



*Picture by the pumpkins in our former garden  
Reaching out in Christian love to all!*

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**THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**  
**October 2020**



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

**Nels Dovre, Youth Liason**  
319-331-7368 (cell)  
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### **Mission Statement:**

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

### **Our Vision:**

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



Pastor Eric will be doing a partial sabbatical for most of the month of October. In the interim, please contact Pastor Erick Swanson for pastoral needs during the following dates:

September 28-30

October 6-9

October 12-15

October 18-23

Cell: 319-850-3852

Fjeldberg’s Phone: 515-597-2831

On the dates pastor Swanson is not available, Pastor Klimpel can answer your emergency calls @ 936-444-3895

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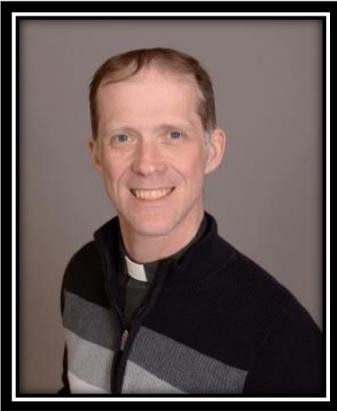
**Tithes & Offering**

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.*



## Going on Sabbatical -----

### ----- With Pastor Eric

“A sabbatical offers opportunity to get off the treadmill and provides an opportunity for renewal of vision and hope. It is more than just a chance to recharge your batteries for another year. It can be a life and soul-changing time, a time when perspective and the Holy Spirit can come together.” (Alban Institute)

The ELCA provides incentive for pastors to take a “sabbatical” every 6-8 years while in active ordained ministry. I have never taken a sabbatical time before in my almost 25 years of active pastoral ministry. I have always found the time to recharge during periodic drop-off’s in the flow of church activity. However, this year is different. I think that we can all gather around that notion with a shrug and a sigh. It seems that the church-building and I have something in common right now. We are tired and deflated with leaks here and there ☺ With the impact of the pandemic on our social and spiritual lives and the sudden structural derecho storm remodel on the church I am finding it both a bit trying and I am getting used to the idea that now might be a good time to get off the treadmill for a bit. You might say that God has provided both the congregation and the pastor an opportunity to step back and renew our vision and hope.

Given the current situation in the community I do not think that a full sabbatical is appropriate or helpful to either myself or the community. I propose to take a partial time of about 4-5 weeks to pursue some ministry renewal and professional training to help get us going in 2021 and beyond. I like to equate a “sabbatical” with the metaphor of a tree chopping competition. One man spent an hour continually chopping

wood, while a second man would stop every 15 minutes and sharpen his ax before going back to chopping. The man who sharpened his ax cut twice as much wood and was ready for the next part of the competition. A sabbatical is about the pastor sharpening his tools and skills for ministry so that he/she can come back stronger, smarter and with a clearer vision for what's next and the renewed energy to pursue it.

Even Jesus took a sabbatical when he went up to pray in the hills after feeding the multitudes, and then when we went to the region of Tyre and Sidon and was confronted by the Syrophenician woman with a possessed daughter, or when he went up onto the mountain during the transfiguration event with his three closest disciples. Remember that Peter wanted to stay up there, but Jesus said that they had to go back down the mountain and ultimately to Jerusalem for one last time.

As I take time for renewal and reflection the congregation will do the same for itself. The council leaders will assist the congregation in reflecting and renewing itself along with the church building in preparation for a new year and renewed sense of mission. How exciting! You might wonder if this is the right time for such reflection. I am not sure if there is an ideal time only God's time which is not always convenient or lines up well with our ways of thinking and planning. I am willing to give it a shot for the sake of this church that I love so much and the God who called me to serve here.

I have attached the emphasis in my sabbatical plan for this Fall. It orients around the need for media and technology and sharing the message of grace in the midst of this tumultuous time.

Please keep us all in prayer throughout this journey.

## Sabbatical Emphasis and Goals for Fall, 2020

### **1. Improve Preaching Skills**

#### **Goals**

- + Prepare and Develop skills for better communication for proclamation and presentation*
- + Cultivate messaging for media platforms (podcasts, online devotions, etc.)*
- + Learn skills and practices to train laity to share faith stories and incorporate peaching-type skill*
- + Encourage others to preach and share in proclamation ministry on multiple platforms*

### **2. Improve Technology Integration into Ministry**

#### **Goals**

- + Develop more comfort and confidence in using media platforms*
- + Learn to adapt ministry to new normal (post-pandemic) using adaptive leadership skills*
- + Work in providing podcast ministry and maximize creative arts (drama, music, etc.)*

### **3. Experience church in a different way in area churches as availability and safety allows – see what other worship communities have to offer during this pandemic season and reconnect with the church-at-large from the pew side of things.**

*Upon my resuming daily ministry at Palestine, I will provide an overview of what I have learned and provide some concrete ways that I might assist the congregation's goals for the future. These items will be mediated through the Mutual Ministry team and the Congregation Council for the sake of the community.*

# Study and Prayer Opportunities

<p><b>Any time – your time</b></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.” (Matthew 18:20)</i>          Material will be emailed with the announcements for you to review on your own.</p>
<p><b>Tuesdays</b>          @ 6:30 p.m. <b>Note</b>  <i>time change for October</i></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. (Invite, encourage, serve, give) along with other topics more specific to Biblical worldview.          Robin Doty 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 Council Room</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

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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 18**

**Focus:** When in your life have you needed courage?

**“The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.”**

Matthew 21:43 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 21:33-46

## **Pentecost Week 19**

**Focus:** When was the last time you invited someone to attend church or to have a conversation related to a faith issue?

**“Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”**

Matthew 22:9 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 22:1-14

## **Pentecost Week 20**

**Focus:** What does it mean for you to be a Christian citizen?

**“Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”**

Matthew 22:21 (NRSV)

Read Matthew 22:15-22

## **Pentecost Week 21**

**Focus:** When did you first realize God loved you?

**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”**

Matthew 22:37 (NSRV)

Read Matthew 22:34-46



- 1 Allen "Pete" Evans  
Lily Morford
- 2 Hannah Johnson  
Taylor Ness
- 3 Holly Twedt
- 4 Paul Ness  
Grace Saveraid
- 5 Ethan Johnson  
Sue Kochheiser  
Jacob Larson
- 8 Jim Gotta  
Rose Locker
- 10 Colby Calvert  
Heather Hill
- 13 Monica Morse
- 14 Roger Moore (75<sup>th</sup>)
- 15 Monroe Elliott
- 17 Benjamin Engler
- 19 Nickolas Larson  
Kendal Sickels
- 20 Lisa Sheldahl
- 21 Nancy Fausch
- 22 Seth Baldwin
- 23 Julie Emerson
- 24 Dennis Millang
- 25 Diane Larson  
Zachary Larson
- 27 Jennifer Harmon
- 28 Sienna Lewis

- 30 Hayden DeHaven  
Annabelle Engler  
Jet Pote  
Chandler Schmidt  
Hunter Wise



- 3 Rick & Lisa Sheldahl
- 8 Eric & Janell Van Gorp (15<sup>th</sup>)
- 13 Todd & Lisa Schmidt
- 22 Scott & Megan Brendeland
- 23 Charles & Mary Brendeland
- 24 Kevin & Jill Rahner
- 26 Tom & Jenny Gallagher
- 28 Dax & Haylie Clark

*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.*



SUNDAY	MONDAY
<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) Discernment Discussion Congregational Meeting following service	<b>5</b>
<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) Discernment Discussion	<b>12</b>
<b>18</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship (Livestreamed) Discernment Discussion	<b>19</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion; Reformation Sunday; Confirmation (Livestreamed)	<b>26</b>

### NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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
29	30					

www.printable-calendar.com

## October 2020

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>29</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study (Led by Robin Doty)	<b>30</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study (Led by Robin Doty)	<b>7</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Riverside Family Fun Weekend – 9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10</b> 2:00 p.m. Installation of new Bishop
<b>13</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study (Led by Robin Doty)	<b>14</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>20</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study (Led by Robin Doty)	<b>21</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>27</b> 3:00 -7:00 p.m. Blood Drive 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>28</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 – 8 p.m. Confirmation	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



## 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)



## BLOOD DRIVE

**Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 3-7 p.m.**

@ the church unless otherwise informed

**Sign up one of two ways:**

- ♥ By calling Deb Moore at 515-460-1037
- ♥ Via the LifeServe website: [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org)  
*By Appointment only*



*All are welcome to join worship via livestream as we install the fourth bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod*

**The Reverend Amy LuAnn Current**

**Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.**

**The Reverend Elizabeth A. Eaton**

Presiding Bishop

*of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
will preach and preside.*

***Seiasynod.org/installation***



**Agenda - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

***Extra meeting due to Derecho***

Sunday, August 30th, 2020 @ 8:00 AM at  
Palestine Lutheran Church

Zoom link for those who are remote:

Kristin Shelton, Pastor Eric, Cynthia Johnson, Deidre Qual, Jean Saveraid,  
Brad Lewis, Brent Emerson, Jen Pote, Nels Dovre, Chris Richter, Candi  
Engler, David Eisenmann, Hailey Clark, and  
Tim Wilson

A quorum was established.

**Devotions.** Brad — Talked about waiting...

**Read Vision and Mission Statements.**

Goals and Reflections - Great support from the Church on fixes and clean up from the storm.

**Minutes of the previous meeting-** Jean Saveraid motioned to approve. Brent Emerson seconded. Everyone approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** - Deidre. Brent Emerson motioned to approve. Jen Pote seconded. All chimed their ayes accordingly.

General Fund: \$469.51

Checking Balance Total: \$16,633.83

**Pastor's Report** - Pastor Klimpel. Tabled to next week

**New business:**

Roof Discussion — Created a Committee — Chris Richter, Jen Pote, David Eisenman, Jean Saveraid, Brad Lewis, Mike Larson, Justin Sample, Troy Calvert, Greg Saveraid, Julie Emerson, Tim Wilson.

- A. Nels Motioned to approve the Property Committee paying all the bills related to the mitigation of the damage of the church. The money is needed to be from the Insurance related funds. Seconded by Jean Saveraid. Motion passed Unanimously..

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- B. Sabbatical. Council and Pastor would like to take a four-week sabbatical, potentially from September 27th to October 26th (Confirmation Sunday), need to cover Pastoral Coverage, prepare confirmation materials. Articles for October/November newsletter.

**Unfinished Business:**

Planning for Fall — Children’s Church, Other events.

Discussion centered around getting church fixed, up and running.

**Motion to Adjourn & Adjourn with Lord’s Prayer** -- Cynthia motioned to adjourn. Deidre seconded.

**Next Meeting:** September 20th, 2020 7:30 AM



**Agenda - Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

Sunday, September 20th, 2020 @ 7:30 AM at

Palestine Lutheran Church

Zoom link for those who are remote:

Kristin Shelton, Pastor Eric, Cynthia Johnson, Jean Saveraid, Brad Lewis,  
Tim Wilson, Candi Engler, Brent Emerson, Jen Pote, Nels Dove,  
Brent Emerson

A quorum was established.

**Devotions.** Kristin — “We can live in hope”

**Read Vision and Mission Statements.**

**Goals and Reflections.** Things are falling into place for the 3 Sundays that Pastor is gone. We have received our Insurance check for the roof. It feels good to have some revitalization projects in the works. KICK and ROCK both had get togethers and Confirmation is back in session.

**Minutes of the previous meeting.** Nels Motioned to approve. Candi seconded. Everyone sang joyous affirmation.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Deidre was absent. Kristin read the written report. Tim Wilson motioned to approve. Kristin Shelton seconded. All chimed their eyes accordingly.

Continued on next page . . .

General Fund: \$8040.37

Checking Balance Total: \$24,790.31

### **Pastor's Report - Pastor Klimpel**

Baptism yesterday. Funeral last week. Pictures will be up soon of the baptism. Baptisms are better during the service. Pastor read his Sabbatical plan Based on SE Iowa Synod Sabbatical Planning Guide. "Instead of chopping wood, it's time to sharpen the axe."

#### **New business:**

- Confirmation Approvals & Discussion Confirmation students who will be confirmed on 10/25/2020 pending approval of Council. Grant Twedt, Derrick Rhoads, Megan Rowedder, Nick Larson, Alice Van Pelt, and Kiley Calvert. Motion to approve by Nels. Seconded from Jen Pote. Candi Moved to approve the Confirmation students. Kristin seconded. Both motions passed unanimously.
- Approval of New Members. Jan Halverson transfer from Bethesda Lutheran in Ames. Mike and Crystal Hughes, affirmation for baptism from Cambridge United Methodist Church. Jen Pote Motioned. Nels seconded.
- Baptism approval for Marin Elsie Ann Tatarniuk daughter of Dr. Dane and Casey Tatarniuk private service date TBD. Jean motioned to approve. Nels Seconded.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- Roof update given by Brad. Roof has been approved with J and J roofing. Hopefully going within the next weeks.
- Pastor's sabbatical. Pastor Swanson is providing the day to day coverage.

**Motion to Adjourn & Adjourn with Lord's Prayer** -- Nels motioned to adjourn. Jean Saveraid seconded.

**Next Meeting:** October 4th, 2020 8:00 AM

**Treats:** Jen Pote

**Devotions :** Jean Saveraid



**Sunday, September 20, 2020 10:45 a.m.**

Call to Order  
Opening Prayer –Pastor Klimpel  
Quorem was established – *noted by Lyle Martin.*

Motion made by Leonard Larson and seconded by Vallery Eisenmann to vote with voice versus paper.

**New Business:**

Item #1

Motion to Approve the Plan using the funds from the insurance company to fix the roof. The Contractor is J and J Roofing. Bid of \$120,505. We have a check for approximately \$96,000.00.

Discussion.

Mark Pote motioned. Matt Williams seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Item #2

Motion to Approve the use of up to \$36,000.00 to pay for the difference of the roof.

Discussion.

Dave Eisenmann motioned. Lyle Martin seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Item #3

Motion to Approve the use of up to \$7500.00 to replace the furnace in the North Fellowship Hall.

Discussion.

Vallery Eisenman motioned. Jen Pote seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Item #4

Motion to Approve the use of up to \$105,000 to pay for fixing the drainage issues around the church. These will include: Digging up and fixing tile, enclosing window wells, moving AC to the roof, water-proofing exterior walls, replacing landscaping, getting positive drainage around the church.

Greg Sevaraid motioned and Mark Pote seconded.

Discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Louise Larson motioned to adjourn. Leonard Larson seconded.  
Adjourned with Lord's Prayer.

**Next Congregational Meeting October 4<sup>th</sup> after worship service.**

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## ***Remember in Prayer***

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

Laura Aust, Dianne Blackmer, Anita Brendeland, Dick Brown, Penny 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, Loree Ness, Deidre Qual, Marvin Sorensen, Shannon Tope, Joyce Volz, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller

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

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3001 Riverside Road  
Story City, IA 50248  
[www.riversidelbc.org](http://www.riversidelbc.org)

Activities will include (but are not limited to): canoeing, kayaking, horseback riding, disc golf, arts and crafts, campfire, outdoor worship, and more! We will share some fun ministry time together as well. Be prepared for funny skits, terrific worship, and optional family bible studies and devotions . **How to Register Online** Go to the [REGISTRATION](#) tab on our website. Click on "Click here to register on-line".





**Quilters are RESUMING  
work in October!  
Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.**

- Wear your masks and bring your own beverage.
- The work will be in the balcony, fellowship hall (if not torn up due to construction), and possibly in the basement to keep spread out.
- If you would still love to help, but more socially distanced, please feel free to check out tops to sew at home!

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*Thank  
You*

*I would like to thank Palestine Lutheran Church congregation for the birthday card greetings. Also, for singing Happy Birthday to me.*

*I miss singing in the Choir and the fellowship time after church.*

*God's blessings to you all,*

*Warren Johnson*

Thanks to all those that helped at the Blackmer Farm  
and/or helped tie quilts September 13th!



*Thank you to everyone who came out to help at Iowa Gardening for Good this summer. Despite covid, we have been blessed with volunteers that have helped us provide food for needy lowans.*

*-Doreen Blackmer*

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