



*Reaching out in Christian love to all!*

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**THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**  
**August 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.



**WE HAVE A NEW EMAIL  
ADDRESS!**

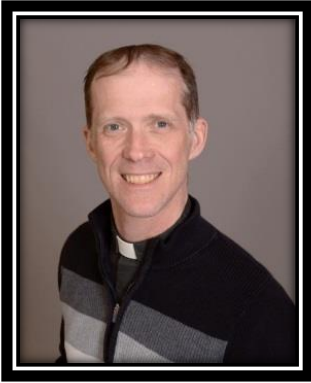
[palestinelutheran@gmail.com](mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com)

The [plc@huxcomm.net](mailto:plc@huxcomm.net) email address  
will no longer be effective  
beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## **Loving Your Neighbor**

***With Pastor Eric***

**Leviticus 19:18** - *You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

**Luke 10:27** - *He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."*

**Romans 13:9** - *The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

I have been doing some research while physical distancing on how to address this “plague” upon our community, our way of life, and our everyday norms. I realized that Jesus himself spoke of dealing with diseases, like leprosy, quite often in his ministry. While others in the religious community would stay clear of such “unclean” situations, Jesus made it a point to be directly involved in the people’s healing and care, so that they could be reunited with society again. Christians have never shied away from plague and disease and have stood their ground to care for their neighbors in need.

History demonstrates this “loving witness” by the followers of Christ.

**The spread of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century Antonine plague**, which killed off one fourth of the Roman Empire also led to the spread of Christianity, as Christians cared for the sick, and preached not an angry God punishing

people with disease, but a loving God who walked with you in the midst of a broken creation.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> century Plague of Cyprian** was probably Ebola. A 3<sup>rd</sup>-century bishop named **Cyprian** told Christians not to grieve for the dead in heaven, but to care for the living on earth. Bishop **Dionysus** described the work of churches, who, “Heedless of the danger... took charge of the sick, attending to their every need.”

**In the 4<sup>th</sup> Century**, the Roman Emperor **Julian** complained that “Galileans” as he called them, cared not only for their own, but even for non-Christians. Church historian Rodney Stark said because of this the death rate in Christian cities was half that of non-Christian cities.

As a Lutheran witness and pastor in this time and place, I discovered some interesting guidance from brother Martin Luther himself as he faced “pandemic” issues.

**In 1527, when the Bubonic Plague hit Wittenberg**, Martin Luther said, “We die at our posts. Christian doctors cannot abandon their hospitals, Christian governors cannot flee their districts, Christian pastors cannot abandon their congregations. **The plague does not dissolve our duties: It turns them to crosses, on which we must be prepared to die.**

*I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. **I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence.** If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me, and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others...”*

I've taught confirmation long enough to see with the explanations of the Small Catechism the repeated call to love neighbor in any way possible and promote their well-being especially in the explanations of the Ten Commandments.

My reading over the past few months has been a blessing in coming to terms with my identity as a Lutheran Christian. I am free in Christ Jesus to "love God and my neighbor." How I love my neighbor might be my cross to bear in certain situations because it may call for sacrifice on my part, or it may run counter to my own perceived self-interest. With this in mind, I believe that prayer to God and listening to one another is essential towards "how to love" best.

I ask the Holy Spirit daily the following question of the church, as well as myself a baptized child of God: In this season of pandemic "plague" what is the most loving thing that I can do for my neighbor in any given situation? We each answer that question for ourselves and cannot answer it for someone else. Let us continue to seek understanding and remain open to grace! We will all get through this time differently but in love by grace together with Christ Jesus.

*Let us pray. Thank you, God, for being with us as we live day to day. Thank you for freeing us to love our neighbor without fear of sin, death and the devil, so that we might bear witness to your love for them and for us. Forgive us and help us to forgive others when we fall short in following your lead, so that we might have life abundantly together. Remind us of your promises to heal, restore and renew your people no matter what, in Jesus's name. Amen.*



Normal, in-person worship service is at **9:30 a.m. on Sundays!** Slides will be utilized for worship, or you can download the bulletin and bring it with you. **LIVESTREAMING** is still available during our 9:30 service. Go to our Facebook page <https://m.facebook.com/PalestineLutheranChurch/> and/or our website at [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com) and click on the Livestream tab in the upper right.

Please watch the short video on **YouTube** (if you haven't already) about what to expect at our REGULARLY SCHEDULED 9:30 a.m. worship service.

<https://youtu.be/3XBExK8KZQE>





This video will show you what to expect when you come to worship "on site" this summer. The practices will change over time as the COVID-19 rates of infection change for our area with the goal of full gathering as before the pandemic.

**Just a reminder that for the moment-**

- *Children are to stay with their parents*
- *Nursery is closed*
- *Fellowship activities in the church are suspended*
- *Church building will be open 15 minutes before worship and closed 15 minutes after*

*If you are considered vulnerable, or have regular contact with someone who is vulnerable, or feel sick, then we urge you to please stay home for the time being and participate in the on-line streaming worship!*

# Study and Prayer Opportunities

<p><b>Sundays</b> @ 8:00 a.m.</p> 	<p><b>ZOOM Dawn Dialog with Jesus</b> Reflection and prayer on Gospel text for the Day <i>"Where two or three are gathered in my name, then I am there among them."</i> (Matthew 18:20) An invitation will be sent on email to those interested in discussing the Sunday morning texts using the Daily Discipleship Material.</p>
<p><b>Tuesdays</b> @ 6:00 p.m.</p> 	<p><b>ZOOM Bible Study</b> The topic for discussion will be based on the Discipleship Series. We will send an attachment on the appropriate topic to be used. (Prayer, study, worship, invite, encourage, serve, give) along with other topics more specific to Biblical worldview. Pastor Eric will host the meeting on: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. You can participate either by audio (phone) or video (computer). Have your Bibles in hand.</p>
<p><b>Wednesdays</b> @ 7:00 a.m.</p> 	<p><b>Men's Bible Study</b> in the North Hall</p>
<p><b>Wednesdays</b> @ 12:00 noon</p> 	<p><b>ZOOM Power of Prayer</b> 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.</p>





# Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
→Resources→ Downloadable Resources→ Bible studies

## **Pentecost Week 9**

**Focus:** *When have you been moved by compassion to help someone?*

**"When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick." Matthew 14:14 (NRSV)**

Read Matthew 14:13-21

## **Pentecost Week 10**

**Focus:** *When have you needed to place the most trust in Christ?*

**"Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matthew 14:31 (NRSV)**

Read Matthew 14:22-33

## **Pentecost Week 11**

**Focus:** *What bold thing have you done related to your faith?*

**"Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.'" Matthew 9:12 (NRSV)**

Read Matthew 15:21-28

## **Pentecost Week 12**

**Focus:** *Who do you say Jesus is?*

**"Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'" Matthew 16:16 (NRSV)**

Read Matthew 16:13-20

## **Pentecost Week 13**

**Focus:** *How did you lose your life this week?*

**"For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." Matthew 16:25 (NRSV)**

Read Matthew 16:21-28



**Southeastern Iowa Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY INFORMATION**

Dear Friends of the Southeastern Iowa Synod,

The Executive Committee of the Southeastern Iowa Synod Council has decided that there will be no in-person assembly this summer. The growing number of cases of COVID-19 in Iowa and across the country, together with the advice of experts, including Bishop Burk's frequent conversations with epidemiologist Dr. Michael Osterholm, make it clear that a gathering the size of our synod's assembly is an unsafe choice.

I am pleased to inform you that the synod council affirmed our recommendation that the assembly proceeds as scheduled on August 5 and August 7 as an online event. If all goes well, we will be the third synod of the ELCA to elect a bishop through an electronic meeting. Please make sure that all of the voting members from your congregation are aware of this significant change in format.

Our team, working in and with the Office of the Bishop, has been exploring this possibility for some time and they are determined to work "around the clock" to have everything in place to assure a successful assembly. On behalf of the synod council, I want to thank you in advance for your patience and your help in the days ahead, as the many moving pieces are sorted out.

Through my work on the Bishop Election Committee, I would like to encourage you in the pre-assembly discernment work of voting members, which has become even more important than before. On Monday, July 27, registered voting members will

receive the biographical information submitted by pastors who are interested in being called to serve as bishop. Read through this material carefully. Then read it again, setting it next to the responsibilities of the office of bishop and this synod's Ministry Site Profile, which can be found in the "Electing a Bishop" document in the Synod Assembly materials.

([seiasynod.org/assembly](http://seiasynod.org/assembly)) And consider talking with people who you know about the possibilities before us, which are not limited to those pastors who have submitted information in advance.

While we depend on the Holy Spirit to be at work among us when we are "gathered" in assembly, we trust that the Spirit has been at work with us throughout this call process, as together we make this important decision.

Finally, please read Monday's letter from Bishop Burk very carefully before forwarding any questions or concerns to the Office of the Bishop. He will seek to address the questions for which there are already answers, offering many of the details you will need to know as you plan to participate.

In God's amazing grace,



Heather Miller  
Synod Vice President



**Southeastern Iowa Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## **STATEMENT REGARDING RACISM**

July 20, 2020

### **A Statement of the Southeastern Iowa Synod Council Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*Adopted July 18, 2020*

In response to the social unrest ignited by the killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, and the subsequent cries for racial justice in our nation, and in acknowledgment of the systematic racism that infects our nation, and this church, the Synod Council of the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

Condemns the killing of George Floyd, and all acts of injustice against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC);

Identifies racism as a sin both against God and against our neighbors; the 1993 ELCA social statement Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture, which confessed the sin of racism, defined as “a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice—is sin, a violation of God’s intention for humanity. The resulting racial, ethnic, or cultural barriers deny the truth that all people are God’s creatures and, therefore, persons of dignity. Racism fractures and fragments both church and society.” [\[1\]](#)

Confesses our own participation in systems and structures that perpetuate racial injustice, both by what we have done and by what we have left undone, and we ask for God’s forgiveness; for “our historical complicity in slavery and its enduring legacy of racism in the United States and globally. We lament the white church’s failure to work for the abolition of slavery and the perpetuation of racism in this church. We confess, repent, and repudiate the times when this church has been silent in the face of racial injustice.” [\[2\]](#)

Supports law enforcement reform that holds accountable officials and agencies that continue to perpetrate unjust and violent acts against BIPOC and against others who are, by virtue of their low economic standing, particularly vulnerable;

Denounces systemic bias in this country's judicial system, including delayed arrests and indictments in civil rights cases, especially cases of police brutality;<sup>[3]</sup>

Encourages reform of the systematic racial and socio-economic disparities the judicial system, including the cash bail system, the right to legal defense, and sentencing laws, and the mass incarceration of BIPOC;<sup>[4]</sup>

Calls on all congregations and ministry partners of this synod to seek positive ways to work toward racial justice in our church, in our communities, and in our nation, when possible, engaging with persons and agencies in our communities already engaged in the work of racial justice;

Commits to seek intentional opportunities to listen deeply to BIPOC in and across our synod, learning from one another how to be advocates for change and agents of reconciliation in the name of Jesus Christ;

Commits to the work of advocacy, calling upon leaders in local, state, and federal government to support legislation and executive actions that has the potential of effecting real and lasting change toward justice for all of God's people;

Commits to engaging and strengthening the Southeastern Iowa Synod Anti-Racism Network, while seeking to cultivate additional means by which we will be held accountable in living out the commitments of this statement. [seiasynod.org/anti-racism-network](https://seiasynod.org/anti-racism-network)

[1] Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture (Chicago: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1993), 2. <https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Race-Ethnicity-and-Culture>

[2] Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent (Chicago: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 2019),

1. [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Slavery\\_Apology\\_Explanation.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Slavery_Apology_Explanation.pdf)

[3] The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries (Chicago: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

2013) [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Criminal\\_JusticeSS.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Criminal_JusticeSS.pdf)

[4] Ibid.

# 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](http://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.

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

## TITHING STATEMENTS

The finance committee made the decision to only offer yearly tithing statements versus quarterly. It was determined that most just disposed of the all but the final one.

E-tithe participants can see your giving amount at any time. If you give by check, and you wish to know where you are giving wise during the year, email Cynthia Johnson at [cynthia50023@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthia50023@yahoo.com).



5 Tracy Blackmer  
 Tony Ness  
 6 Amy Larson  
 London Roelfs  
 7 Vallery Eisenmann  
 Laura Kepler  
 8 Arlyce Engles  
 10 Taylor Larson  
 12 Alyssa Johnson  
 Drake Klingbeil  
 16 Garry Wirtz  
 17 Tyler Roelfs  
 18 Jim Biedermann  
 Chris Richter  
 19 Denise Elliott  
 Sarah Jensen  
 Allan Kopaska  
 Megan Rowedder  
 21 Dominic Hansen  
 Mary Kate Russell  
 26 Brinley Dykstra  
 Janice Rumbaugh  
 27 Leonard Larson  
 Ardell Lundgren  
 Jacob Williams  
 28 Greyson Johnson  
 Karina Kelso  
 Chloe Shelton  
 29 Noelle Hartsook  
 Charles Sheldahl  
 30 Ian Minnihan

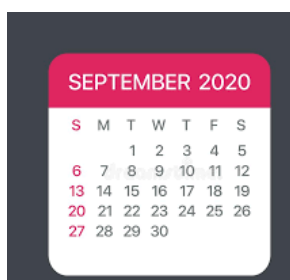


2 Russ & Mindy DeVries  
 4 Ken & Louise Larson  
 Roy & Elaine Paradise  
 6 Kevin & Jeannie Williams  
 13 Jim & Nina Gotta  
 14 David & Vallery Eisenmann  
 Adam & Molly Wuebker  
 15 Tim & Shannon Wilson  
 16 Bob & Oriett Snider  
 18 Justin & Jodie Sample  
 21 Allan & Deb Kopaska  
 22 Penn & Laurie Hill  
 23 Christian & Mary Kate Russell  
 26 Chris & Amanda Richter  
 27 Brad & Lesa Lewis  
 29 Andrew & Cally Larson  
 Charles & Evy Sheldahl  
 Dan & Kirstin Van Soelen

*If there is a record of error or  
 omission, please let the office  
 know at*  
[palastinelutheran@gmail.com](mailto:palastinelutheran@gmail.com)  
 or 515-597-2624.



Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a chair and water bottle for our outside service on the 16<sup>th</sup>!



SUNDAY	MONDAY
<b>2</b> 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion (Livestreamed)	<b>3</b>
<b>9</b> 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) 4:00 -7:00 p.m. Gather at the Garden @ Blackmer Farm	<b>10</b>
<b>16</b> 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion-OUTSIDE <i>weather permitting</i> ; Blessing of Backpacks (Livestreamed?) 4:00 -7:00 p.m. Gather at the Garden @ Blackmer Farm	<b>17</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed)	<b>24</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog ZOOM 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed)	<b>31</b>



## August 2020

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>4</b> 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>5</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Riverside Family Fun Weekend 7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8</b>
<b>11</b> 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>12</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>18</b> 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>19</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>25</b> 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>26</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Parent meeting for incoming 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> graders @ the church	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>1</b> 6:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>2</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>



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

**Sunday, July 12th, 2020 @ 6:00 PM at Palestine Lutheran Church**  
**Zoom link for those who are remote:**

**Kristin Shelton, Tim Wilson, Pastor Eric, Nels Dovre, Cynthia Johnson,  
Deidre Qual, Jean Saveraid, Brad Lewis, Brent Emerson, Jen Pote**

A quorum was established.

**Devotions:** Ezekiel Chapter 11. Guidance through our current situation.

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

**Goals and Reflections:** We are having worship as a church family. Attendance has been decent. Cleaning services are consistent. It is great to see cars at the church. Even though cases have increased, death rates have significantly decreased. Cases in Story County are also significantly decreasing. Live Streaming has really improved and has had many compliments. "It feels safe."

### **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Jean Saveraid Motioned to approve. Tim Wilson seconded. Everyone approved unanimously with evenly orchestrated restraint...

### **Treasurers Report – Deidre:**

Nels motioned to approve. Kristin Shelton seconded. All chimed their affirmatives together.

General Fund : \$5104.08

Checking Balance Total: \$19,145.10

**Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel:**

Refer to Pastor's Report. Highlights include: Zoom Meetings for Bible Study and Prayer time at Palestine. July 5th outdoor worship with communion. Graduation Parties (Ellie and Maggie), Private baptism for Caroline Thomas, Recommended for synod nominating committee, Synod assembly in August, Confirmation Canoe Trip coming up. Charlie Brendeland Memorial Service is July 25th. Pastor is not sleeping nights. First Communion will be July 19th. Technology upgrades for worship. What does Confirmation look like this fall? Can we do something for First Responders?

**New business:**

Cleaning Cost — Look into fogger for disinfectant.... For sure needs to be fogged after Brendeland Funeral... Nels motions to add to the rental usage policy costs for fogging the church. Kristin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Looking into YouTube instead of spending \$159 per month for Live Stream. Tim will create the account and Password. Brent will make it work...

Prairie Fest Committee — Festival is cancelled for this year. They sent us a \$100.00 refund. Looking into ways to support local first responders.

**Unfinished Business:**

Planning for fall children's church.

Parsonage Air Conditioning — \$4000.00

Loan needs re upped — \$6628.35 left on the loan.

**Motion to Adjourn & Adjourn with Lord's Prayer:**

Tim Wilson motioned to adjourn. Brent Emerson seconded.

Next Meeting : August 2nd, 2020 6:00

Treats- Kristin Shelton

Devotions- Jen Pote

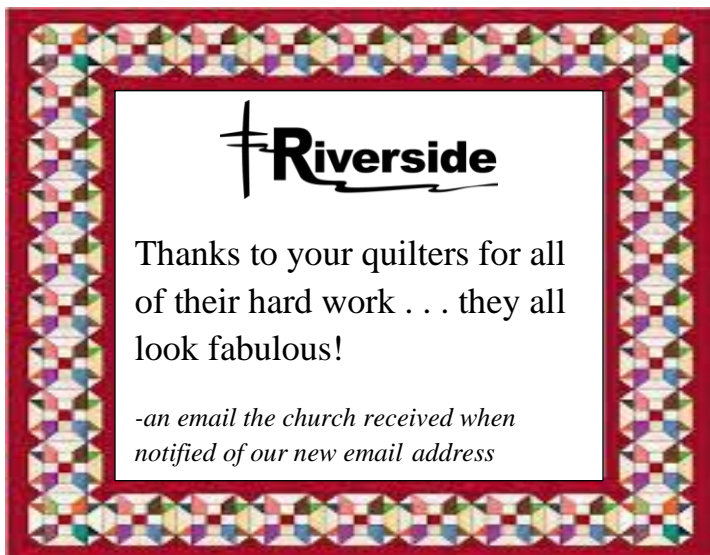
## ***Remember in Prayer***



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

Laura Aust, Dianne Blackmer, Anita Brendeland, Dick Brown, Joan Carson, Alisha Cox, Bev Echtenkamp, Lowell Elliott, Jane Gordan, Jackie Greene, Bruce & Sandy Halverson, Dolores Hauge, Warren Johnson, Kevin Klingbeil, Alvina Larson, Ardell Lundgren, Merlin Lyon, Roger Moore, Loree Ness, Deidre Qual, Shannon Tope, Marissa Vermeer, Joyce Volz, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller

*Family & friends of:* Charles Brendeland, Valerie Brendeland, Angie Claude, Rev. LeRoy Dobbe, Bonny Erickson, Wanda Halverson, Tanner Houseman, Sue Ihle, Ralph Kalsem, Donna Keiser, Sharon Mortenson, Mark Richter, Dean Simmons, Judy Smith, Don Trautner, Arlene Wee, Jimmy Young



This year, we're inviting you to **"Run Your Own 5K."** We will have the course mapped-out, so anyone who wishes to run (or walk) can do so. Disc Golf will also be open for anyone who would like to play.

Families can also enjoy outdoor worship, a tasty lunch, and the opportunity to bid on some amazing handmade quilts!

The quilt Silent Quilt Auction is being held in-person and virtually! Quilts will be available for viewing in various locations around camp and online. Silent Auction bids will be taken online and in-person.



#### Schedule of Events:

##### **Monday, July 27:**

Silent Auction bidding begins online

##### **Friday, July 31:**

5:00-7:30pm - Live viewing of all quilts in Hansen Lodge, Chapel, and Mortvedt Hall

##### **Saturday, August 1:**

Throughout the morning - Families are welcome to come to Riverside to "Run Your Own 5K" or play Disc Golf.

9:15am - Outdoor worship gathering

9:45am - Live viewing of all quilts in Hanson Lodge, Chapel & Mortvedt Hall

11:00am - Turkey Tenderloin meal at the Dining Hall

*Spaced seating available inside Dining Hall or outside. Grab and go meals also available.*

12:20pm - 10 minute warning for close of online auction

12:30pm - Online auction closes. Winners can pick-up quilts immediately following.

## Rent the Riverside Pool!



Have fun at the aquatic center with all of our elements open - the two slides, the rock wall, and the diving board! These swim times are limited to a maximum of four households per session, and we will expect household groups to comply with social distancing guidelines as they are best able.

- \$35/household (up to seven people/household)
- One parent or older adult must be present for the session
- Check our [pool calendar](#) for availability (we update it daily).

Visit the [Summer 2020](#) page of our website [riversidelbc.org/summer2020](http://riversidelbc.org/summer2020) to reserve your Riverside pool fun today!



We know if your family is like ours, we have been cooped up and would love a change of scenery. Many of us have even had to cancel trips and vacations that we had planned for summer. Riverside would like to invite you to our **Family Fun Weekend, August 7-9!**

We will have activities ready for you to participate in such as swimming at the pool, canoeing & kayaking, horseback riding, disc golf, arts & crafts, as well as campfire, outdoor worship, and more. We will provide the meals for your family, so you can enjoy making memories together! There is plenty of space to social distance with the other families that will be here, and you are welcome to extend your stay if you would like before or after! Visit our website to learn more at [riversidelbc.org/summer2020](http://riversidelbc.org/summer2020)



# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>

*Margo Baldwin, Kaedence DeVries, Lily Gustafson,  
Aubrey Lewis, Jax Richter, Harper Wendt, Owen Williams*





## GARDEN WORK AND FUN AT THE BLACKMERS!

Thanks to the ROCK Group who came July 11<sup>th</sup> and to the congregation members that came July 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>!

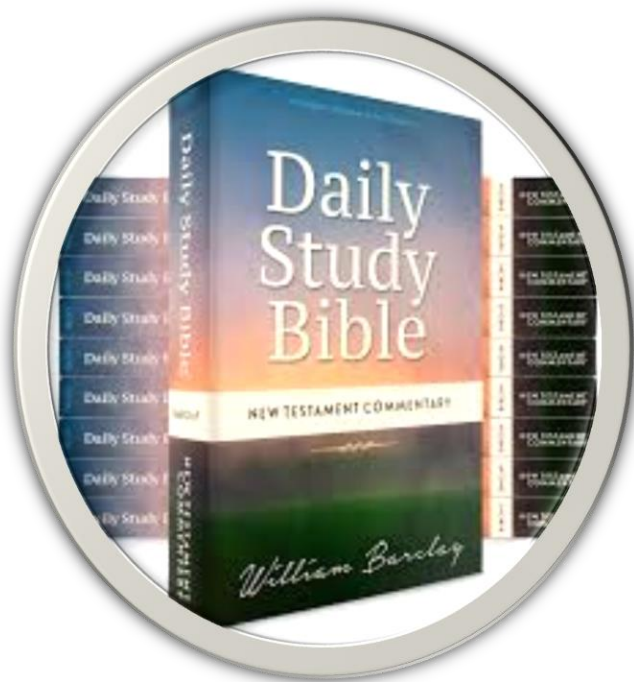




# Confirmation Fun

**Palestine Confirmation Canoe Trip July 2020**  
***With Riverside Bible Camp***  
***Down the Boone River***





Are you looking for a way to deepen your understanding of the Bible? To have insight of what was going on historically or culturally to add more context? Then you might want to check out one of William Barclay's The Daily Study Bible Series. William Barclay wrote a Bible commentary series over the New Testament. "In each Daily Study Bible volume, Dr. Barclay covers one or more books of the New Testament in its entirety. He translates a message from the New Testament in and then adds historical, literary, and practical comments to provide a unit that can be read and understood in a few minutes of daily study." Please check out this wonderful series from our Church Library when you have a chance!

## BACK TO SCHOOL WORSHIP OUTSIDE

Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m.  
*Gathering in front of the church*

Wear comfortable clothes. Bring a blanket and/or outdoor chair, and water as needed.

Blessing  
of the  
Backpacks



### HUXLEY FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Help serve at the local food pantry in Huxley with our Fjeldberg friends. To volunteer at the pantry contact Jackie Rasmussen ([catsrus@huxcomm.net](mailto:catsrus@huxcomm.net))

## Thank you

**to all those that have mowed the  
church, parsonage, and cemetery!  
It is very appreciated!**





## BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

From June 30<sup>th</sup> @ Palestine

- 36 people on the schedule going into the drive
- 30 registered to donate
- One first-time donor!
- 25 were able to donate
- 27 units of blood collected!
- Up to 81 lives saved or sustained!!!

*Thanks to Deb Moore for coordinating this effort!*



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](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

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

#### Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! This year's back-to-school time feels a little different than usual for all of us, but imagine what it would be like to be a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. For the last several months, their routine has been turned upside-down and they've learned to adjust to a new way of life. Moving back into a school year structure can be particularly stressful and it can be difficult to concentrate and cope.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental health services to children and families across the state. It's our job to relate to children who might feel alone or misunderstood. Our therapists provide virtual telehealth therapy sessions with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team collaborates with families virtually or in a community setting to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision-making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa's most vulnerable children and teens.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto: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](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

## **We are Still Here: LSI's Therapy Services**

When LSI's workforce began working remote as a COVID-19 precaution, therapist Andrea knew she would need to adjust to a new way of providing therapy to the clients she serves.

In particular, one individual she met with struggled with anxiety on a daily basis. With the pandemic, however, her anxiety deepened and she spiraled to levels she hadn't encountered in years. And she was afraid she would no longer be able to see Andrea and receive the weekly therapy she'd relied on.

But that wasn't stopping Andrea. She set up a home office where she could provide telehealth virtual therapy sessions to all her clients in need of the same consistent care they were used to. Andrea used this time to work with her client on self-care strategies, coping skills, and mindfulness to help her client stay grounded when she felt anxious.

Andrea's client now has the tools she needs to handle the difficult days through this crisis, and Andrea is able to continue providing life-changing serves to Iowa children, adults, and families in her community.



## COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### Iowa

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

More information about public assistance and the state's response to COVID-19 can be found at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19>.

#### NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a 24/7, toll-free hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Call 800-273-8255 for support or go to <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

The National Domestic Violence Hotline can be reached at 800-799-7233. You can chat online with an advocate at [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org) or text LOVEIS to 22522.

#### FARMER CRISIS HOTLINE

Farmers who are facing challenges during the pandemic can contact Farm Aid at 800-FARM-AID. More resources can be found at the National Farmers Union's Farm Crisis Center at <https://farmercrisis.nfu.org/>.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT

Federal legislation has made unemployment benefits available to workers who may not have qualified before. To learn more and to apply, visit <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/file-claim-unemployment-insurance-benefits>.



#### SNAP

For more information on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Iowa, visit <https://dhs.iowa.gov/food-assistance>. To apply for SNAP benefits and other public benefits in Iowa, visit <https://dhsservices.iowa.gov/apsssp/ssp.portal>.



#### UTILITIES ASSISTANCE

Energy assistance programs are administered by community action agencies. Visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to find your local office. Contact your local office to apply.



#### RENT AND EVICTIONS

Federal law has placed a moratorium on evictions from certain properties, including those backed by federal mortgages through Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. To learn more, visit [https://arsen.house.gov/uploadedfiles/covid\\_toolkit\\_3.30.20.pdf](https://arsen.house.gov/uploadedfiles/covid_toolkit_3.30.20.pdf). This, however, does not apply to most private residences. For rental assistance and housing help, visit <https://www.hud.gov/states/iowa>.



#### NUTRITION FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN

For more information about WIC in Iowa, to locate your local WIC agency and to learn more about applying, visit <https://idph.iowa.gov/WIC> or call 800-532-1579. Federal law has waived the requirement for applicants to appear in person. Check with your local office to verify the application process.



#### CHILD CARE

Information about child care assistance can be found at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/childcare/families>. The Centralized Child Care Assistance Eligibility Unit can also be reached at 866-448-4605.



**ELCA World Hunger**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Palestine Lutheran Church

1375 HWY 210

Huxley, IA 50124-8110

Address service requested