

He is risen indeed!

Palestine Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

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THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER May 2023



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

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

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.

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Palestine will accept your offering!

- 1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
- Mail check to: Palestine Lutheran Church PO Box 189 Huxley, IA 50124
- Give online through Easy Tithe. Go to our website <u>www.plchuxley.com</u> 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.*

Page(s)



Reflecting on the Purpose of Judgement ----------With Pastor Eric

¹"Do not **judge**, so that you may not be **judge**d. ²For with the judgment you make you will be **judge**d, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. ³Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ⁴Or

how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye. Matthew 7:1-5

When I was a child, I used to play these games at school, church, and at home. Maybe they are familiar to you as well.

- **This or That**: Take turns presenting two options and have players guess which you'd prefer or identify with.
- **20 Questions**: Guess what object, person, place, thing, or animal your opponent is thinking of by asking only yes or no questions.
- **Two Truths and Lie**: Can you spot the lie when players share two facts about their lives and a lie?

Games like these are designed to help us learn to make judgements and evaluate choices – and to learn about other people at the same time. They help us to listen, evaluate and make decisions (*necessary skills and limited especially when judging*).

I have thought quite a bit about judging and what it means as a follower of Jesus. I find myself torn over the response "Don't be judgy!" after I make an observation or statement of personal opinion. Is it true that Jesus commands me not to judge "others"? Well, yes and no. Jesus commands us not to judge without considering how we may be judged. Human nature encourages us to

pay far more attention to the shortcomings of others than to our own faults. We tend to evaluate others based on a lofty standard of righteousness that somehow is not applicable to our own performance. Jesus instructs us to stop "criticizing" and take to heart how we wish to be treated and "evaluated." A critical judgement tends to incur a harsh response.

However, I do believe that we need to make judgements from time to time about how we operate in the world. We must evaluate our options and the choices which we make in life. The admonition not to judge is often taken incorrectly to imply that believers are not to make moral judgments about anyone or anything. That this is not what was intended is indicated in Matthew 7:15–20, which warn of false prophets who can be known by the fruit they bear. Jesus does not ask us to lay aside our critical faculties but rather to resist the urge to speak harshly of others. I must make decisions about many things which help guide my actions, and I must be open to learn from them and work to become more conscious of my biases. And yes, I may be "judgy" at times as I navigate a new day with its cultural shifts and changing social norms. But I pray that Jesus continues to forgive me as I make my way and that I will become more gracious and forgiving of others and them of me.

I am reminded that we seem to be more intolerant and less patient with those around us at present. We listen less and are less curious. I understand why "judging" is such a heavy and negatively perceived activity – so legalistic and now, more political! I hope that we do not lose the good purpose in making sound and thoughtful judgements along with the gift of learning and growing with and through them.

Let us pray. Gracious Lord, who commands us not to judge, so that we may not be judged, open our minds and hearts to consider how we judge situations and interactions, so that we may receive grace and grow into a greater awareness of ourselves, our need to learn, and listen. May we give and forgive and seek understanding along the way. Amen.

GET INVOLVED

Men's Bible Study

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

ZOOM Bible Study

Tuesdays from 7:30pm – 8:30pm during Lent on Zoom - One of the greatest frustrations of the Christian life is having to wait for God to act. We wait, sometimes for years, for our prayers to be answered, for our deepest longings to be fulfilled. Some devoted Christians get stuck in dead-end jobs even though they feel certain they could serve God in greater ways if only He would open the opportunity. Why doesn't He? Some wait for a godly spouse, some couples wait for the gift of children, and some, who have dedicated their lives to serving the Lord, wait in disappointed bafflement as their work seems to yield no fruit. Why?

As Christians, we yearn to serve the Lord, to step forward and obey Him like the great heroes of the Bible, but we are confused, waiting for clear orders, kept at a distance by the invisible barriers of God's silence, His inaction, or His unhurried pace. In "When God Takes Too Long", Joseph Bentz examines the mysteries of God's timing and shows Christians how to thrive in the midst of one of life's greatest frustrations--waiting. He offers those who have been discouraged by a life of waiting a chance to alter not only their perspective on waiting, but also their actions in response to it, transforming this frustration into a positive force that will enrich and change their lives.

"When God Takes Too Long" addresses:

- How not to wish (or wait) our lives away
- How to better understand the nature of time
- How to master the discipline of waiting
- How to cast off the boundaries of time to view our lives from an eternal perspective

If you need help purchasing books *if needed*, then please contact <u>ericklimpel@gmail.com</u>

Youth Confirmation Ministry

Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. May 3rd (final day) Conference Room @ Palestine Lutheran Church – For youth in 7th & 8th Grade – Classes on the Small Catechism with the goal of confirmation at the end of a two-year ministry of service, discussion and fun. Questions? Contact Pastor Eric Klimpel @ <u>ericklimpel@gmail.com</u>

R.O.C.K. Group

For high school students. The R.O.C.K. Group will meet the first Wednesday of every month from 6:30 – 8 p.m.

New Member Orientation Meetings

Every 2nd and 4th Sundays 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)

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)

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.

Join us for the next one May 14th, 2023 from 5 – 6:15 p.m. at Fenceline Beer Lab in Huxley, 107 S Main Ave, Huxley, IA 50124 (No reservations needed, just show up! ^(C))

Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website <u>www.elca.org</u> \rightarrow Resources \rightarrow Downloadable Resources \rightarrow Bible studies

5th Sunday of Easter

Focus: This week how might you be an instrument of courage?

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." John 14:1 (NRSV). Read John 14:1-14

6th Sunday of Easter

Focus: This week how might you be an instrument of change?

"If you love me, you will keep the commandments." John 14:15 (NRSV). Read John 14:15-21

7th Sunday of Easter

Focus: This week how might you be an instrument of wisdom?

"And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." John 17:11 (NRSV). Read John 17:1-11

Pentecost

Focus: How has the Spirit been at work in your life during the last week?

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink." John 7:37 (NRSV). Read John 7:37-38



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR VBS SUMMER 2023

Join us as we gather courage like Daniel . . . June 18th-22nd from 6-8 p.m. @ Palestine Go here to register: <u>bit.ly/VBSfor2023</u> *Hurry soon to ensure your spot!* \$25 per child/*financial assistance available where needed* Seeking volunteers – many different roles to fill. Contact Candi

Engler (volley 602@hotmail.com) if you are interested.

LENT AND HOLY WEEK SPECIAL OFFERINGS THANK YOU!

We provided numberous bee colonies!



Our Offering efforts are through <u>Lutheran World</u> Relief (LWR)





Holy Week Special Offering & Easter Special

Offering– <u>Lutheran Disaster Response</u> to help with disaster recovery from local (Hurricane, Flood, Draught relief) to world-wide (Turkey earthquake recovery) along with in-kind donations of food for the local Ballard Food Pantries. Thank you for your donations!

PALM SUNDAY





We welcomed new sisters and brothers in Christ on Palm Sunday:



Kyle, Deanne, and Adaline Jolly

Quinn and Norma McBride

Mark, Heather, Kade, Kole, Kason, & Kora Swan



- 1 Elaine Paradise (90th)
- 2 Nels Dovre Candi Engler
- 3 Tim Huxford
- 4 Sarah Young
- 5 Dobbin Wilson
- 6 Luke Ness Joe Thomas
- 8 Ethan O'Loughlin
- 11 Brooke Dykstra Cory Larson
- 13 Mike Thomas
- 15 Ethan Johnson Kris Polich Palmer Schaudt
- 17 Tom Gallagher Kristin (Halverson) Wilson
- 19 Bill Harleen Henry Larson
- 21 Holden Elliott Kelli Jo Emerson Olivia (Thomas) Duffy
- 22 David Eisenmann Deb Moore (72nd)
- 23 Miles Gallagher
- 24 Lily Gustafson Amelia Obranovic Violet Sickels
- 26 Nolan Larson
- 29 Caden Van Pelt Stella Klingbeil
- 30 Isaac Larson
- 31 Casey Tatarniuk



May Anniversaries

- 5 Jacob & Jordan Huxford (5th)
- 6 Matt & Erika Williams
- 14 Lucas & Adessa Schaudt
- 15 Dick & Bernadine Cast (63rd)
- 27 Henry & Jan Rumbaugh (56th)



Let's shower Elaine Paradise with birthday cards!

Please find address on mailed newsletter – I don't like to print personal info on website

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



ALTAR GUILD: Nancy Fausch and Teri Klimpel COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: May 7th: David & Vallery Eisenmann May 21st: Deidre Qual; Jean Saveraid

OFFERING COUNTERS: Matt & Erika Williams

USHERS: Troy & Jody Calvert; J.J. & Megan Elliott

GREETERS*, ** May 7th: Dax & Haylie Clark; Drew & Kris Polich May 14th: Brent & Missy

month.

May 14th: Brent & Missy Larson; Rich & Chris Nelson May 21st: Mark & Robin Doty; Laura Kepler May 28th: Leonard & Sue Larson; Quinn & Norma McBride *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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturda
				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	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
30 4 th Sunday of Easter 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Worship – <i>NAMI speaking;</i> <i>Recognition of Teachers</i> Music with Nels 2:00 p.m. Piano Recital (Mindy DeVries) Public invited!	1 Happy May Day	2 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
7 5 th Sunday of Easter 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion; Last day of Children's church Music with Nels 1-5 p.m. Council Retreat	8 Deadline to remove all artificial flowers from cemetery	9 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
14 6 th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; <i>Recognition of</i> <i>Graduates</i> New Member Orientation in Conference room 5:00 p.m. Theology on Tap @ Fenceline	15 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Synod Assembly	16 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Synod Assembly 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
21 7 th Sunday of Easter 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion New Member Orientation in Conference room 5-6 p.m. 4H	22 Newsletter deadline	23 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 6 p.m. Bethany Annual Meeting 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
28 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Worship New Member Orientation in Conference room	29	30 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation (last class!) 6:30 p.m. R.O.C.K. meets	4	5	6
10 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. North Polk Ministerial Assoc. Mtg 7:30 p.m. Ballard High School Baccalaureate	11	12	13
17 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Prayer Support Group 1:00 p.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. North Polk Ministerial Association Mtg 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Confirmation class to Meals From the Heartland	18 Ascension of our Lord	19	20 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Synod Revival Event @ Grandview University
24 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Green Hills Devotions 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6 p.m. Place flags by veteran's gravestones @ cemetery	25	26	27 Vigil of Pentecost
31 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters	June 1	2	3
For an online version https://www.mychur 2023-05-01/2023-05-	chevents.com/sub		dar/edit/month/



These minutes are not yet approved. 4/2/23 Council Agenda

<u>Attendance</u>: Haylie Clark, David Eisenmann, Julie Emerson, Candi Engler, Pastor Eric Klimpel, Jennifer Pote, Chris Richter, Greg Saveraid, Jean Saveraid, Kristin Shelton.

Quorum Established: Yes

Devotions: Shelton

Treats: Ritcher

Read Vision and Mission Statements: Completed

Goals and Reflections: Ask tough questions

Let's be ready. Be ready to ask tough questions. This team will push the envelope.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Motion to approve: Engler Second: Pote Vote: Yes

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund Balance: \$32,943 Total Checking: \$14,392 Issues +/-: None mentioned Motion to approve: Shelton Second: Clark

Pastor's Report: Report provided to council.

New Business:

Council Retreat:

Prep. May 7 scheduled. Chris working on locking down venue Landscaping Day:

Mid/late May is being targeted to schedule. Mark Pote is working on acquiring some new tools to help. Engler offered to bring loader tractor. Need to bring pole saws. Richter would like to see more color up front (i.e. garden beds). We need to be continuing to consult Julie Huxford. Engler suggested we ask users of the church (i.e. 4H clubs, quilting) to adopt a garden bed as an idea.

Committee Reports:

• History: Members Deb Moore, Jean Saveraid, Denise, Helen Kepler, Nancy Fausch (others).

Working on sorting out upstairs items. Brought down plates. Met with Brad, discussed ways to lay out archives. Lots of confirmation pictures, where should it go? Maybe we add a computer screen, maybe in the north hall. The committee would need help with this.

Worship:

Mindy inputs. Pastor gives calendar to committee. Seasonal meetings. Budget is healthy. What help is needed? Help with ushers? Hard to keep head usher present. Leonard has taken on mantel of head usher. Media / slides

• Stewardship: Jen Pote, Courtney Nobling

Stewardship campaigns have been done in the past from reformation Sunday to Christmas. Pledging has been tried in the past but 30% return rate. Time and talent responses. This committee is going to investigate their purpose to better align with needs of the church. This is a very good discussion.

• Cemetery:

Malands & Wees helped heal ills. Signs & Paving big change. Less debris blowing into neighbor's sheep's area. History committee going to get history map, info about oldest graves, Are there plans for beautification such as trees and bushes? Need landscape master plan, which members could sponsor trees/bushes, etc.

• Altar guild:

Need to do something about back room. Rodent challenges Parsonage: Nels is about moved out. List of items identified by Nels was read.

Fish Fry date: No new date yet. Targeting May 28.

Old Business:

West Windows, install date? Sound Update. Pew solution. Kumla Dinner/Steak Fry/Fish Fry

Closing Statements: Close with Lord's Prayer. <u>Adjourn:</u>

Motion to Adjourn: Shelton Second: Engler Next Meeting: May 7 Devotions: Saveraid



To MOW!

If you are willing to mow the church and parsonage, there is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall! SERVICE HOURS are *happily*

given to high schoolers that want the volunteer hours!





Remember in Prayer

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

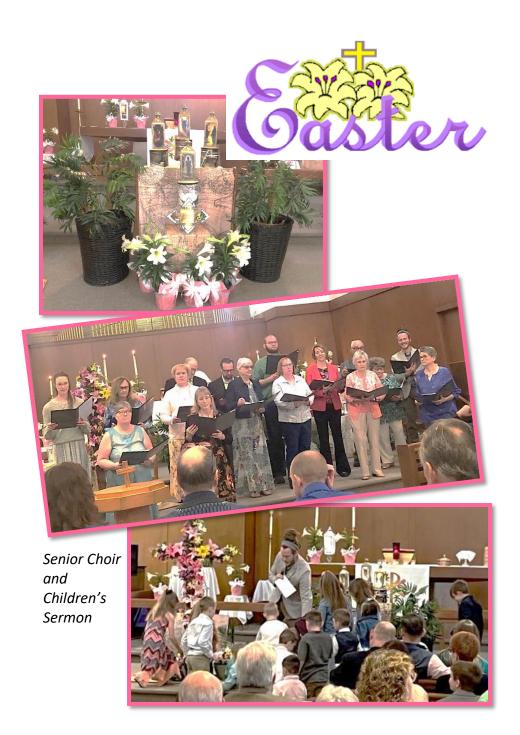
Adrianne Brown, Penelope Brown, Lori Edwards, Marcia Kisner, Lynzee Makoski, Helen Miller, Deb Ness, Doris Ness, Marge Sheldahl

Family and Friends of: Ardell Lundgren, Judy Fausch, Norma Dovre, Sara Prochnow Ojard, Joe Curtiss, Nancy (Ness) Weber, Lilah Hurley, Marlys Larsen, Harriet Sheldahl, Abby Huntrods, Marilyn Saveraid, Mary Lou Hoover, Roy Paradise, Anita Brendeland, Bruce Halverson, Kevin Klingbeil, Linda Fausch, Alvina Larson, Warren Johnson, Bev Echtenkamp, Merlin Lyon, Mindy Kahler, Kathy Saveraid, Arleta Wilson, Gary Davis, Shirley Saveraid, Clara Eisenmann



Picture order left to right: Samantha Ewing, Eden Richter, Avery Dykstra, Adaline Jolly, Drake Klingbeil, Rex Clark, Trice Elliott







USHER UPDATE!

The last few months Mark and Brad (mostly, but not exclusively) have welcomed everyone with smiling faces and a warm handshake if so inclined. Besides the greeters, the ushers welcome all the people coming in. So, let's continue to welcome people coming into the church.

We are volunteering couples/families by month. Two families will be listed each month and they can work out which Sundays work best for them within the month. If someone was omitted and would like to be included, please let the office know. There will be conflicts, so please find a substitute and all will work out. Mark and Brad will continue to fill in as needed and be guides. There is an usher "checklist" on the table in fellowship hall to review for duties included.

MAY	Troy & Jody Calvert	NOV.	Dennis & Donna Millang
	J.J. & Megan Elliott		Chris & Amanda Richter
JUNE	Greg & Emily Saveraid	DEC.	Mark & Jen Pote
	Jean Saveraid		Tom & Kristin Shelton
JULY	Tim & Shannon Wilson	JAN.	Brad & Lesa Lewis
	Bruce & Angela Hartman		Andrew & Cally Larson
AUG.	Bob & Oriett Snider	FEB.	Tom & Kari Sandquist
	Mike & Cindi Thomas		Tim & Julie Huxford
SEPT.	Matt & Erika Williams	MAR.	David & Valerie
	Kent & Shelley Klingbeil		Eisenmann
			Jeff & Kim Van Pelt
OCT.	Greg & Christa Hartsook	APRIL	Noah Wendt
	Scott & Alyssa Johnson		Doug & Lori Schonhorst

Thank you in advance for your service & willingness to try new things!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATES!





Lucas Alan Hartsook

Luke is planning to attend DMACC this fall for Welding and Business.

The congregation is invited to attend an open house: Saturday, May 13 4-7 p.m. @ our home 27111 580th Ave., Ames, IA 50010

Kasey Erin Larson

Kasey is going to NIACC to play softball and major in Business.

Graduation open house party: Saturday May 13th 2-5pm @ 1114 Sand Cherry Lane, Huxley





Charles Anthony Rhoads

Charlie plans to start working at Fire Protection Professionals immediately after graduation. While working full-time, he will be taking his Union courses and working through his apprenticeship through the Local 669 - Steam and Pipefitters Union. Address for cards:

3080 NE 150th Ave., Cambridge, IA 50046 <u>Open House</u>: Saturday, May 27th 4-7 p.m. @ Cambridge Community Center, 225 Water Street, Cambridge, IA



Emma Paige Sample

Emma plans to go to Iowa State University to study Architecture.

<u>Address for cards</u>: 1209 Sand Cherry Lane Huxley, IA 50124

<u>Graduation party</u>: May 27th 2 – 5 p.m. @ Fenceline Beer Lab in Huxley (Address is 107 S. Main Ave, Huxley).



Chloe Kay Shelton

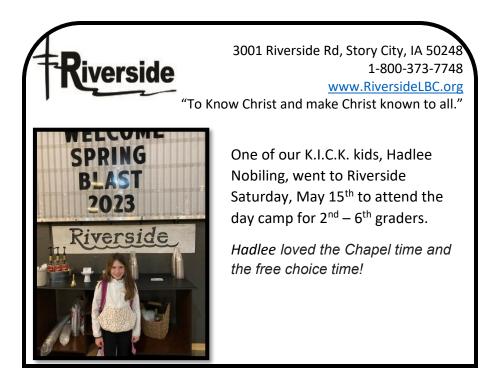
Chloe plans to attend DMACC and then transfer to St. Ambrose to be a Speech Language Pathologist or a teacher

> Address for cards: 550 Meadow Ln Huxley, IA 50124

<u>Open House</u>: Saturday, May 13th 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. @ Huxley Safe Room, 515 N. Main Ave., Huxley







CEMETERY NEWS



Please remove all artificial flowers from the cemetery **by May 8**th.



The cemetery is in need of volunteers to place individual flags by veteran headstones. Please join us at **6 p.m. Wednesday, May 24th!** It would be *very* appreciated!



There is water on the north end by the drive in the cemetery for your flower/plant needs!

Palestine Lutheran Church PO Box 189 Huxley, IA 50124-8110 Address service requested