



Reaching out in Christian love to all!

 **Palestine**
Lutheran Church

1375 Highway 210

Huxley, IA 50124

515-597-2620 (Pastor)

515-597-2624 (Office)

FAX: 515-597-2621

palestinelutheran@gmail.com

www.plchuxley.com

THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2022

Rev. Eric Klimpel, Pastor
515-597-2620
936-444-3895 (cell)
ericklimpel@gmail.com



Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison
319-331-7368 (cell)
dovren@gmail.com

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 ericklimpel@gmail.com

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page(s)

| | |
|---|-------|
| Pastoral Care..... | 2 |
| Pastor’s Monthly Report | 4-5 |
| Weather Policy Reminder | 5 |
| Study & Prayer Opportunities | 6-7 |
| Food Pantry Volunteer | 7 |
| Daily Faith Practices | 8 |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries | 9 |
| Monthly Calendar | 10-11 |
| Council Minutes | 12-13 |
| Prayer List for December | 14 |
| Annual Meeting Information | 14 |
| Pastor’s Surprise 25 th Pics | 15 |
| Christmas Program Pics | 16 |
| Senior Tea Pics | 17 |
| LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story | 18-19 |

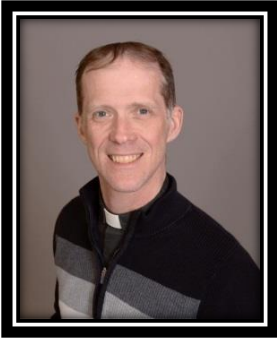


Tithes & Offering

Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:
Palestine Lutheran Church
1375 HWY 210
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website www.plchuxley.com and click on the bright red ONLINE GIVING tab on the right located above our “Reaching out in Christian love to all” statement.
4. Text **GIVE** to 515-207-6435.

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



From “What now?” to “What’s next?” -----
----- With Pastor Eric

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” Luke 24:36 – Surprise!

*“Therefore, **since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witness**, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,” Hebrews 12:1 – Support!*

What’s next? I guess that is the question for this New Year’s Eve? We have experienced many new things together over the course of 2021. You would think that with every curve ball thrown at me this year from the media, government, church, the medical sector, and family that I would be ready for anything, or at least recognize that truly anything is possible.

Well...I did not expect the worship service to go from the joy of Advent expectation to the joy of celebrating my 25th Anniversary of Ordination as a Pastor. I was full of shock, surprise and at the time some mixed emotions. I embarrassed myself by the utter lack of awareness in my own mind at such a wonderful deception. Throughout the year I thought tirelessly about the congregation’s health and well-being...how to keep people engaged, encouraged, and included with a sense of concern for safety. I realized something important along the way-that it takes a team, family, and a village to get through the tough stuff and respond to the surprises that come up again and again. Some people refer to surprises as life smash-ups. I believe that surprises are key times when God comes really close whether perceived as positive or

negative. Surprises are the growing edges of faith and life. I learn more about myself and my relationships when I get surprised.

At my 25th Anniversary of Ordination worship, I was utterly surprised, and Brad looked at me in the moment and asked, “Do you trust me?” I replied, “Yes, of course!” We need to trust people in our life and cultivate those relationships to lean upon with trust amid surprises. We need to be grateful for everything and everyone at those moments because it is when we are surprised by life that we realize “who we are” and “whose we are.” We realize what is important and who is important to us. We need surprises to grow as human beings and live into our potential with God

I am not sure what 2022 will bring for the congregation or for me and my family. I do know this for a fact...that surprises will abound...and God is with me through them...and other people will be with me as well. Thank you again for the wonderful surprise! You are beloved to me always! Have a blessed 2022!

*“(Jesus said) ...and remember, I am with you **always**, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:20b*



Weather Policy Reminder

Severe Weather Policy: When school is canceled because of the weather, all church functions will be canceled.

If weather hits when school is not in session, a message regarding cancellations will be on the church website (www.plchuxley.com) and the church Facebook page (Palestine Lutheran Church). **Sunday morning worship service cancellation will be made no later than 8:30 a.m.**

GET INVOLVED

Dawn Dialog with Jesus

Sundays at 7:30 a.m. via ZOOM. 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). An invitation is in the weekly email announcements. Daily Discipleship will be attached in the Wednesday email announcements for the following Sunday.

Men’s Bible Study

Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. in the council room.

Power of Prayer

Wednesdays at noon via ZOOM.

An invitation is 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.

ZOOM Bible Study

Thursdays @ 6:30 pm on ZOOM. We will use the **Study Guide** version of *The Story – 31 Sessions*. With the Study Guide is an expectation of reading, **The Story** book itself. We will do the **Group Time** portion in class together. Please purchase the guide and book yourself. Pastor believes it is on Kindle as well. If you need help purchasing these books, then please contact ericklimpel@gmail.com

New Member Orientation Meetings Every 2nd and 4th

Sunday after worship in the south conference room. Anyone who would like to inquire about Palestine Lutheran Church and find some insights into its history, people and ministry are welcome. For prospective members, new members and yes, even veteran members! All are welcome! Let the church office know if you are interested so that we can prepare materials (@ palestinelutheran@gmail.com)

Theology on Tap

Gathering for adults who want to fellowship, relax and solve the world's problems together while creating some potential new ones. We will take time to fellowship around God's Word and grow together as a community. You are encouraged to bring a beverage and a snack to share with the group.



Join us for the next one in January! Date to be posted in bulletins.

Confirmation Classes

Wednesday, January 5, 12, 19, 26 @ 6:30 p.m. in North Fellowship Hall – for teens 7th-8th grade

Food Pantry Ministry -

Help serve at the local food pantry in Huxley with our Fjeldberg friends.

Volunteer at the pantry!
Contact Jackie Rasmussen
(catsrus@huxcomm.net)



Daily Faith Practices

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

Epiphany of our Lord

Focus: The Mystery of Faith

“...the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Jesus Christ through the gospel.” Ephesians 3:6 (NRSV). Read Ephesians 3:1-12

Baptism of our Lord

Focus: How do you support others to live out their baptismal covenant?

“Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.” Luke 3:21-22 (NRSV). Read Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Epiphany Week 2

Focus: What gives you strength as you believe in Christ?

“Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana in Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.” John 2:11 (NRSV). Read John 2:1-11

Epiphany Week 3

Focus: How can we stay focused on Jesus?

“And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.” Luke 4:20 (NRSV). Read Luke 4:14-21

Epiphany Week 4

Focus: How open are we to the new ways God is working in our lives?

“All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’” Luke 4:22 (NRSV). Read Luke 4:21-30



January 2022

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|--|
| 1 | Haylie Clark | 22 | Cynthia Johnson |
| | Reagan Doty | | |
| 3 | Ryan Engles | 25 | David Anderson Colton Larson |
| 4 | Darren DeHaven | 27 | Melissa Kopaska |
| | Lori Schonhorst | | |
| 5 | Tracy Sheldahl | 30 | Tyler Johnson Lesa Lewis Judy McKinney |
| 6 | Sarah Hartman | | |
| 7 | Henry Rumbaugh | | |
| 9 | Angie Hartman | | |
| | Kent Klingbeil | | |
| 11 | Jay Harmon | | |
| | Tracy Rhoads | | |
| 12 | Laurie Biederman, Tom Friedrichsen | | |
| 13 | Missy Larson | | |
| 14 | Escher Kopaska | | |
| | Mollie Sheldahl | | |
| 15 | Richard Cast (90 th) | | |
| 17 | Deb Stowe | | |
| 18 | Bruce Hartman | | |
| 19 | Eden Richter | | |
| 20 | Casey Huxford | | |



- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| 2 | Pastor Eric & Teri Klimpel |
| 27 | Tom & Cindy Friedrichsen |

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

Please help Dick Cast celebrate his 90th Birthday by showering him with cards!



ALTAR GUILD: Donna Millang

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

January 2nd: Roger & Deb Moore

January 16th: Doreen Blackmer

OFFERING COUNTERS:

Nancy Fausch; Holly Twedt

GREETERS:

Jan. 2nd: Greg & Christa Hartsook;
Drew & Kris Polich

Jan. 9th: Troy & Jody Calvert; Scott
& Alyssa Johnson

Jan. 16th: Jeff & Kim Van Pelt; Ben
& Candi Engler

Jan. 23rd: Jason & Melinda Kam;
Tim & Shannon Wilson

Jan. 30th: Tom & Kristin Shelton;
Dax & Haylie Clark

*Greeters scheduled are asked to
serve coffee/juice/water during
fellowship

**All greeters for the month are
asked to bring two dozen treats to
share on the 2nd Sunday of the
month.

2022

February

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|--|--|
| <p>26</p> <p>8 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship; Lessons and Carols</p> | <p>27</p> |
| <p>2</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion; Epiphany of our Lord</p> | <p>3</p> |
| <p>9 <i>Cookie Sunday!</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship New Member Orientation in conference room <i>Annual Reports Due</i></p> | <p>10</p> |
| <p>16</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion</p> | <p>17</p> |
| <p>23</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship New Member Orientation in conference room</p> | <p>24</p> <p><i>Newsletter deadline</i></p> |
| <p>30</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Annual Meeting</p> | <p>31</p> |

January 2022

| TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURS. | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-----------|---|---|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 28 | 29 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time | 30 | 31 | 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! |
| 4 | 5 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 – 8:00 R.O.C.K meets 6:30 p.m. Confirmation | 6 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study | 7 | 8 |
| 11 | 12 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation | 13 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. Confirmation | 20 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. Confirmation | 27 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study | 28 | 29 |
| 1 | 2 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. Confirmation | 3 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study | 4 | 5 |



COUNCIL MINUTES

These minutes are not yet approved.

Agenda – Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Sunday, December 12, 2021 @ 8 a.m.

Pastor Eric, Haylie Clark, Deidre Qual, Chris Richter, Brad Lewis, Kent Klingbeil, David Eisenman, Jen Pote, Brent Emerson, David Eisenmann, Candi Engler

A quorum was established.

Devotions: Chris – “Gratitude for leadership.”

Read Vision and Mission Statements.

Goals and Reflections: Finances are getting better, attendance is up, Christmas looks good.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Chris Motioned to approve the minutes. David seconded. All voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Treasurer’s Report: Deidre

General Fund: \$1,596.19

Total PLC Checking: \$ 90,112.09

Parsonage: \$15,249.85

Chris Richter motioned to approve the Treasurer’s report. Kent K seconded. All approved

Chris Richter motioned to use Church Mutual Insurance to pay off the balance of the loan at South Story. Jen Pote seconded. All approved.

Jen Pote motioned to approve moving the balance of the Church Mutual Insurance into an endowment style fund at Thrivent. Kent K seconded. All approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Klimpel

Refer to Pastor's Report -- Pastor read through his report.

New business:

1. AED has been replaced-had a recall and a new one has been ordered and arrived. (Cost \$990)
2. New rugs have been ordered from A & M Services for East entryway and for an L shaped rug in the office space. (Fund: Janitorial Services)
3. Lights- (Parking Lot lights are going to be fixed by Alliant). Mark Pote met with Nelson Electric re: canopy lights, cross light on both east and west side and the interior pulpit lights that need to be brighter. We also have a quote on the outside corner lights on the church. (\$2699.61)
4. Ceiling in southeast entrance
5. Scheduling of the Annual Meeting (January 30th, 2022). Council Meeting January 9th. Reports due January 9th.

Unfinished business:

1. The Nominations Committee – Update on needs. There are some older members who would like off committees, so we need to make sure that they are off committees if they want to be. Are we ready to start a Nominating Sheet?
2. Mouse issue (is it every going to stop?)

Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer: David Eisenmann motioned to adjourn. Chris Richter seconded.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2022 @ 8:00 a.m.

Treats: Kristin and Tim

Devotions: Brad



Remember in Prayer

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

Tyler Anderson, Jean Bair, Anita Brendeland, Joan Carson, Matt Carver, Tonya Crees, Bev Echtenkamp, Julie Gentry, Dolores Hauge, Phyl Hughes, Warren Johnson, Kevin Klingbeil, Alvina Larson, Roger Larson, Merlin Lyon, Lynzee Makowski, Loree Ness, Paul Ness, Linda Nordstrom, Roy Paradise, Rachel Sinclair, Deidre Qual, Karen Rew, Harold Rittgers, Shannon Tope, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller

Friends and Family of: Valerie Brendeland, Ralph Kalsem, Dean Simmons, Charles Brendeland, Tanner Houseman, Jimmy Young, Darrell Rout, John Maier, Travis Ellis, Mae Rivard, Doris Ness, Nathan Stupka, Bart Mason, Lowell Elliott, Kaytie Anderson, Debbie Bollmeyer, Linda Lantz, Hannah Tjernagel, Barb Larson, Jackie Greene, Roy Greene, Ardell Lundgren, Judy Fausch, Mary Nienow, Norma Dovre, Alberta Helmke, Sara Prochnow Ojard, Joe Curtiss, Lilah Hurley, Marlys Larsen, Harriet Sheldahl, Abby Huntrods, David Vagneur



The annual meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2022.

Deadline for submitting annual reports is January 9, 2022.

Please email to the church office: palestinelutheran@gmail.com

Pastor's Surprise 25th Ordination Celebration!



SPECIAL GUESTS:

Pastor's Mom
Bishop Amy Current
Pastor Dennis
O'Rourke (via video)
Family members
(via video)



Christmas Program Success! December 12th





SENIOR TEA – *December 5th*



Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Individuals struggling without access to critical healthcare and family support services. Human service providers overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants striving to build new lives in the U.S.

These are all issues faced by Iowans. Help us ensure their voices are heard at the Iowa State Capitol.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) will be advocating for our community members who are so often overlooked in our society. You can join us in this important work. Visit LSIowa.org/advocacy and sign up for our Advocacy Alerts. Learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices. Save the date for March 10, 2022, and join us for Lutheran Day on the Hill, a day of advocacy and education at the Iowa State Capitol. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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 and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Entrepreneurship, Food, and Welcoming

In 2006, Ali and her family traveled from Kenya and resettled in the U.S. They found themselves in an unfamiliar place: Iowa. But today, they still call Iowa home, thanks to the community they built and the support they received while resettling in the U.S. LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services helped the family become comfortable and confident living in their new community.

"They taught us to shop, register for school – all the basic needs. Even winter shopping for the Iowa weather," Ali says. "They taught us how to get by. It was nice to help us get settled in."

After some time in Iowa, Ali and her husband, Salah, decided they wanted to open a restaurant as successful as the one they had in Kenya. They soon realized how challenging this would be – the biggest obstacle being the financial burden of opening a restaurant in the Des Moines area. After 15 years of never giving up on their goals, they were able to open Gursha Ethiopian Grill.

Opening during a pandemic, when other restaurants in the industry struggled to remain open, has come with its share of obstacles. But thanks to community support, the restaurant is a popular destination in the area.

Ali dreams of one day franchising to other locations. With their continuously growing clientele and delicious food, this goal is not far away.

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