



## The Palestine Press

**April 2018**

Volume XXXII Number 4  
Monthly newsletter of  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**God's work. Our hands.**

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

### Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

#### *Our Vision:*

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

#### *Mission Statement:*

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

**Growing and Knowing the Tree of Life at Palestine and Beyond .....With Pastor Eric  
*(Jesus said) Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. – John 12:24***

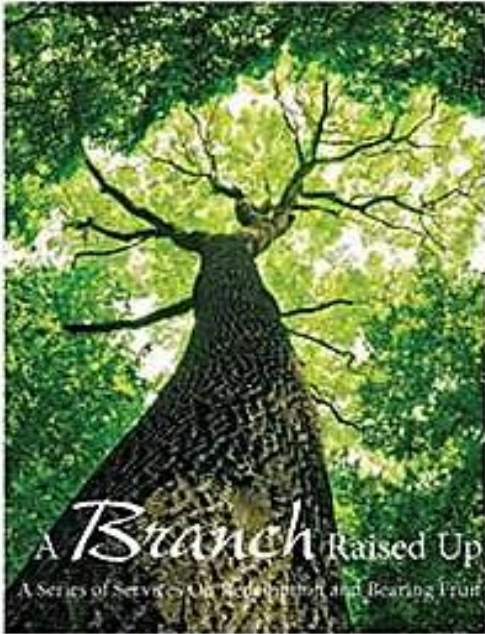
***Through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. – Revelations 22:2***

We are at the beginning of the Easter season which walks almost hand-in-hand with the springtime. The season of Easter moves for seven weeks from the bare ground into the growing and budding plants in our gardens and fields around us. Living in rural America we are aware of the seasons and the cycles of life within them. There is a season for everything in God's creation (*Ecclesiastes 3:1*). Through Holy Week we remember that after the death of Jesus came the burial in the earthen tomb and eventually the resurrection of Jesus to life everlasting. Jesus teaches a great deal in parables around planting seeds and caring for fig trees and weeding gardens. Each story has an expectation of growth and death, a beginning and an ending in them. These stories mirror our very existence which is why they follow us through the centuries season unto season.

Our congregation goes through seasons as well and for us planting gives way to growing. Tending to the growth takes work and attention from everyone in this place. God gifts each of us with the tools to plant, prune and nourish that which is planted. We will consider what it means to grow in Christ and reflect on the Tree of Life images in the Scriptures during this Easter season. It is my prayer for you that as we consider Jesus as the branch raised up for us that we invest what the Holy Spirit plants in us to nurture the Tree of Life here in this place among this people.

**Let us pray. Heavenly Father, who sows and reaps the seed of life and brings rain and sun to nourish and grow, plant in me the seed of love and service, equip me to help and nurture in healthy ways, and empower me to grow with you and in you always as a reflection of your light and love, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## A Branch Raised Up



An Easter Series on Redemption and Bearing Fruit  
Join us for a special series of four worship services called A Branch Raised Up. Each service in the four-part series focuses on

Christ as the Branch raised up and ties that theme to our bearing fruit for him in various ways.

**Service One** highlights Jeremiah 33:15 “I will cause a righteous branch to spring up” and relates that verse to Christ who came to raise up our fallen race by covering us with his righteousness so that we might be saved and grow in him.”

**Service Two** highlights 1 Peter 2:24 “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree” and focuses on Christ, who came to die on the tree of the cross that we might grow in faith freely forgiven.

**Service Three** highlights John 15:5 “I am the vine; you are the branches” and focuses on the connection we have with Christ, who give us the support and nourishment we need to branch out in our service for him.

**Service Four** highlights Revelation 2:7 “To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God” and focuses on the rich and fruitful life of heaven that awaits all who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

## **Palestine Lutheran Church** ***Worship & Study Opportunities-*** ***April 2018***



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

Sunday, April 1 *The Resurrection of Our Lord - Easter*  
7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service: Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Worship: Holy Communion

Monday, April 2  
2 p.m. Palestine Women of ELCA Bible study

Wednesday, April 4  
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation

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

Sunday, April 8 *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*  
9:30 a.m. Worship: Children's Church

Wednesday, April 11  
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, April 14  
7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, April 15 *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*  
9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church

Wednesday, April 18  
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, April 21  
7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, April 22 *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*  
9:30 a.m. Worship: Children's Church

Wednesday, April 25  
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible study  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, April 28  
7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek  
Cluster 1 Women Spring Gathering @ Bethlehem  
Lutheran Church, Slater

Sunday, April 29 *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*  
9:30 a.m. Worship: Children's Church



## EASTER SUNDAY!

(April 1 @ 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.)

The Tomb is empty! Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Time to Celebrate!  
EARLY SERVICE (YOUTH-LED)



**Sunday, April 1**  
8 a.m. Breakfast served by Confirmation Class; freewill donation to support their trip to Chicago



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
Easter Egg hunt for youth at Palestine sponsored by The Christian Education Committee. Sunday, April 1 at 8:30 a.m. Come help us celebrate new life this Easter by hunting for eggs!

**Daily Discipleship** themes which will be used for Wednesday morning Men's Bible study (uses the text for the following Sunday).. They are available on the ELCA website—

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) → Resources → Downloadable Resources → Bible Studies

**April 1** Easter —

**Primary Text:** Mark 16:1-8

**The Path of Discipleship:** *Beyond the Grave*

**April 8** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter —

**Primary Text:** John 20:19-31

**The Path of Discipleship:** *Filled with Peace*

**April 15** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter —

**Primary Text:** Luke 24:36b-48

**The Path of Discipleship:** *Joined by Others*

**April 22** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter —

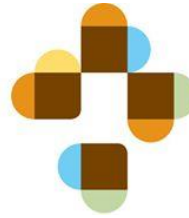
**Primary Text:** John 10:11-18

**The Path of Discipleship:** *Inspired by Compassion*

**April 29** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter —

**Primary Text:** John 15:1-8

**The Path of Discipleship:** *Connected to Christ*



### EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING

**JOPPA** - Based in Des Moines, Iowa (more about it over the month in worship) [some points of interest - our youth are planning to work with JOPPA this summer, and Pat and Lyle Martin's daughter Colleen heads up the medical

Joppa Outreach ministry through JOPPA, the founder Joe Stevens visited Palestine during the Conference 1 Synod Gathering in November, 2017]

**JOPPA HELPS HOMELESS PEOPLE SURVIVE, FIND HOUSING AND REBUILD THEIR LIVES!**

**Our mission is to create a community of unconditional love, support and hope for the homeless as we work together to prevent and ultimately end homelessness.** Rather than relying on government funding or creating redundant services, Joppa collaborates with other agencies, helps people access resources, and develops unique programs that fill gaps and meet unmet needs in outreach, housing and education.

**Outreach:** Survival, Support & Hope

**Housing:** Tiny Homes & Uniquely Affordable Cottages

**Education:** Joppa KIDS Making a Difference

Learn more at [www.joppa.org](http://www.joppa.org)

*"In Joppa, there was a disciple named Tabitha, who was always doing good and helping the poor." Acts 9:36 NIV*

This is a special offering in addition to the regular weekly offering. Easter offering envelopes are available in Fellowship Hall or indicate on your weekly offering envelope in the other section the amount to go to Joppa or on your check memo line the amount to be given to Joppa. You may also give via Online Giving available through Easytithes.com. All you need to do is go to our webpage [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com) and click on the "Online Giving" button to sign up and give.

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 Secretary's Office: 515/597-2624  
 Church e-mail is: [PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net)  
 Pastor Eric Klimpel's email: [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)  
 cell: 936/444-3895

<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
Balance on hand March 18, 2018	
Checking Account	\$ 10,441.65
General Fund	- \$ 8,559.76
Designated Funds	\$ 19,041.41
Benevolence	848.00
Building Improvement	2,155.00
Technology	3,384.00
Kitchen	5,600.00
Parsonage	995.33
Confirmation	2,747.62
Lent Offering	400.00
Evangelism/Fellowship	447.37
Piano Fund	2,454.09
ROCK	10.00
Principal balance for building improvement loan	
\$ 4,227.25 (as of March 18, 2018)	

No Council meeting minutes in this month's newsletter. Their rescheduled meeting will be March 25, after newsletter deadline.

<b>Church Council 2018</b>	Pastor Eric Klimpel
President: Matt Williams	
Vice President: Jeff Van Pelt	
Secretary: Ellen Huxford	
Treasurer: Deidre Qual	
Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler	
Council:	
David Eisenmann	Nels Dovre
Laura Kepler	Cynthia Johnson
Jean Saveraid	Brad Lewis
Tim Wilson	Kristin Shelton
	Lora Young

The **2018 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly – *The Water The Witness*** – will be held Friday, May 18, through Saturday, May 19, at the Coralville Marriott in Coralville. There will be several elections taking place, including those nominated for the upcoming 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Congregational anniversaries will be celebrated. A new interactive center will focus on faith in action through participating in anti-hunger efforts, clean water initiatives, advocacy efforts and more. We hope you will join us for learning about our life and faith together through worship, keynote speakers, music and more. For more information visit our website at [seiasynod.org](http://seiasynod.org).

### June 18-21 Vacation Bible School!

VBS will be held jointly with Fjeldberg Lutheran Church.

It will be at our site this year with staff from Riverside leading the program. Get the date on your calendar, more information will follow. Watch for volunteer opportunities - If anyone has an interest in helping with food, classroom chaperoning or planning, please contact Michelle Siepker.



The theme is "Seek First," coming from Matthew 6:33, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all of these things will be given to you." We pray that every camper who experiences Riverside this summer will

come to know the great love of Jesus and what it means to seek first after God and His Kingdom. His way in every aspect of our lives. We will be incorporating an "Around the World theme" to make it even more realistic for the youth we will be impacting.

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY –**

#### **VBS Coordinator needed - June 18-21**

(this could be a shared position) Duties include:

- Meetings with Fjeldberg
- Registration paperwork ahead of time (online registration available)
- Sunday before setup and decorate
- Sunday night welcome counselors and be with them at church as they set up.
- Sunday night coordinate a meal for them after they are finished setting up.
- Be on site all week in case of questions, they need extra help, or emergencies
- Help in the kitchen-Two days for Fjeldberg and Two days for Palestine
- Coordinate with Thrivent for Thursday night meal
- Help Thursday night meal
- Help clean up

As coordinator you would be responsible for overseeing these tasks but there would be a team of volunteers helping you. Check with Michelle Seipker if you have any questions about this position. She is unavailable that week but would be willing to help prior to VBS to prepare for a week of fun and learning! Riverside has a manual available complete with checklists to make your job easier.

Following is Riverside's description of what is a day camp coordinator – "Being a Day Camp Coordinator is a vital responsibility to a great Day Camp experience. Responsibilities include praying, being in contact with Riverside, advertising at your church, finding volunteers, and more."

- ★ Looking for helpers for classrooms. Riverside is in charge of teaching, but they love outside helpers (request at least 1 volunteer for each 10 students) - it's a great opportunity for service hours for our high school youth and very fulfilling to see kids so excited about Jesus!

Please prayerfully consider if you would be willing to serve!



## Grulke Ministry Team

We just wanted to take a moment to welcome you to our ministry team and give you some info about us. It was great to be at Palestine & to connect with all of you, but we

wanted to reach out and make sure that you were in touch with us and what is going in in our Bible translation project in Botswana.

**Website:** You can go to [thegrulkes.org](http://thegrulkes.org) at any time and check out all of the things that we have posted there, including past updates. [Here's a link to our last email newsletter.](#)

**Facebook:** Due to a change in the way that Facebook does their groups, we can't add people to our group who we aren't friends with anymore. If you like getting updates about our ministry on Facebook, follow this link to our group: [The Grulkes' LBT Adventures](#) Ask to join the group and we will add you so that you can find out what we are up to on a regular basis.

**Giving:** Our ministry cannot happen without the generous support of Christians just like you. **Regular, sustained gifts**, whether monthly or yearly, keep our ministry going, especially when we are in the field and away from our supporters. You can give online by going to this link: [Grulke ministry](#) or you can mail a check made out to Lutheran Bible Translators with 'Grulke ministry' in the memo line to this address: LBT, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020. Your gifts keep our ministry going and help us to continue the important Kingdom work of translating the Bible into new languages in Botswana.

If you have any questions about our ministry or would like to find out more about what we are up to, please do not hesitate to contact us! We love to hear from our supporters and want to keep you up to date on what is happening in our lives and ministry. Blessings to you this week!

Rev. Carl Grulke  
Missionary, International Programs  
Lutheran Bible Translators  
Phone: 402-405-4541 (mobile)  
[thegrulkes.org](http://thegrulkes.org) | [us.lbt.org](http://us.lbt.org)

The following prayer requests were included in their last newsletter.

- Emotional, spiritual and physical health of our children as this time of transition and waiting has been hard for them.
- Clarity and purpose as we pack things for the move.
- Praise that our vehicle fund is complete and pray that we would close our funding gap in time for an April departure.
- The start of saying goodbyes as we begin to think about the realities of leaving.



## Volunteer schedule

April 2018

### Greeters

- 41 Chris & Rich Nelson  
Laura Kepler
- 4/8 Joyce Carlson  
Doreen & Cheryl Blackmer
- 4/15 Monica Ewing  
Christa & Greg Hartsook
- 4/22 Donna & Dennis Millang  
Jeannie & Kevin Williams
- 4/29 Justin & Jodie Sample  
Holly & Tim Wise, Hunter

### Acolytes -

to be contacted

### Lectors -

- 4/1 .....
- 4/8 .....
- 4/15 .....
- 4/22 .....
- 4/29 .....

### Ushers

- Leonard Larson, captain
- Dennis Millang
- Jacob Huxford
- Bruce Hartman

### Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

### Communion Assistants

- 4/1 .....7 a.m.: ROCK
- 9:30 a.m. Julie Huxford & Nancy Fausch
- 4/15 ...Lyle Martin & Bruce Hartman

### Offering Counters

### Altar Guild

Helen Kepler and Donna Millang

### Mowing volunteers

### Deliver Food Pantry donations for April

April is Paper Trail month at the food pantry – please donate paper products – toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, paper plates & bowls, plastic silverware.

Sponsored by Palestine Mission Outreach



Please Join us for a  
Bridal Shower  
honoring Jordan Aust  
fiancée of Jake Huxford  
Saturday, April 21 -  
2:00 p.m.

Palastine Lutheran Church  
Huxley, Iowa

The couple is registered at  
Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target.



## Celebrating Their ANNIVERSARY

### April Birthdays

- 1 – Derrick Rhoads
- 2 – Logan DeHaven
- 5 – Alisha Cox  
Doris Ness
- 6 – Craig Fausch
- 7 – Cindy Friedrichsen
- 9 – Cheryl Blackmer
- 10 – Margo Baldwin
- 11 – Marvin Edwards
- 12 – Brookelyn Rahner
- 15 – Todd Schmidt
- 18 – Garrett Jensen  
Maggie Larson
- 22 – Wayne Reinhart
- 26 – Valerie Brendeland
- 27 – Maizy DeVries  
Emma Sample
- 28 – Bob Snider
- 29 – Olivia Ewing
- 30 – Ruth Evans

### APRIL

- 2 – Mike & Holly Larson
- 18 – Garry & Sandy Wirtz
- 19 – Marvin & Lori Edwards
- 21 – Lowell & Denise Elliott (40<sup>th</sup>)
- 23 – Tyler & Sarah Roelfs
- 24 – Andrew & Kristine Polich

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



The blood drive on February 20<sup>th</sup> was absolutely amazing! Even with the weather, this drive produced the same amount of units as the previous drive did, back in October! In fact, this was the third drive in a row where we have been able to receive 30 or more units. That's a very impressive streak! Not only did we get 30 units of blood, but we did so with only one donor deferral! That's a huge testament to the people of the Huxley area, to get themselves ready for their donation. So for that, a huge thank you! Here are the official results of the blood drive:

- 45 people on the schedule going into Tuesday
- 29 registered to donate
- 28 were able to donate!
- 30 units of blood collected!!
- **Up to 90 lives saved or sustained!**

Our next blood drive is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup>

### Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during March: Anita Brendeland; Joan Carson; Elinor (Anderson) Christiansen; Logan DeHaven; Kim Fears; Jane Gordon; Sandy Harleen; Bruce Hartman; Dave Huinker; Kai Johnson; Ralph Kalsem; Alvina Larson; Merlin Lyon; Kris Polich; Lorraine Sorensen; Mackenzie Tallman; Shannon Tope; Arlene Wee; Randy Young.

- Our Compassion International child a 6 yr old boy Roberto Junior Perez Barreto in Columbia.
- Those impacted by hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, tornadoes, drought & wild fires.
- Those impacted by terrorist attacks around the world & also here at home.
- Syrian refugees.

We welcome the newest member of our family of faith...  
...received by baptism on March 18, 2018, **Hayley Jeanne Gustafson**, daughter of Jeremy & Lindsay Gustafson and sister of Lily. Her baptismal sponsors are Cole & Amanda Anderson and Conner Anderson.

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 **Gregory Nordstrom** (father of Katie Madson)

...to family and friends of **Ruth Hennick**

...to family and friends of **Irma Elliott**

...to family and friends of **Tom Olson**

...to family and friends of **Lorraine Sorensen**

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



Funeral Lunches

### FUNERAL MINISTRY

When a funeral gets scheduled at Palestine and the deceased's family requests that a luncheon or reception be served, an e-mail is sent out to those church members who have asked me to contact them.

Generally, I am soliciting donations of a dessert or a salad or help to prepare, serve and clean up the kitchen in that email. If you are not currently on the list to be notified but would like to be, please let Doreen Blackmer know. You can reach her at [blackmer@hughes.net](mailto:blackmer@hughes.net) or 515-777-6960 (text capable).

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



The Grand View University Choir will be performing a home concert at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 8 at Luther Memorial Church, 1201 Grandview Avenue, Des Moines, as the finale to its spring 2018 tour which took them through Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, West Virginia,

Pennsylvania, and New York. Free to the public. Our own Paris Doty is in this choir and plays piano and trombone for part of the concert.



8-10 am *Saturdays with Freedom* event at the Freedom for Youth center, 602 N Main, Huxley, on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The junior high & high school students will be cooking breakfast and we would love to serve you and have you bring a friend! Freewill donation.

### **EWALU Volunteer Work Weekend April 27-28**

All are invited to a free weekend at Camp Ewalu at Strawberry Point. Join other volunteers, families, and church groups for outdoor activities, fun fellowship, and service projects to prepare camp for the summer season. Lodging and meals provided free of charge. Please RSVP to [camp@ewalu.org](mailto:camp@ewalu.org) or call 563-933-4700 by Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> so they can arrange lodging, meals, and projects for your group.

### **Welcome to Medicare**

A free two-hour seminar offered by the State of Iowa's Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and Madrid Home Communities.

"Welcome to Medicare" will cover:



- Medicare eligibility and enrollment
- Parts A & B benefits
- Prescription Drug Benefits (Part D)
- Medicare Advantage Plans, and
- Medicare Supplement Insurance

**Saturday, May 5, 2018 – 9-11 a.m.**

The Cedars , 600 N Kennedy, Madrid, IA

**Registration required by April 26, 2018**

**Call (515) 795-4097 ext. 306**



### **Volunteer Tutoring Opportunity Summer Reading Buddies**

**June 11 - July 26, 2018  
(with a break July 2-6)**

Give literacy support for children who have completed kindergarten through third grade. Sign up to be a volunteer literacy tutor. All training, materials and lesson plans are provided.

**Volunteer Today!**

Visit our website at  
[www.raising-readers.org](http://www.raising-readers.org)  
Click on 'Summer Reading Buddies'

Raising Readers in Story County 920 Carroll Ave., Ames, IA 50010  
515-520-8686 [www.raising-readers.org](http://www.raising-readers.org)

We are officially registering volunteers and have secured the Huxley Public Library as our site for Ballard students. Check the



### **FILL THE TRAILER FOR BALLARD BACKPACK BUDDIES**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018 @ 8:00 AM  
UNTIL THE TRAILER IS FULL!**

**FAREWAY PARKING LOT, HUXLEY, IOWA**  
911 N US HIGHWAY 69, HUXLEY, IOWA

WE'RE NOT LEAVING THE PARKING LOT UNTIL THE TRAILER IS FULL FOR OUR BALLARD BACKPACK BUDDIES AND LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES. MONETARY DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR BALLARD KIWANIS VISION AND DENTAL PROGRAM



SPONSORS:  
Cambridge & Trinity United Methodist Churches  
Ballard Kiwanis

bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for a full sized poster. Backpack Buddies in the Ballard Community is a partner in the Food Bank of Iowa BackPack Program. Ballard receives BackPack sacks with kid friendly food which is distributed each Friday for the weekend. In addition items are provided for the entire family thru our Backpack Buddies program. You can find more information about the BackPack Program on the Food Bank of Iowa website. [www.foodbankiowa.org/backpack](http://www.foodbankiowa.org/backpack)

According to the Iowa Department of Human Services, 8,892 Iowa children were found to be abused in 2016. The most common forms of abuse included denial of critical care, physical injury, exposure to illegal drugs and sexual abuse.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) helps combat child abuse through prevention, safety, and stability services, as well as mental and behavioral health treatment.

Through regular in-home visits to families, LSI's Early Childhood Services prevent child abuse by giving parents the support, education, and resources they need to build a healthy, stable home for their children. In 2017, our Early Childhood programs provided more than 15,000 in-home visits to families.

LSI's Family Safety, Risk, and Permanency Services help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable, and LSI's Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers serve many children and youth who have experienced trauma from past abuse or neglect.

You make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. Thank you!

*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 [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

**Building a Stronger Family**

Stacy's daughter, Danikah, was a happy and playful toddler. But things began to change when her baby brother, Parker, was born. She was happy to see him in the hospital at first, but she struggled to adjust to a new child at home, especially when it came to sharing a room with Parker.

Stacy found LSI's New Parent Program shortly after Parker was born, and she hoped it could help her daughter adjust to the changes at home. The free, voluntary program provides support and education to families during and after pregnancy. Through the program, Stacy gets to meet other families in her community, and Danikah gets to interact with other children who have siblings.

Danikah is learning how other siblings share their toys & interact. Meanwhile, Stacy is learning to adjust to her children's developmental stages. Through the program, she has learned to potty train Danikah & manage her daughter's temper tantrums.

At home, Stacy and her children receive regular visits from their LSI team. Each week, the team brings creative new crafts Stacy can make from materials around the house. Danikah, now 5, is always eager to learn a new activity from her LSI worker during each visit. She's even starting to share her homemade toys with Parker.

"The program is fun for the kids, but you can also do things as a family," Stacy says. "You get that time with your child, and you're building a better relationship in the process."

**PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA**

**PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA Bible study April 2, 2 pm**

**In the April Gather magazine we conclude the Winter 2018 Bible study: Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations by Mark Allan Powell**

**January/February:**

**Session one – Washing hands with distant hearts (Mark 7:1-12)**

**Session two – Prepare the Way of the Lord (Luke 3:3-17)**

**March: Session three – The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)**

**April: Session four – The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-20)**

**Session four: The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-20)**

This month's study continues to look at how Bible stories mean different things to different people. In this session, we consider how the story of the Prodigal Son is understood by believers—indeed by Lutheran believers—in different parts of the world.

The April 2018 edition focuses on the fact that "living word" of scripture speaks to us all in unique, profound and meaningful ways – and that is a good thing.

So this year, let's strive to remember, as our Bible study author, the Rev. Mark Allan Powell writes: "The word of God is both law and gospel – and sometimes it is both at once. ...Bible stories often mean different things to different people." That teaches us a lot about life.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** – Cluster 1 Spring Gathering – April 28 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Slater – Program on Prayer



Southeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA 31st Gathering will be held, June 22-23 2018 at Windsor Heights Lutheran Church, 1240 66<sup>th</sup> St, Windsor Heights, IA 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man will be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are to become new." See the Spring Issue of Directions for additional information and reservation information.



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

[rlbc@riverside.org](mailto:rlbc@riverside.org)      [www.RiversideLBC.org](http://www.RiversideLBC.org)  
"To Know Christ and to make Christ known to all."

### Upcoming Events

April 7 The Gala

Apr 8-75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration

April 14 Spring Blast (grades 2-6)

April 21 Spring Work Day

April 27-29 Men's Retreat

The theme for **Summer 2018** is "Seek First" with our theme verse coming from Matthew 6:33! We pray that every camper who comes to Riverside this summer will seek first the Kingdom of God. Our desire is for those who already know Jesus to grow in their faith and see more of God's Kingdom around them and for those who have never heard the good news of the Gospel to begin a lifelong journey of walking in the Kingdom with Jesus Christ.

Our website currently has all of the dates and prices up for summer 2018 at Riverside. You can check your summer calendars to begin thinking about what week your child can come experience a life-changing week at camp.



### **Black & White Ball - Riverside Gala April 7, 2018**

**Location:** Ames Gateway Hotel & Conference Center -  
Ames, Iowa

2100 Green Hills Drive, Ames, IA 50014

#### **Evening Schedule**

5:00 pm - Doors Open (Please do not arrive before 5:00 pm.  
Arriving between 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm is ideal.)

5:30 pm - Hors d'oeuvres and Viewing of Auction Items

7:00 pm - Dinner

Live Auction and Dancing to follow

**Dress** This is a black and white ball. Everyone is encouraged to only wear black and white for this event!

#### **Registration**

To register, please use the supporting events section of our online registration or call our office at 515-733-5271.

Entrance for the evening's festivities is \$100 per person.

You may also reserve a table for up to eight people for \$800.

If you are unable to attend the Gala, but would still like to support this great event, we will accept bids on items at the auction over the phone until Friday, April 6 at 5:00 pm. Just call the office and ask to speak with Dave McDermott to place a bid.

**Auction Items** There are always a plethora of fantastic auction items for both the live and silent auction at the Riverside Gala. This year will be no exception! Items are still being finalized, but be sure to check back as we get closer to the date of the Gala for an updated list.



## **75th Anniversary Celebration**

**Sunday, April 8**

In conjunction with our entire weekend of celebration, we are holding a 75th anniversary celebration at Riverside on April 8!

Join us on Sunday, April 8th for tours of camp (walk or drive), visit with board members and staff, hear from the family of founder Pastor AJ Bringle about some of the history of camp, worship, and join us for dinner (with reservation) in the evening. Check out our [website](#) for the entire schedule of the day and for all of the details. We hope to see Riverside supporters from all of the past 7+ decades of ministry, as we celebrate knowing Jesus Christ and making Christ known to all!

### **Spring Work Day**

The Spring Work Day is a great day for volunteers of all skills, ages, and abilities to come help keep the ministry of Riverside alive and well. Every summer, thousands of people will visit Riverside and experience God in amazing ways. We will have lots of jobs for folks of all work abilities. Be a part of making camp a beautiful place for the Gospel to come alive for campers and families this summer, by helping at the Spring Work Day!

Our work day for 2018 is scheduled for **Saturday, April 21 from 8:30-Lunch**. Lunch is provided, but please call the camp ahead of time so we know how much food to make. You can call the office at 515-733-5271. There may be afternoon work opportunities as well. If there is bad weather on April 21, then we will reschedule for May 5th.

### **2018 Men's Retreat April 27-29 –**

#### ***"Men Who Make a Difference"***

Men, our spring Men's Retreat is back! Join us at Riverside April 27-29 for a relaxing weekend away from the pressures of every day life, as you connect with God and other men who want to grow in their relationship with Christ. It's good to get away from the everyday and when we do, we believe that God can speak in clear and powerful ways into the depths of our hearts and minds. Feeling tired, stressed, anxious, overwhelmed, lonely? This retreat is for you. Are you desiring to take a next step in how you can be a man that makes a Kingdom impact? This retreat is for you. Looking for a fun weekend away with friends with great food and a variety of activities? This retreat is for you! Join us and bring a friend for a weekend with challenging and practical teaching, worship, breakout sessions, fun, and solitude.

#### **General Information**

What: Men's Retreat

When: April 27-29 (Arrive Friday night and leave Sunday at noon)

Who: Men ages 18+

Where: Riverside Bible Camp

How Much: \$85 per person