



The Palestine Press

February 2019

Volume XXXIII Number 2
Monthly newsletter of
Palestine Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

(515) 597-2620, office
(515) 597-2624, secretary's office
E-mail address: PLC@huxcomm.net
Fax: 515/597-2621
Web site: www.plchuxley.com
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."

Sabbathing in Epiphany ----- With Pastor Eric

*"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy!"
(commands the Lord God) Exodus 20:8*

"Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God, and you should bring their cases before God; ²⁰teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do." Exodus 18:17-20

I wrestle with this story about Jethro, who is Moses' father-in-law, and Moses. I like doing ministry. I like spending time with my family. I enjoy so many things and like many of us I have many "irons in the fire" between job, family, personal growth and numerous activities attached to each one. I am not sure if you believe in "burn out" which sounds pretty drastic but maybe "fatigue" is better to use as a description of an "over-worked, limited timed and stressed out" life. The Bible has a great deal to say about such an existence...God commands a day of rest "Sabbath" and Jesus says that it was not made for God but for humanity!! Paul talks about "many members and one body" in 1st Corinthians working together for the common good, Jesus sends the disciples out two-by-two into the world for mission, Jesus takes the loaves and fish and gives them to the disciples to distribute, and Jesus tells Martha to take a break and spend time with him like her sister Mary does – in other words priorities. What sense does it make to gain the whole world and forfeit your life? (*asks Jesus*). I do not believe that "abundant life" means "stuffing more into it to stress out over and do" especially if you are fatigued and not fit to live around ☺

I would like to invite you to spend Epiphany with me considering how to find rest for yourselves while living day to day with joy and not exhausted frustration. Here are some ideas:

Confidants: (beyond your partner/spouse): get a coach, spiritual guide, therapist, peer group to talk with outside the people you work with every day. Do this now.

Sanctuaries: make time in your life to create, exercise, garden, read, worship, pray, study... whatever it is that renews your soul. Get disciplined about this. Do this tomorrow.

Learn: get a continuing ed plan cooking for yourself. What do you want to learn? Get out of the conference world and into more transformative learning. Go on a pilgrimage by digging deeply into something you love. It doesn't have to be church related. Do this as often as you can.

Gratitude: practice optimism and realism with a grateful heart. Hold these together no matter what. Do this every day.

You can adapt any of these suggestions to your life circumstances and remember that many hands make work lighter and more fun for everyone. It may not be a direct quote from the Bible but its one way to read Jethro, Paul and Jesus. Peace and share the life!

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 → Resources → Downloadable Resources → Bible Studies

Feb. 3 4th Sunday after Epiphany —

Primary Text: Luke 4: 21-30

Imperatives of Discipleship: *Be open!*

Feb. 10 5th Sunday after Epiphany —

Primary Text: Luke 5: 1-11

Imperatives of Discipleship: *Follow Jesus!*

Feb. 17 6th Sunday after Epiphany —

Primary Text: Luke 6: 17-26

Imperatives of Discipleship: *Be Blessed!*

Feb. 24 7th Sunday after Epiphany —

Primary Text: Luke 6: 27-38

No study is available for this text thru Daily Discipleship.

March 3 Transfiguration of the Lord —

Primary Text: Luke 9:28-43

Imperatives of Discipleship: *Listen!*

:

Palestine Lutheran Church **Worship & Study Opportunities —** **February 2019**



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

Saturday, February 2

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

Sunday, February 3 4th Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church;
Installation of Church Council; ROCK leading
worship

4-5:15 p.m. study — Eternity Is Now in Session

Wednesday, February 6

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, February 9

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

Sunday, February 10 5th Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Worship: Children's Church; Baptism of Elliott
Lowell Johnson

10:45 a.m. Orientation Group Event

Wednesday, February 13

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, February 16

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

Sunday, February 17 6th Sunday after Epiphany

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

Wednesday, February 20

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, February 23

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

Sunday, February 24 7th Sunday after Epiphany

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

Wednesday, February 27

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

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Eternity Is Now in Session

(Sign up in fellowship hall or email office) - Meets Sundays Beginning Feb 3 from 4-5:15pm place to be determined

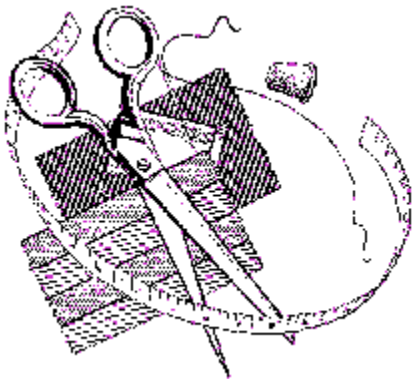
A 5-session journey to discover what it really means to be "saved."

For Christians, perhaps the deepest expression of what we're waiting for is found in the phrase "eternal life." But what is eternal life? Why do we want it? And how do we know if we have it?

In the Eternity is Now in Session Participant's Guide, bestselling author John Ortberg takes you on a radical journey of rediscovery, dispelling the myth that eternal life is something way out in outer space that we can only hope to experience after we die. Instead, John unpacks the reality that the moment we trust Christ, we are initiated into "eternal living" with God as a here-and-now reality, one that will continue beyond our life on this earth. We can truly know God, experiencing His presence, favor, and resurrection power right here on this earth—in the details, tasks, and challenges of daily, ordinary life.

PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA

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



Calling all cut-ups.

Palestine Piecemakers are sponsoring a work night Tuesday, February 12th @ 6:30 p.m. Bring your own cutting mat, scissors, and

rotary cutter. If you do not have these supplies we will furnish them. No experience necessary – you do not have to be a sewer. For more information contact Cynthia Johnson or Louise Larson



Copies of the Annual Report are available on the counter in Fellowship Hall.

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 January 20, 2018

Checking Account \$ 28,682.47

General Fund \$ 6,377.70

Designated Funds \$ 22,377.77

Benevolence - 812.00

Building Improvement 1,481.89

Technology 3,384.00

Kitchen 1,780.49

Parsonage - 266.18

Confirmation 1,548.92

Evangelism/Fellowship 871.68

Piano Fund 13,906.84

Maland Fund 1,084.13

ELCA Disaster Fund 50.00

ROCK group - 675.00

Principal balance for building improvement

loan \$ 3,584.64

Principal balance for general fund operating

loan \$ 10,200.00

(as of January 20, 2018)

Next Council Meeting – Sunday, February 10 @ 8 a.m.

Council Retreat April, 2019

Church Council 2019 Pastor Eric Klimpel

President: Kristin Shelton

Council: Nels Dovre

Vice President: Tim Wilson

David Eisenmann

Secretary: Ellen Longnecker

Brent Emerson

Treasurer: Deidre Qual

Candi Engler

Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Cynthia Johnson

Brad Lewis

Jen Pote

Jean Saveraid

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. 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.

Church Council 2019

Pastor Eric Klimpel

President: Kristin Shelton
 Vice President: Tim Wilson
 Secretary: Ellen Longnecker
 Treasurer: Deidre Qual
 Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Council: Nels Dovre
 David Eisenmann
 Brent Emerson
 Candi Engler
 Cynthia Johnson
 Brad Lewis
 Jen Pote
 Jean Saveraid

Finance Committee

Deidre Qual, Chair (treasurer)
 Mike Thomas
 Allan Kopaska
 Brad Lewis
 Kristin Shelton (pres)
 Dick Kepler (financial sec'y, advisor)
 Stewardship chair, advisor

Nominating Committee

Dax Clark
 Haylie Clark
 Vallery Eisenmann
 Colby Calvert
 Nolan Schonhorst
 Laura Kepler
 Lora Young

Staff Support/Mutual Ministry

Mike Thomas
 Brent Emerson
 Lori Schonhorst
 Sandy Harleen
 Brad Lewis
 Lyle Martin



Thank you to Matt Williams, Jeff Van Pelt, Laura Kepler and Lora Young who just completed their terms on Council. Thank you for your service!

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES**Cemetery Committee**

Helen Kepler
 Ken Larson
 Richard Nelson
 Garry Wirtz
 Leonard Larson
 Merle Brendeland

Christian Education

Julie Emerson
 Christa Hartsook
 Julie Huxford Julie Huxford
 Kristin Shelton
 Michelle Siepker
 Erika Williams

Evangelism/Fellowship Committee

Robin Doty
 Roger Moore
 Kristin Shelton
 Teri Klimpel
 Deb Moore

Library Committee

Doreen Blackmer
 Laura Kepler
 Teri Klimpel
 Sue Larson
 Deb Moore
 Shannon Wilson

Memorials & Gifts Committee

Nancy Fausch
 Jean Saveraid
 Cindi Thomas
 Deidre Qual (advisor)

Mission Outreach Committee

Teri Klimpel
 Jim Gotta
 Nina Gotta
 Deb Moore
 Chris Nelson
 Kris Polich

Please let the church office know of any changes to the membership of committees. Thank you

Property/Parsonage Committee

Lowell Elliott
 Jim Gotta
 Bill Harleen
 Greg Hartsook
 Mike Larson
 Ron Locker
 Tracy Sheldahl
 Julie Huxford
 Dave Prichard

Stewardship Committee

Brad Lewis
 Tom Shelton
 Mike Thomas
 Lora Young
 Dick Kepler
 (financial sec'y)
 Deidre Qual
 – Treas advisor
 to committee)

Worship Committee

Mindy DeVries
 Mark Doty
 Brent Emerson
 Teri Klimpel
 Brent Larson
 Donna Millang
 Jean Saveraid
 Holly Twedt
 Jeannie Williams

DELEGATES**SE IA Synod****Assembly**

Joyce Carlson
 Deidre Qual

Bethany Manor

Marge Sheldahl

Madrid Home

Jan Rumbaugh
 Vallery Eisenmann

Riverside Bible Camp

Brent Emerson
 Julie Emerson

Minutes - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting

[not yet approved] January 6, 2019 Sunday

Members Present: Jeff Van Pelt, Pastor Eric Klimpel.

Nels Dovre, Deidre Qual, Lora Young, Dick Kepler,
Jean Saveraid, Brad Lewis, Kristin Shelton, David
Eisenmann, Laura Kepler

Devotions – Lora Young gave devotions.

Vision and Mission Statements were read in unison.

Goals and Reflections – Thanks to Lora Young, Laura
Kepler and Jeff V. for their service!

Minutes of the previous meeting-Kristin Shelton made a
motion to approve the minutes from the December
meeting. Lora Young seconded the motion. Motion
approved.

Treasurer's Report – Deidre presented Treasurer's
Report. We will make a loan payment of \$3000. Jean
Saveraid motioned to approve Treasurer's Report; Nels
Dovre seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel presented a written
report.

New business:

1. Approval of baptisms: Trice, Holden, & Monroe Elliot
(Jan 6th). Elliot Johnson (Feb 10th). Motion was made
by Brad Lewis to approve the baptisms; seconded by
Nels Dovre. Motion approved.
2. Annual meeting planning.
 - a. Approval of Agenda for annual meeting.
Lora Kepler motioned to approve the
Agenda for the Annual Meeting;
seconded by Nels Dovre. Motion
approved.
 - b. Meal – ROCK group will serve Maid Rites
as a fundraiser for their upcoming
Mission Trip to Costa Rica.
3. Approval of 2019 budget recommendation from
finance committee. E Tithe is being utilized and
increased this year. Giving increased from last year.
Only a few changes were made to the budget. Nels
motioned to approve the recommendation of the
2019 budget to be presented at Annual Meeting.
Seconded by Lora Young. Motion approved
4. Approval of staff compensation for 2019. A
compensation of 3% increase for staff members was
recommended. Brad Lewis motioned to approve the
3% increase for Pastor Eric, Church Secretary
(Oriett), and Choir Director (Mindy) for the 2019
year, Seconded by Laura Kepler. Motion approved. A
motion was made to approve the Youth Liaison
compensation package to consist of 12 month lease

of parsonage at no charge which is valued at
\$6600.00 per year, plus a lump sum payment of
\$2441 paid in December of 2019, for a total
equivalent compensation of \$9041. At the discretion
of the council, \$550 shall be moved every month
from the General Fund to the Parsonage Fund to
allow for ongoing and future expenses by Jeff Van
Pelt, Brad Lewis seconded the motion. Motion
approved. A motion was made to approve the 3%
increase for Youth Liaison (Nels) for the 2019 year by
Brad Lewis. Seconded by Jean Saveraid. Motion
approved.

- . Pastor
- a. Church Secretary (Oriett)
- b. Choir Director (Mindy)
- c. Youth Liaison (Nels)

Unfinished Business:

1. Nominating committee – Review of ballot.
2. Council retreat planning update-Feb 16th
Location TBD
3. Parsonage – update
 - a. Improvement needs.
4. New Directory – Target date March '19.
5. Kitchen committee – Update.
6. ROCK group trip update - Nels reported that
ROCK received a donation to help. The Cookie
Extravaganza was a success. Upcoming
fundraisers will include Maid Rite Lunch for
Annual Meeting and Valentine's Dinner.
7. Sanctuary alterations:
 - a. Additional video screens- Brad updated. At this
time, we will hold off on purchasing the
screens.
 - b. Piano considerations – Update.
 - c. Lighting In sanctuary – Mike Larson looking
into LED's.
 - d. Removal of some front pews-No new
information.

The meeting was adjourned with Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting – The Council Meeting will be held in
conjunction with our Council Retreat that is tentatively
February 16th, 2019.

Devotions-Pastor Eric

Treats – Brad Lewis

Tim Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting; David
Eisenmann seconded the motion. Motion approved.

"February is Protein Power month at the food pantry - please donate dried milk, canned meats, processed cheese spread, peanut butter, canned beans, nuts, canned fish (tuna, salmon)."

Sponsored by
Palestine Mission Outreach Committee.

Stewardship Snippet

Feb. 3, 2019

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 – Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

This passage provides a good roadmap of how to be good stewards of our loving relationships. Read this over again, memorize it, print it out. Live it!

From SE Iowa weekly e-News

Looking Ahead

March 6th Ash Wednesday

1st Communion Classes beginning March 3rd and ending April 7th – 10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. There will not be class on Marcy 17th or 24th (spring break). Please let Doreen Blacker know by Feb 10th if your child will be taking the class so she can order enough books.

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.



2019

Volunteer schedule

Greeters

- 2/3 Holly & Tim Wise (Hunter)
Lora Young
2/10 Brent & Missy Larson
Tom & Kristin Shelton
2/17 Monica Ewing
Cindi & Mike Thomas
2/24 Lori Edwards, Dolores Hauge
Matt & Michelle Siepker

Acolytes –

- 2/3
2/10
2/17
2/24

Lectors -

- 2/3
2/10
2/17
2/24

Ushers

- Bill Harleen, captain
David Eisenmann
Lyle Martin
Brad Lewis

Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

Communion Assistants

- Feb. 3..... Donna Millang and Jennifer Pote
Feb. 17..... Teri Klimpel and Jean Saveraid

Offering Counters

- Cindi Thomas, Nancy Fausch, Brad Lewis

Altar Guild

- Melanie Fausch and Cindi Thomas

Snow Removal

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

Deliver Food Pantry donations for Feb

February Birthdays



- 3 - Hauge, Michael
Johnson, Evelyn
6 - Thomas, Alexander
Twedt, Grant
7 - Elliott, Trice
8 - Nelson, Richard
Saveraid, David
9 - Larson, Alvina (98th)
Shelton, Tom
11 - Shelton, Gabe
Shelton, Kristin
VanPelt, Alise
13 - Brendeland, Charles
Cast, Bernadine (87th)
Kopaska, Deb
15 - Larson, Virgil
16 - Brendeland, Anita (90th)
Kam, Melinda
Ness, Toni
17 - Stowe, Deb
Williams, Matthew
18 - Gotta, Nina
Saveraid, Katherine
22 - Lewis, Aubrey
Rasmussen, Cheryl
Thomas, Cindi
24 - Medici, Stacie
27 - Larson, Aaron
28 - Simmons, Dean
29 - Dykstra, Travis



FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 - Deidre Qual & Merlin Lyon
16 - Jason & Melinda Kam
24 - Leonard & Sue Larson

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

Thank you for your cards,
prayers and good wishes
during my recent
hospitalization and during my
recovery at home.
Lowell Elliott

A Note of Thanks...

...to everyone who has supported me with cards, greetings, acts of kindness and prayers. Special thanks to Pastor Eric for being with me and my family on the day of surgery in Iowa City. It is hard to describe the feeling when I went to the operating room cradled in God's arms and blanketed by the prayers of family and friends. It truly was the peace that passes all understanding. I would cherish your continued prayers as I enter the treatment phase of my journey. My cancer is rare and aggressive, but then so are my prayer warriors!

Thank you, Oriett

Remember in Prayer

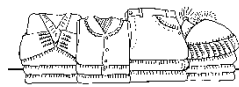
The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during January: Deb Bollmeyer; Anita Brendeland; Valerie Brendeland; Adrienne Brown; Joan Carson; Alisha Cox; Lowell Elliott; Grady Greco; Jackie Greene; Kai Johnson; Ralph Kalsem; Rob Larson; Sue Larson; Merlin Lyon; Elias Samuel Moore; Chuck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

We welcome the newest members of our family of faith...
...received by Holy Baptism on January 6, 2019, **Trice, Holden, and Monroe Elliott**. Trice, Holden, and Monroe are the children of Jonathan and Megan Elliott. Their baptismal sponsors are Cari Carlson and Lynsy Carlson.

We welcome these new brothers and sister into the Lord's family as children of God!

First Communion Classes

This year first communion classes will be held after church (10:45-11:30) beginning March 3rd and ending April 7th - no class March 17th or 24th (due to spring break). Class will meet in room 12 near where the banners are stored. Doreen Blackmer will be leading the class this year and parents are strongly encouraged to attend along with their child. The class is designed for about the 5th grade level, however, if your child is younger and you would like them to participate, or if you would like to review the booklet and teaching materials to help you decide, please let Doreen know. She would like to know who is interested in taking the class by Sunday, February 10th so she can order enough books. Doreen's email is doreenblackmer66@gmail.com or you can call or text her at 515-777-6960.



March is our month to help with the clothing pantry in Huxley. If you have helped in the past, we would appreciate your help again. A sign-up sheet will be available in the fellowship hall. The pantry is open Wed. from 4-6, Sat. from 10 - noon and Sunday from 1-3. It's best to have 2 or more people for each time slot. Thank you for supporting this important ministry in Huxley.



**Candlelight
Valentine's Dinner**

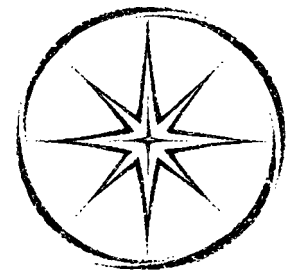
Sunday, February 10th
 Palestine Lutheran Church

Seatings at 5 & 7pm
 Childcare provided for the 5pm seating

4 Course Meal & Beverage
\$25/PERSON
 Choice of Chicken or Pork

RESERVE BY FEBRUARY 6TH
 Tables Available for Groups of 2-8

NAMES _____
 # OF PEOPLE _____
 SEATING TIME (5 OR 7) _____
 CHICKEN OR PORK _____
 CHILDCARE _____
 # OF CHILDREN _____
 CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE ROCK GROUP



The time after Epiphany is the shorter of the two "green" seasons of the liturgical year that are noted by their location "after" a particular festival (the other is the time after Pentecost). With the joy and excitement of the Christmas season, some may view this time as a low note in the liturgical cycle, just filler until the season of Lent appears. Yet this time after Epiphany serves an important role in continuing what was introduced during the Christmas season, focusing on the means through which God is made manifest in the world in Jesus Christ. Christ continues to be made known to the world throughout the lectionary readings. Each Sunday worshipers glimpse again the totality of Christ through the readings, hymnody, embodied ritual, and fellowship. Christ makes himself known bodily through the bread and wine of the Lord's supper. Christ also makes himself known in baptism through the water and word that claims new daughters and sons.



Blood Drive February 19

We count on you so consider giving blood – A Blood Drive will be at **Palestine** on **Tuesday, February 19** from 3-7 p.m. You may schedule an appointment to donate blood by going online www.bloodcenterofiowa.org or by calling 1-800-287-4903.

Previous donors will be contacted by email or phone.

To be eligible to donate, donors must be at least 16 years of age (16 and 17 year old first time blood donors must have a signed parental/guardian consent form). Donors must weigh at least 120 pounds and be in general good health. An ID pre-printed with the donor name is required at registration.

Donors are encouraged to eat a good meal and drink plenty of water before donating blood.

The Banqueting Table

Upcoming Banqueting Tables at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

The meals are open to the public and will take place from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.

"All are Welcome"

Wednesday, February 13

Beef Burgers
Onion Rings & Relishes
Pretzel Strawberry Salad

Wednesday, February 27

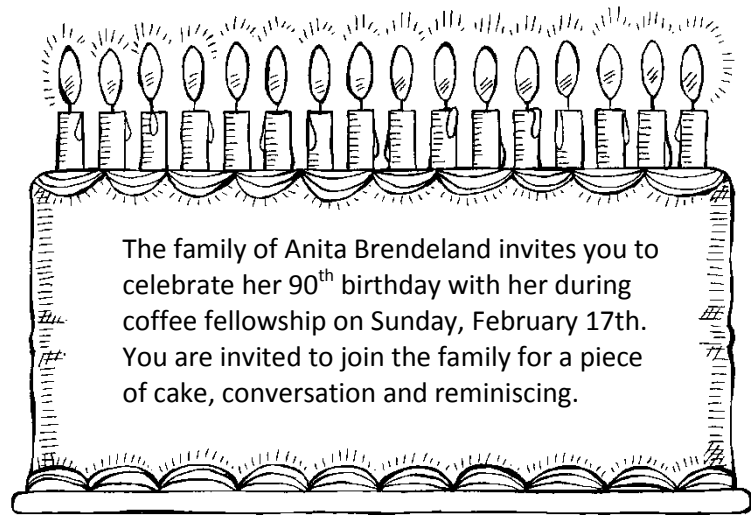
Hot Turkey Sandwiches –
(turkey, mashed potatoes &
gravy on bread)
Lettuce Salad
Assorted Desserts

Wednesday, March 13th

March Macness!
Mac & Cheese
Garlic Bread
Chocolate Pudding

Wednesday, March 27th

Baked Potato Bar -
Baked Potatoes with big
assortment of toppings
(meat/cheese, etc.)
Assorted Bars



Who Is Your Wantok?

In Ephesians 4:4-6 Paul writes about how we are all part of one body—one family in Christ. In Papua New Guinea, the people have a special word which tells about belonging "wantok" (wuhn tohk), which means "one talk"—a person who speaks the same language. But wantok also has a deeper meaning. A wantok is a relative or close friend, someone with whom you share your joys and sorrows. As a person's wantok, you and another person are of "one mouth" and "one language." In short, you belong together.

Invite your family members to name someone who is a wantok for them and tell why. Perhaps some may not have anyone to whom they feel close. In that case, discuss the qualities which would make someone a good wantok. (Examples may include someone who is willing to listen, is caring, and tells the truth.)

Work in pairs to create friendship cards to send to your family's wantoks. Fold pieces of construction paper and locate several pairs of pliers and a variety of small hardware, such as nuts, bolts, and screws. Pour small amounts of liquid tempera paint into foam meat trays or foam paper plates. Say that a pair of pliers is made of two parts—as is friendship. Cooperation builds trust between wantoks. Work together, with each partner holding one handle of the pliers, to pick up a piece of hardware, dip it in paint, and press it onto the folded paper to make a design. When the cards dry, write a message of friendship inside each one.

Explain to your family that "fele" (fay-lay) is the way the Begesin people of Papua New Guinea greet each other. A fele is also a woven coconut mat that is placed by the door. By saying "Fele!" a person means, "Come, you are welcome here. The door of my home and my heart are open to you." Make a welcome mat for your home by writing "Fele!" with permanent marker on a rope mat. You could also weave place mats of paper strips or use a plastic loom to weave fabric loops. Use puff paint to print "Fele!" on these mats. Make enough to use at home and to give as a gift to another family, telling them about the meaning of "wantok" and "Fele!"

Pray using the words of this traditional Papua New Guinea song based on Psalm 68:26. Say: "God of all the world, we have come to give you thanks and become more like you. In worship we long to be one with each other and you."

From Family Newsletters on Disk, copyright ©1995 Augsburg Fortress



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."



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.

Discounts Available for summer camp!

1. Palestine pays \$75 for Alpha Camp (1st timers) and \$160 for other campers at Riverside. Check with church office for details.
2. **Early Bird Discount! Register on or before February 14, 2019.**
Early bird discount is:
\$60 discount for Alpha program
\$25 discount for Juniors/Jr. High/Sr. High
\$25 discount for Ranch Camp
\$25 discount for Adventure Camp (except High Adventure)
There is no early bird discount for High Adventure.
There is no early bird discount for Family Camp.
3. **Member Congregations** (NOTE: Palestine is a member congregation)
Campers from member congregations will receive a \$15 per week discount.
4. **Siblings Discount**
Families who are sending more than one camper to Riverside will receive the following discounts. The first camper will be charged the full fee. The second camper will receive a \$30 discount. Each additional camper will receive a \$50 discount. (The Siblings Discount is not available for Alpha Camp.)

About Daddy-Daughter Dance

Every daughter is a princess of the King! Sparkles will be everywhere, all around the lit-up dining hall, as well as on lots of sparkly dresses and many, many sparkly eyes as the daddies and their princesses dance the night away! What a joy it is to watch 200+ daddies and

daughters swirling and twirling, laughing, and enjoying each other to the fullest! The evening is filled with dance music by a DJ, snacks, and pictures. Dance instructions for group dances are included with the night.

Daddies, plan to bring your princess(es) to the Riverside Dining Hall on Saturday, February 17, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 pm! Let's treasure those daughters of all ages!

Who: Dads (or grandpas/uncles/friends) and their daughters

What: Dancing and Snacks

Where: Riverside Dining Hall - 3001 Riverside Rd. Story City, Iowa

When: Saturday, February 16 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

How Much: \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum per family

Registering online or calling the office ahead of time is very helpful; however, walk-ins are welcome.

Marriage Retreat

Join us March 1-3, 2019

God's Word is powerful and we believe it affects lives and marriages! Throughout this weekend, couples will enjoy time together with rest, worship, creative skits, laughter, time with our speakers, lots of fun, great food and great fellowship. Arrival is Friday evening, and the retreat ends with a brunch on Sunday.

Please pray about coming to the Marriage Retreat this year!

This weekend offers a great opportunity to bring along some friends who you would like to grow alongside. A marriage retreat also makes for a great Christmas or Anniversary gift.

Housing Options and Fees

\$150 - Riverside housing - couples stay in individual cabins or rooms.

\$120 - Commute - sleep at home, or make your own reservation at a local hotel, and attend all of the programming at camp.

Possible Story City hotels - Comfort Inn 515.733.6363 or Viking Inn 515.733.4306

*Fee includes all meals and programming for the couple

REGISTER: Register by calling the office at 515-733-5271, or you can register online today! Couples arrive Friday evening and the retreat ends with a brunch on Sunday at 11:30. You DON'T want to miss this weekend!



Raising our Voice for Iowa Children and Families – Lutheran Day on the Hill

Families struggling without access to mental healthcare. Human services providers overworked and underpaid. Former refugees striving to build new lives.

These are all issues faced by Iowans. Join us to make sure they are heard at the Iowa State Capitol.

Please consider joining Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for Lutheran Day on the Hill, an annual day of advocacy in Des Moines to uplift the needs of our neighbors. The event will be held on Tuesday, February 19. Visit www.LSIowa.org/advocacy next month for event details, online registration, and an online toolkit for your congregation.

If you are new to advocacy, come learn more about the legislative process and your role as a citizen. If you've attended before, join us again. We hope this year's schedule will also allow you more opportunities to connect with legislators. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at 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.

Building a New Home

After spending almost 20 years in a refugee camp in Nepal, Narayan and Chandra are grateful for the life they have built for their family with support from LSI's Refugee Community Services.

After marrying in the camp, Narayan and Chandra resettled to Des Moines in 2009. Everything was new. Everything was different. Their child, Aaman, was a newborn, and they found themselves overwhelmed with medical bills. Chandra desperately wanted to pursue her medical career. At the time, it seemed impossible.

But LSI helped Chandra enroll in college classes. Narayan started volunteering at LSI as an interpreter. Later, he became a full-time case manager with LSI, where he continues to lift up former refugees by connecting them to resources, educational activities, and supporting them as they pursue citizenship.

"LSI supported me and allowed me to provide for my family. It helped us establish ourselves in Iowa," he says.

Chandra now works as a lab assistant in an Iowa pediatric clinic. Narayan and Chandra have become homeowners and feel confident, independent, and established in their new community.

