**Carry-out ONLY** 

Please email the church

<u>palestinelutheran@gmail.com</u> with your order request by **November 1**<sup>st</sup>! Include in the email:

- 1) Your name
- 2) The number of adult meals and the number of children meals
- 3) Your phone number

Then, on November 7<sup>th</sup>, please drive through our covered portico on the west side of our church between 5-7 p.m. and call the church 515-597-2624 when you have arrived. Give them your name for the order and it will be carried out to you!

\$10 adults \$5 children under 10

## Checks payable to Palestine Lutheran Church OR Exact change preferred.

\*Donations of bars are requested from the congregation. Please email the church if you are willing to provide dessert! We are going to forego the salads this year.



### Festival of Trees and Lights – Blank Children's Hospital

November 25-29, 2020

https://www.unitypoint.org/blankchildrens/festival-of-trees.aspx

#### 2020 Festival Update

Blank Children's Hospital will take the 37th annual Festival of Trees & Lights virtual for 2020. This annual event is the largest fundraiser for Blank Children's Hospital and is a central lowa tradition to kick off the holiday season attracting more than 20,000 attendees during its five-day run.

"The health and safety of our community is our top priority. We must protect our families and friends during the COVID-19 pandemic and have decided to move our celebration to virtual," says Dr. Steve Stephenson, president and COO of Blank Children's Hospital. "Festival may look different, but we are working hard to ensure it will continue to be a family-friendly, full of fun way for our community to support Blank Children's Hospital and kick off the holiday season."

Currently, we are exploring a Festival app. This will be downloaded for a small fee that will support Blank Children's Hospital. The Festival app will include a variety of fun-filled family activities, beautifully decorated trees and important information about how you can support Blank Children's Hospital.

Although this year's Festival will look different, your support this year is more important than ever before. We will continue to provide information and updates as we further develop plans and get closer to kicking off of the holiday season. We look forward to celebrating with you virtually.



### **Christmas Extravaganza**

The R.O.C.K. Group is still planning on having their annual Christmas Extravaganza but it will look a little different this year.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to have vendors and "cookie shopping" like we usually do, but will still be selling pre-boxed cookies of different varieties and sizes.

We plan to have a cookie drive through/pick up the first two weekends of December. More details to come. Please let McKenzie know how many and what kind of baked goods you would like to donate - <a href="mailto:kenziek399@gmail.com">kenziek399@gmail.com</a>, 515-203-0301. We have some amazing bakers in our congregation and always look forward to what you create for us to share!



### **Poinsettias for Palestine**

You are invited to purchase a poinsettia to help decorate our church for advent and Christmas. Please let us know if it is in honor or memory of someone. \$15 each. Deadline to order is November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Call Blumsters @ 515-597-2200 or Tracy @ 515-450-1961 to place order.

#### **SNOW Removal**

Volunteers Needed for Parking lots and drives (including parsonage drive) and sidewalks! Of course, you can just show up as well!

We're using SignUp.com to organize our upcoming SignUps.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Go to this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: https://signup.com/login/entry/7670201095322480117
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.



### **College Scholarships**

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 15**<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.

Email: palestinelutheran@gmail.com

Mailing address: 1375 HWY 210, Huxley, IA 50124





Kiley Calvert, Megan Rowedder, Alise Van Pelt, Grant Twedt, Derrick Rhoads, Nickolas Larson





Recognition of Roger Moore for all his years of service working with Confirmation groups! He finally retired and was recognized!

# LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA people focused • results driven

#### November 2020

### **Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

#### **National Adoption Month**

November is National Adoption Month, a time to honor families who have opened their hearts and homes to children in need. For LSI, it is a time to celebrate the families we support through Foster Care and Adoption, and to raise awareness for the hundreds of lowa children in need of a safe, loving home.

In 30 counties across western Iowa, LSI Foster Care and Adoption recruits, licenses, and supports foster and adoptive families to ensure every Iowa child grows up in a safe, stable environment.

But more work needs to be done. According to the most recent federal data, more than 100,000 children in the U.S. are waiting to be adopted from foster care, and thousands of teens age out of foster care every year without a permanent family. To learn more about supporting lowa children in foster care, visit LSlowa.org/Foster, or contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at <a href="Deborah.Whitford@LSlowa.org">Deborah.Whitford@LSlowa.org</a> or 563.676.2065. LSI is also available to provide a customized virtual shared ministry opportunity for your congregation. If you would like to share the message of LSI with your community, please contact our Waverly office at 319.352.2630 to get started.

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 <a href="https://www.LSIowa.org">www.LSIowa.org</a> and <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa">www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa</a>.



#### November 2020

### **Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

#### "There is Hope"

As a young child growing up in multiple foster homes, Abby dreamed of a forever family. When she moved in with foster parents Joe and Dee, Abby knew she'd found the perfect family for her. Joe and Dee had already adopted two of their sons by the time Abby entered the family, and the children immediately bonded. When Abby was no longer able to reunify with her birth family, Joe and Dee decided to adopt her into their family.

"The kids bless our lives," Joe says. "I wish people knew what kind of family you can have through foster care and adoption, and how much love these kids have to offer."

Abby is now a 17-year-old preparing to graduate high school in the spring. She has found a forever family that encourages her to pursue her passions and with the support of her parents and siblings, Abby has found success as a high school wrestler, earning top awards and titles throughout her high school years.

Since being adopted into Joe and Dee's family, Abby has openly shared her story at National Adoption Month events in her community. She wants to raise awareness about foster care and adoption across lowa, inspire families to become foster and adoptive parents, and she hopes her story can inspire other kids looking for the same loving support system she has.

"To other kids out there in my situation, there is hope," Abby says. "You will find the perfect family that will give you all their love and care for you, no matter what."

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