

## The Palestine Press

**December 2017**

Volume XXXI Number 12  
Monthly newsletter of  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**God's work. Our hands.**

(515) 597-2620, office  
(515) 597-2624, secretary's office  
E-mail address: [PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net)  
Fax: 515/597-2621  
Web site: [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)  
**Pastor Eric Klimpel**  
**Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison**  
**Oriett Snider, Editor**  
**Christa Hartsook, Webmaster**

### Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

#### *Our Vision:*

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

#### *Mission Statement:*

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

### Unwrapping the Gift of Immanuel

.....**With Pastor Eric**

*If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.<sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses...<sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.<sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, **I am there among them.**" Matthew 18:15-20*

Jesus declared that **where two or three are gathered together in his name. He would be right there among them.** He made this declaration in the context of a difficult situation. The question came up about what a disciple should do when someone in the community sins against them. Well, Jesus responds first and foremost by getting the two parties together to work it out. And if that does not work, then bring an impartial witness to verify and help with the listening process. He wants us to keep at it and leave "no stone un-turned!" Take a friend, take a "timeout" ... whatever you need to help reconcile with your brother, sister, parent, child, friend.

I have experienced many a stressful holiday when the best and worst of family dynamics has shown forth...sometimes for the entire world to see and hear. I find it challenging to provide an environment where people can truly share their feelings, ideas and anxieties without wariness and fear of judgement. After all...we love our neighbors and friends and we hesitate to share our innermost thoughts and opinions because we do not want to hurt them, or hurt ourselves.

Over these months of fall, our leadership has tried to promote "mutual conversation and consolation" about faith and life. We hope that families have had opportunities for sacred conversations in an atmosphere of forgiveness, truth and love. We have begun forums in community fashion which touch upon issues of a personal and corporate nature. When the difficult decisions need to happen, we

want to be ready to listen and appreciate what we hear in an atmosphere of respect and safety.

I would like to share with you again some aspects of what a safe environment for conversation looks like, in both the home and at church:

What is needed for an environment of safe conversation?

1. Fundamental respect for other people as redeemed children of God despite differing convictions
2. Explicit rejection of verbal condemnation or dismissal because of differing convictions

How do we disagree well within a safe environment?

1. **Being fair.** Can you state the position of the person whom you disagree with accurately enough that the other person recognizes your statement as their own?
2. **Being realistic about my position.** Can you acknowledge where your position is most vulnerable and where a contrasting position makes valid points?
3. **Being honestly humble.** Can I think through my position, express it with true conviction, AND acknowledge that as a fallen and flawed human being I may be wrong.

I have the most difficult time with “honest humility.” Is it more important that I be “right” or that I be in “relationship”? God demonstrates that relationship trumps being right which is why Jesus came to live among us – as one of us! Let our Christmas gift to one another be a safe environment to share truth in love and listen with compassion both at home and church.

***Let us pray. Gracious God, open our hearts and our minds to your grace and open our ears to listen and our mouths to speak truth in love and our arms to shake hands and give hugs, so that we might embody the forgiveness and love which you give to us in Jesus the Christ. Amen.***



## ***The Gifts of Christ's Coming for***

### ***Advent and Christmas Season***

You can explore as a family the meaning, activities and prayers for the seasons of the spirit and soul. A copy of Palestine's Advent 2017 handout will be available on the “Advent table” in Fellowship Hall. It will also be sent as e-mail attachment with weekly announcements. A color version will be available on line [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com), under the calendar/forms button beginning the week of November 27<sup>th</sup>.



This Advent Season you will have an opportunity to pause midweek for an abbreviated prayer service (about a half hour) on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme will be **Lost in the Night: An Advent Service of Hope and Expectation.** *In the midst of darkness, we long for the coming of the light of Christ. Within this service, the text of the hymn “Lost in the night” gives us words to express our deepest pleas for God’s mercy and salvation. Together we cry out: “Christ is coming soon! Come and save us soon!”*

#### **A SERVICE OF LONGING AND HOPE**

Tuesday, December 12 – 7:00 p.m.  
at Slater Methodist Church, Slater

sponsored by

Slater Methodist Church

The Ballard Ministerial Alliance

Adams & Soderstrum Family of Funeral Homes

*Sometimes it's hard to celebrate when losses or challenges have taken much of the joy out of Christmas. We experience loss in many ways throughout our life. Some losses are small and some are life-altering and call us to provide a time and place of solace during the frenetic days surrounding Christmas. Not everyone feels like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas.*

*In the gathering darkness of December, we anticipate the coming again of the Light of the world. It may only be the hope that marks Advent's waiting that keeps us looking toward the coming of Christ. It may also be that the blue of the Advent season (which symbolizes hope) is the very remedy we need for what makes us feel “blue” at Christmas. If you're feeling blue, join us for a time of worship recognizing the hope Jesus offers to those who are hurting.*



## Palestine Lutheran Church

### Worship & Study Opportunities- December 2017

The "dial in" number for the worship service is no longer available and the leadership is considering a suitable alternative.

Saturday, December 2 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; The Gift of Advent Candle Blessing; Blessing of Advent Wreath; Blessing of Nativity; Children's Church

10:30 a.m. Make Advent Wreath; Make Nativity Scene

Monday, December 4 2 p.m. Women of ELCA Bible study

Wednesday, December 6

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6-7:30 pm Christmas program rehearsal (meal 5:30-6)

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Prayer Service (Lost in the Night: An Advent Service of Hope & Expectation)

Thursday, December 7 6:30 p.m. GriefShare @ Ballard Creek

Saturday, December 9 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 10 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: The Gift of Advent Candle Blessing; Blessing of Christmas Trees; Children's Church

10:30 a.m. Make Ornament

6-7:30 p.m. Christmas program rehearsal

Tuesday, December 12

7 p.m. Blue Christmas Service @ Slater Methodist Church

Wednesday, December 13 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

KICK Christmas Caroling @ Ballard Creek

Thursday, December 14 6:30 p.m. GriefShare @ Ballard Creek

Saturday, December 16 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 17 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; The Gift of Advent Candle Blessing; Carols & Hymns of Advent; Children's Church;

10:30 am – 12 noon preschool thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade Christmas program practice

Christmas program, special music starting @ 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Prayer Service (Lost in the Night: An Advent Service of Hope & Expectation)

Saturday, December 23 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek



Sunday, December 24 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve*

9:30 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Worship; The Gift of Advent Candle Blessing; Baptism of Ila Joy Russell.

2 p.m. Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve worship @ Ballard Creek

5 p.m. Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve candlelight worship @ Palestine

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

9 a.m. Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day worship @ Nazareth, Cambridge

Wednesday, December 27 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible study NO Confirmation – Christmas break

Saturday, December 30 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, December 31 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

9:30 a.m. Worship: Affirmation of Baptism; New Year's Blessing; Christmas Lessons and Carols 2017

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

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

December 3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

–**Primary Text:** Mark 13: 24-37

**An Attitude of Discipleship:** *Hopeful*

December 10 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

– **Primary Text:** Mark 1:1-8

**An Attitude of Discipleship:** *Prepared*

December 17 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

– **Primary Text:** John 1:6-8, 19-28

**An Attitude of Discipleship:** *Expectant*

December 24 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

–**Primary Text:** Luke 1:26-38

**The Challenge of Discipleship:** *Stewardship*

December 31 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

–**Primary Text:** Luke 2:22-40

**An Attitude of Discipleship:** *Peace-filled*



Blumsters is offering White Poinsettias for Palestine members. Each single-branch plant with 5-7 blooms is wrapped with foil and a bow at a cost of \$12.00 (tax included). Julie Huxford or Tracy Sheldahl will take your order after

worship. (You may also order a poinsettia by calling Blumsters @ 515/597-2200.) Order deadline is December 6<sup>th</sup>.

A bulletin insert will be published listing those who have given poinsettias. Please indicate when ordering if you are placing the plant in memory of or in honor of someone. The plants will be delivered to church for worship on Sunday, Dec 10.

**K.I.C.K. – Kids in Christ's Kingdom (3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> graders)**

**December**

Christmas Program rehearsal schedule (all at the church):

~~Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> - (cancelled)~~

Adding Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 5:30 - 6 meal and  
6-7:30 practice

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - 6 - 7:30

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> - after church until noon -  
preschool through 6th grade practice

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Program “Manger Tales” with  
special music starting at 4:30. Kids at church 4 pm.**

NOTE: Confirmation Class will be serving a meal  
following the program – freewill donation,  
fundraiser for their trip to Chicago

Wednesday, December 13 – KICK Christmas caroling @  
Ballard Creek. We will be doing a short skit and singing  
songs starting at 6:15. This is our only stop this year and  
everyone needs to meet at Ballard Creek at 6:00 to begin  
at 6:15!

**Contact any K.I.C.K. advisor with any questions!**

Jody Calvert 515-451-3332

[jodycalvert18@gmail.com](mailto:jodycalvert18@gmail.com)

Lesale Lewis 515-669-3131 [lesalewis5@gmail.com](mailto:lesalewis5@gmail.com)

Lori Schonhorst 515-321-2833

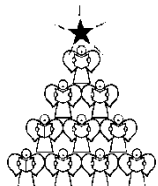
[lschonhorst@gmail.com](mailto:lschonhorst@gmail.com)



Look for **ROCK's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Christmas Extravaganza** on  
Saturday December 9th from  
9am to noon at Palestine. The  
Christmas Extravaganza is a

great way to get all your Christmas treat needs  
as well as pick out a few gifts from our local  
vendors who will be there! We will need  
volunteers to bring cookies as always :) Sign up  
sheet in the Fellowship Hall!

**Angel Tree 2017**



ROCK will be sponsoring the Angel Tree  
project as part of the Ballard Clothes  
Pantry Wishing Tree. ROCK invites the  
congregation to help to fill wishes  
found on angel ornaments/gift tags on  
the tree which will be up Wednesday,

November 22<sup>nd</sup> in Fellowship Hall. Items are to be left  
unwrapped with the ornament/gift tag taped to the item.  
All items will need to be at church by Sunday, December  
10<sup>th</sup>. If anyone has questions about this project they can  
contact Kari Sandquist!



Following is a listing of Palestine's  
members who are 85 or older  
(denoted with a \*), widow/widower,  
and/or homebound to some degree, if  
you wish to send them a Christmas  
greeting.

**Chuck Bowers**

32310 560<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Huxley, IA 50124

**\*Anita Brendeland**

Journey Senior Living of Ankeny  
3602 NW 5<sup>th</sup> St,  
Ankeny, IA 50023

**\*Valerie Brendeland**

56116 HWY 210  
Huxley, IA 50124

**\*Dick & \*Bernadine Cast**

3702 NE Cottonwood Ln  
Ankeny, IA 50021

**\*Elinor (Anderson) Christiansen**

Madrid Home  
613 West North Street  
Madrid, IA 50156

**\*Bev Echtenkamp**

3718 NE Cottonwood Lane  
Ankeny, IA 50021

**\*Wanda Halverson**

Ballard Creek, Apt 231  
908 N HWY 69  
Huxley, IA 50124

**Dolores Hauge**

1006 S Dayton Pl, #60  
Ames, IA 50010

**\*Ruth Hennick**

Windsor Manor  
1642 S G Ave

Nevada, IA 50201

**\*Warren Johnson**

30545 560<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Cambridge, IA 50046

**\*Alvina Larson**

1675 NE 166<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Huxley, IA 50124

**\*Leona O. Larson**

56800 HWY 210  
Cambridge, IA 50046

**\*Del & Vivian Lundgren**

1031 NE Greenview Dr  
Ankeny, IA 50021

**\*Doris Ness**

304 E 4<sup>th</sup> St, Huxley, IA 50124

**\*Roy & Elaine Paradise**

3602 NE Cottonwood Ln  
Ankeny, IA 50021

**\*Harold Rittgers**

165 Cardinal Rd  
Ames, IA 50010

**Katherine Saveraid**

33845 585<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Cambridge, IA 50046

**\*Shirley Saveraid**

Mill Pond, Rm 234  
1201 SE Mill Pond Ct,  
Ankeny, IA 50021

**\*Harriet Sheldahl**

108 S 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Huxley, IA 50124

**Marge Sheldahl**

54183 320<sup>th</sup> St  
Huxley, IA 50124

**Marvin & Lorraine Sorensen**

12635 NE 56<sup>th</sup> St  
Elkhart, IA 50073

**Arlene Wee**

Bethany Life (Walker Place)  
212 Lafayette Ave  
Story City, IA 50248





The "dial in" number for the worship service is no longer available. Church leadership is considering a suitable alternative.



### calling all college students

Treasurer Deidre Qual reminds college students desiring to receive a Palestine scholarship that they **must notify the church office by letter or e-mail** of their name, address and college or vocational school **by December 17<sup>th</sup>**. This information is needed to plan for distribution of the **Palestine Scholarship Fund. \$100** is given to each qualifying student in December. This fund was set up to help provide encouragement for any student member of Palestine during the first four years after graduation from high school in any year which he or she continues his or her education at an approved college or vocational school.

**P.S. Parents please remind your college age student to apply for this scholarship.** We wouldn't want to leave someone out because they failed to submit their application.

E-mail: [PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net)

Mailing address: 1375 HWY 210, Huxley, IA 50124

(We will reply when we receive your email so you can be sure that we received your request and that it isn't lost in cyberspace.)



### LOOKING BACK ON THE YEAR

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 28. Deadline for submitting annual reports is January 2 to be sure copies of the report will be available to be picked up on January 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Severe Weather Policy:** When school is canceled because of the weather, all church functions will also be canceled. If weather hits when school is not in session, a message regarding cancellations will be put on the

church answering machine (515/597-2620) and also on our church website [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com). We will notify the following radio/TV stations if worship or other events are to be canceled WHO, KCCI, KRNT, & WOI. For smaller functions phone trees will also be utilized.

**Special NOTE:** Please use your own judgment regarding traveling in severe weather conditions.

Church Office: 515/597-2620  
515/597-2621

Fax number:

Website: [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)

Secretary's Office: 515/597-2624

Church e-mail is:

[PLC@huxcomm.net](mailto:PLC@huxcomm.net)

Pastor Eric Klimpel's email: [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

cell: 936/444-3895

### Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand November 15, 2017	
Checking Account	\$ 7,969.66
General Fund -	\$ 9,898.94
Designated Funds	\$ 17,868.60
Benevolence	375.00
Building Improvement	2,200.00
Technology	3,384.00
Kitchen	2,525.00
Parsonage	4,305.37
Confirmation	1,737.94
Evangelism/Fellowship	447.37
ROCK	289.83
Piano Fund	2,454.09
PLC Checking Acct-Other	150.00
Principal balance for building improvement loan	\$ 7,687.75
	(as of November 15, 2017)

### There's still time...

Thanks to those of you who have so generously supported the ministries of our church through your financial gifts! We are grateful for all that you have offered and for all the good things we've been able to do in Jesus' name because of them. Don't forget that your gifts are tax-deductible but must be received by December 31 to qualify for a 2017 deduction

You may donate to exterior repair projects thru the Building Improvement Fund. As a reminder...you can make contributions online or on any mobile device to this fund along with any other offerings. Just go to our website at [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com) and click on the "Online Giving" link on the homepage and you can set up an account to quickly and easily give anytime and anywhere!

### Church Council 2017

Pastor Eric Klimpel

President: Matt Williams

Vice President: Jeff Van Pelt

Secretary: Jacob Huxford

Treasurer: Deidre Qual

Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Council: Nels Dovre

David Eisenmann

Bruce Hartman

Cynthia Johnson

Laura Kepler

Brad Lewis

Jean Saveraid

Kristin Shelton

Lora Young

**Next Council Meeting** – Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8 a.m.

## **Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**

[not yet approved]

**November 5, 2017- Sunday - 8:00 AM**

**In Attendance:** Pastor Eric Klimpel, Matt Williams, Laura Kepler, Jacob Huxford, Lora Young, Cynthia Johnson, Jean Saveraid, Bruce Hartman, David Eisenmann, Kristin Shelton, Brad Lewis, Nels Dovre, and Dick Kepler. A quorum was established.

**Devotions** – Matt

Read Vision and Mission Statements

**Goals and Reflections** –

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

- Lora Young moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Jean Saveraid seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report** – Deidre

Brad Lewis moved to table the Treasurer's report until the December Council Meeting. Nels Dovre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- See his report.

### **New business:**

1. Annual meeting date: **January 28, 2018.**
2. Finance and audit committee meetings.
  - Need to think about getting together during the first few weeks of December.
3. Nominations for 2019 church-wide assembly, synod consultation committee, and Synod discipline committee.
  - 2019 assembly is in Milwaukee. Looking for one person who would be interested in going. See Pastor Eric if you are interested!
4. Devotions/Facebook to communicate with congregation.
  - If you have information that you want to be posted on our Facebook page, please send them to the Church. The Church will then work with our social media coordinator to get things posted onto our Facebook page.
  - If you do have things that you want to be posted to our Facebook page please let that be known when you send in your request to the Church.

- Requests can be sent to [plc@huxcomm.net](mailto:plc@huxcomm.net)
5. Freedom For Youth Ministries is looking for someone to serve on their Advisory Board. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, see Pastor Eric!

### **Unfinished Business:**

1. Nominating committee – Update
  - a. Members: Brent Emerson, Vallery Eisenmann, Julie Huxford, Doreen Blackmer, Mark Doty, Jeff Van Pelt
2. Edward Jones funds from Maland estate – status
3. Kitchen committee – Update.
  - Met three weeks ago and are meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. They discussed the cheap rout of refinishing the cabinets and have eliminated that route from the kitchen options.
  - They sent their ideas to a kitchen designer in Ames, she will be meeting with the committee on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
  - Had a maintenance guy come in before Kumla to give the stove a tune-up. The stoves are both in working condition.
4. Parsonage opportunities – update
  - Nels and Allison are interested in moving into the Parsonage, before moving up to the Story City area. The soonest they would be able to move in would be late Spring 2018.
  - Having them in the Parsonage would be helpful for the church with the Parsonage use in limbo.
  - Nels would be able to host youth group more often and continue to grow our youth outreach.

Jacob Huxford moved to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Adjourn with Lord's Prayer**

Next meeting – Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at 8:00am

Dec Devotions – Brad Lewis

Dec Treats – Kristin Shelton



## SNOW REMOVAL

Volunteers needed

1. Parking lots & drives
2. Sidewalks

Sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

?s check with Mike Larson

Special thanks to the many of you that have helped in past years.



## Library Committee:



The library committee met at Books-A-Million (BAM) in Ames at 1:30 pm on November 18th. In attendance were Deb, Doreen, Shannon, Teri and Laura. We shopped at both BAM and

Christian Supply. We purchased a total of 7 new books and 1 new movie for the library. We also have 1 new book for the library that was purchased with money from selling leftover booklover's bash books. Look for the new books to be processed and available for check-out soon.

## New to the church Library:

The Power of Faith by Chris and Terry Norton:

In October 2010, Chris Norton was a football player at Luther College in Decorah, IA. In a freak injury, Chris, only 18 at the time, became paralyzed and was only given a 3% chance of moving anything below his neck.

Chris and his father, in alternating chapters, describe life over the few years, from the perspectives of the person with the injury, and the principal caregiver.

Although Chris uses a wheelchair most of the time, he has accomplished much more than anyone predicted. He and his wife are now motivational speakers, describing how faith, support from family and community, a positive attitude and incredibly hard work made a difference.

Interesting for our congregation is the fact that Brad Lewis knew Chris when he (Chris) was a Bondurant High School football player. The book is in the "Biography" section of the library.



# DECEMBER 2017

## Volunteer schedule

### Greeters

- 12/3 .... Kim & Jeff Van Pelt  
 .... Erika & Matt Williams  
 12/10 ... Brent & Missy Larson  
 Diane & Virgil Larson  
 12/17 ... Sue & Leonard Larson  
 Deidre Qual  
 12/24 ... Rpgger Larson  
 Klimpels  
 12/31 ... Chris & Rich Nelson  
 Holly & Wade Twedt

### Acolytes -

### Lectors -

### Ushers

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Brent Larson, captain | Tim Wilson     |
| Mike Thomas           | Dennis Millang |

### Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

### Communion Assistants

- 12/3 - Laura Kepler, Deb Moore  
 12/17 - Bruce Hartman, Tim Wilson  
 12/24 (candlelight) Nancy Fausch, Julie Huxford

### Offering Counters

Tom Shelton, Brent Emerson

### Altar Guild

Helen Kepler, Holly Twedt

### Snow Removal

- Sidewalks
  - Drives & Parking Lots
- Sign up in Fellowship Hall

### Deliver Food Pantry donations for Dec

"December is **Dinner for more** month at the food pantry - please donate boxed dinner mixes, such as mac-n-cheese and complete meals; rice mixes, pastas."

Sponsored by Palestine Mission Outreach Committee.



## December

- 2 - Rahner, Jill
- 4 - Calvert, Jody  
Edwards, Jacey
- 5 - Klimpel, Austin  
Young, Travis
- 11 - Hill, Laurie  
Mueller, Christy
- 12 - Young, Lora
- 15 - Williams, Owen
- 18 - Klingbeil, Grant  
Polich, Andrew
- 20 - Harleen, Brian
- 21 - Larson, Louise
- 22 - Weikum, John
- 24 - Larson, Whitney
- 25 - Wilson, Tim
- 27 - Sorensen, Marvin
- 28 - Fausch, Cody  
Larson, Ben
- 29 - Clark, Max  
Rittgers, Harold  
Williams, Lucas
- 31 - Hill, Penn  
Jolly, Adaline

## Celebrating Their ANNIVERSARY

### DECEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 - Bill & Sandy Harleen
- 14 - Del & Vivian Lundgren (65<sup>th</sup>)
- 19 - Scott & Alyssa Johnson  
Cheryl & Mike Rasmussen (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Mike & Cindi Thomas (30<sup>th</sup>)

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

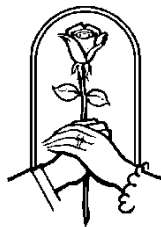


**Senior Member Christmas Event**  
**Sunday, December 3**  
**11 a.m. short program followed by**  
**light lunch**

**You're Invited**  
**To join in celebrating**  
**Del & Vivian Lundgren's**  
**65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**  
**Sunday, December 10**

**During fellowship following**  
**worship at Palestine Lutheran Church, you are**  
**invited to join them for a piece of cake,**  
**conversation and reminiscing.**

**No gifts please.**



## Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during November: Anita Brendeland; Joan Carson; Elinor (Anderson) Christiansen; Logan DeHaven; Kim Fears; Bruce Hartman; Merlin Lyon; Kris Polich; Lorraine Sorensen; Arlene Wee; Randy Young.

- Those impacted by hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, tornadoes, drought & wild fires.
- Those impacted by terrorist attacks around the world & also here at home.
- Syrian refugees.

We extend our prayers and sincerest Christian sympathy...

...to family and friends of **Edward Larson**.

...to family and friends of **Harvey Mittelsteadt** (father of Deb Moore).

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

## A Note of Thanks from Ballard Community Clothes Pantry

Thank you for your continued support and for supplying volunteers for the clothes pantry during March each year. Jeriann shared the following statistics with us - In the last year, over 3,240 families were served by the pantry. We gave out school supplies for 185 children. With donated money periodically received, Jeriann was able to pay rent for 7 families, utilities for 5 families, provided gas and misc. other help to 24 families. The Clothes Pantry is a very necessary and valued resource for our community.

Thank you so much!

Jeriann McLaughlin,

Ballard Community Clothes Pantry Coordinator

Dear Palestine Lutheran Church,  
I wanted to thank you for all that was done for our confirmation service. Thank you for the flower. Special thanks to Pastor Eric, Brent and Roger for all the time spent teaching us during the past two years. I appreciate my church family and all their support.

Caleb Hartsook

Thank you to everyone who thought of us when my dad passed away in October. Your cards, prayers and good wishes meant so much.

Deb Moore



## Serve Seattle

You may sign up to receive Reagan Doty's e-newsletter, so that you will know what's up in Seattle. Send her an email at [dotyreagan@gmail.com](mailto:dotyreagan@gmail.com) to sign up.





## Avenue of Trees & Wreaths Silent Auction at Madrid Home

Decorated trees and wreaths will be on display and open to silent bids from November 19<sup>th</sup> until December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Madrid Home, the Cedars, and Ballard Creek lobbies. You can see pictures of trees on the Madrid Home facebook page, but bids must be placed in person. Proceeds support "Friends" projects on all Madrid Home campuses.



### Madrid Home Christmas Gift Wish List

No Madrid Home resident goes without gifts at Christmas. To help ensure this, donors may provide any of the following items that will be then wrapped and given to a resident for Christmas. **Please provide items by December 8<sup>th</sup>** so they may be sorted and selected for residents and then wrapped in mid-December. You can also bring these items to church (a collection box is available in Fellowship Hall) or give to Vallery Eisenmann or Doreen Blackmer for delivery to Madrid Home on or before December 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

Clothing: pants with elastic waistband (all sizes), shirts (all sizes), grippy socks

Personal items: toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash), nail polish, lotion, jewelry, Kleenex

Food items: individual snack items

Other: 2018 calendars, adult coloring books, large print word searches

If you wish to help wrap resident gifts between December 11-15, please call Tanae Hollar at 795-3007.

Our Resident Christmas party will be held on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Scan Away Hunger is our annual effort to provide meals and care for hungry people in central Iowa...and you can help! Join Hope Ministries, Hy-Vee and KCCI



8 Des Moines from Thanksgiving through Christmas by "scanning" a plate at a participating metro Hy-Vee store OR [give online. www.hopeiowa.org/pages/act/scan-away-hunger](http://www.hopeiowa.org/pages/act/scan-away-hunger)

**Just \$1.85** provides a meal and care.

## PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA

PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA Bible study  
Monday, December 4, 2:00 p.m.

### In the Gather magazine



This December, we'll reflect on Luke 2:9-14 with meditations from Karen Craigo, Violet Little, Denise Rector and Prairie Rose Seminole based on "Joy to the World".

We hear the story every year: Joseph and Mary set out for Bethlehem. Unable to find shelter, Mary gives birth and lays the baby Jesus in a manger. Angels proclaim the event to the shepherds in the fields, who "make haste" to meet Mary's

newborn child. Herod sends the magi out to find the baby Jesus. The magi are led by a star to the place where the baby lies, and the sight overwhelms them. They are brought to their knees with joy.

Joy. When the Christmas season approaches, is joy your first reaction? When you hear this story, are you overcome with hope and wonder?

For many, Christmas can certainly be a happy, if not complicated season—filled with prayer, planning, gift-buying, cookie decorating and sometimes deep grief and sorrow for those who won't be joining the festivities.

For others, the meaning of the Christmas story may seem distant. More than 2,000 years later, how can we connect with that same sense of joy that caused all creation to give joyful praise?

The December 2017 *Gather* magazine focuses on the seasons of Advent and Christmas which give us an opportunity to slow down and refocus, to stop ourselves from becoming swept up in our own lives, and to say "Oh, yeah" to the story that brings real meaning to our existence: the story of the birth of Jesus – the shoot coming forth from Jesse – in whom we find our hope. This Advent we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of Jesus, whose birth calls all creation to joy and wonder at God's love.

### Special Family Activities during Advent Sundays, following worship

**December 3 – Make Advent Wreath**

**December 3 – Make Nativity Scene**

**December 10 – Make Ornament**

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

YSS provides youth and families in need with gifts for the holidays thanks to your generous support. Each recipient is a participant in a YSS program and has been identified as a family or youth in need.

There are two ways that you can help brighten the holidays for our deserving youth and families:



Starting **November 18<sup>th</sup>**, you may stop by a local business and pick up a gift tag

indicating a specific request from a youth. Purchase the item on that tag, and return it to the business where you picked up the tag. Please attach the tag to the gift so we know who to give it to!

It must be returned to the business **by December 8<sup>th</sup>**.

Gifts may be wrapped or unwrapped, but please ensure the tag is attached and visible.

Gift Tree locations:

- **Ames Racquet and Fitness Center (3 locations):** 2622 Stange Road Ste. 101, 3600 University Blvd, 4700 Mortensen Road
- **Dentistry at Somerset:** 2720 Stange Road
- **Great Western Bank:** 522 Broad Street, Story City
- **ISU Athletics:** 1800 South 4th Street (Jacobson Athletic Building)
- **North Grand Mall:** 2801 Grand Ave
- **St. John's by the Campus:** 2338 Lincoln Way
- **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames:** 1015 North Hyland Ave
- **YSS Family Life Center:** 125 South 3rd Street
- **YSS Jacobson Center:** 420 Kellogg Ave

#### SPONSOR A FAMILY



You can choose how many individuals or family members you would like to

provide gifts for by selecting their wish lists. The wish list provides the ages, genders, and sizes of the recipients, so that you know how to shop for them.

All sponsors must sign up **by November 30<sup>th</sup>**. Gifts are to be delivered between **December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup> between 8:30am and 4:00pm to YSS, 420 Kellogg Ave, Ames**. Gifts may be wrapped or unwrapped, but please return the wish list with the gifts so we can keep track of them.

YSS | (515) 233-3141 | [yss@yss.org](mailto:yss@yss.org) | [www.yss.org](http://www.yss.org)  
420 Kellogg Avenue, Ames, IA 50010

**Christmas with Wartburg** includes on- and off-campus performances attended by nearly 7,000 people each year. The program features the talents of the Wartburg Choir, Castle Singers, and Wind Ensemble, which tour annually and travel abroad every third year, and The Ritterchor, St. Elizabeth Chorale, Kantorei, and Handbell Choir. There will be a performance on Friday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines. Tickets are \$20, available online. <http://www.wartburg.edu/christmas/>

#### Ballard Community Performing Arts Association

Presents

#### 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Musical Celebration

Featuring Ballard Community Band and Choir

Brandon Weeks, directing band

Guest conductor: Scott Keese

Dianna Jordan, directing the choir

Fjeldberg Bell Choir

Visitor from the North Pole

Bethlehem "No Notes" Quartet

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 2 p.m. in

Ballard High School Auditorium.

Free admission and holiday refreshments.



#### Christmas Open House at the Maland Home

306 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Huxley

Sunday, December 10 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Come tour the century-old home in its Christmas splendor.

Refreshments will be served.

No cost – goodwill donations will be accepted.

Sponsored by Huxley Historical Society.



Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

KICK and Choir

Meet at Ballard Creek at 6 p.m.

Further details available from each group



## Lutheran Disaster Response

### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

#### Hurricane Relief

##### The situation:

The world has been experiencing one of the highest concentration of major hurricanes in recent times. There have been at least sixteen named storms, five of which have impacted the U.S. mainland and/or territories, leaving widespread damage across Texas, Florida, Georgia Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Haiti, Cuba, the U.S. Virgin Islands.

##### Our response:

##### HURRICANE HARVEY

In the midst of a strong local response by individuals and congregations, the groundwork has been laid for the extended long-term recovery work of disaster case management, emotional and spiritual care, volunteer coordination and construction management. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with two of the Texas Synods across the impacted areas of Texas. We anticipate working in the Dickinson and Rockport areas in partnership with Upbring (Lutheran Social Services of the South). With the support of Lutheran Disaster Response, a coordinator will be working to help facilitate volunteers and material donations in the region.

##### HURRICANE IRMA AND MARIA

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with the Florida-Bahamas Synod, the Caribbean Synod, and other International companions and partners to provide relief to the most vulnerable in the U.S. and around the world.

- In Florida, the initial response, in addition to local efforts at clean-up and providing temporary shelter, has focused on crisis counseling to thousands in 20 Florida counties. This work is being done through our affiliate, Lutheran Services of Florida. Early support has been extended to care providers so that they can be assured their families are in a stable living situation, and area able to turn their attention to the care of the most vulnerable in the community.
- In Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, we're coordinating the delivery of critical items including dry food, generators, and solar-powered phones.
- In Haiti, we're supporting woman-headed households and farmers who were affected by the hurricanes.
- In Cuba, we're supporting the distribution of items like cookware, dishes, and blankets to help families get back to normal life.

#### TROPICAL STORM NATE

Through our companion church, Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO), we are planning an immediate response by providing food, access to clean water and other services. We will focus our efforts on indigenous communities along the central and southern parts of Costa Rica's Pacific Coast.

##### What you can do:

**Pray:** Please pray for the people who have been affected by these storms. May God's healing presence give them peace & hope in their time of need.

**Give:** Gifts designated to "[Hurricane Response](#)" will be used to assist those affected by these hurricanes until the response is complete.

#### U.S. Wildfires

**The Situation:** Massive wildfires fueled by intense winds have damaged or destroyed more than 1,300 homes, endangered entire communities, and continues to claim lives in California. More than 100,000 people have been forced to evacuate while thousands of others remain without power and other utilities.

**Our Response:** Lutheran Disaster Response, through the Sierra Pacific Synod and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, will be responding to address the overwhelming needs of those affected by wildfires. Your gifts will help us deliver a robust response on the long road to recovery.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. wildfires" will be used entirely (100 percent) for this disaster until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support the needs in this response and others like it.

##### What you can do:

**Pray:** Please pray for the people who have been affected and are in the path of wildfires in California. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God might deliver comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones, and strength to those who are working diligently to contain the fires and care for affected communities.

**Give:** Gifts to "[U.S. Wildfires](#)" will be used to assist those affected by the wildfires until the response is complete.



**THRIVENT**  
FINANCIAL®

*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

**Remember, Thrivent will match personal donations made on Thrivent.com to**

**featured organizations assisting with recovery efforts, up to \$3 million.\*** (This opportunity will run until the \$3 million match is met or until December 31, 2017, whichever comes first. Thrivent will pay the processing fees for personal donations made through Thrivent.com up to \$1 million or 12/31/17, whichever comes first.) Visit the [disaster response page](#) on Thrivent.com to donate or learn more.



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

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

### Upcoming Events

December 3 Riverside Christmas Party

January 20 Mother Son Pizza Game Night

February 17 Daddy Daughter Dance

March 2-4 Marriage Retreat

Reserve the date! Riverside is hosting the Gala on **April 7, 2018**. This Gala will be an elegant evening of food and music, as enjoyed in the past

### Riverside Christmas Party

Every year Riverside puts on a fun Christmas party that is free, family friendly, and open to the public! We will have hot-cocoa, wagon rides around camp (dress warm!), carols to sing, Christmas goodies, games, and so much more! Join us on Sunday, December 3rd from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at the Riverside dining hall for a great evening celebrating the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ! We hope to see you there.

**Who:** Everyone is invited! This is a family friendly event that is fun for all ages.

**What:** Christmas Party

**Where:** Riverside Dining Hall - 3001 Riverside Rd.  
Story City, Iowa

**When:** Sunday, December 3rd from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

**Why:** To celebrate the birth of Jesus!

**How Much:** This event is free!

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

Our website currently has all of the dates and prices up for summer 2018 at Riverside. You can check your summer calendars to begin thinking about what week your child can come experience a life-changing week at camp. Registration will not open until early December, so you will not be able to register for the summer yet. We will be sure to let you know as soon as registration is open! Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and/or Twitter, as we will post on our pages when registration is open.

### A bit from the *Monthly update from Riverside's Development Director, Ryan Surber*

We are hard at work to reach our \$2.5 million goal for our new pool (built) and chapel updates (to be completed this winter).

**We are \$25,997 away from reaching our goal, and with your help we will reach it by year end.**

As we prepare to celebrate Riverside's 75-year anniversary in 2018, we fully believe that Riverside's story isn't centered around our buildings and cabins. Rather, Riverside's story is about the 75 years of campers, counselors and stakeholders that have encountered the mystery and beauty of God while participating in one of Riverside's many camp experiences. And it is our people past, present and future that create the foundation for our next 75 years.



# Bethany Life

## NEWS

### Baked Goods needed!

The Bethany Life Volunteers are hosting their annual Bake Sale/Craft Sale on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. We need donated baked goods to sell that day. If you have a bit of spare time to bake some brownies or cookies, a cake, pie or bars, please drop them off to the front desk at Bethany Life on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, before 7 PM. Thank you SO much for supporting our residents and tenants.



A Christmas Wish List was put together by the staff members of Bethany Life. Everything on the list would help our residents in one way or another. The list is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your continued support as one of our member churches.





Friends of Riverside,  
The Riverside Board of  
Directors would like to

announce that we have received a formal notice of retirement and resignation from Dave and Jan McDermott, effective October 8, 2018.

#### **From Dave & Jan:**

We drove into Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp March 1997 praying that God would help us do His work at His camp. We wondered what God had in store for us and our family! Ephesians 3:20 21 says it best – *“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.”* Immeasurably more – that is an understatement! God has shown His glory through the ministry of Riverside in mighty ways. We consider it an honor and a privilege to have been part of His work at Riverside for over 20 years. We love Riverside!

We have hundreds of stories of how God has worked. These stories mostly involve how people’s lives are changed when they hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and His unconditional love. There are also amazing stories of His provision of buildings and grounds, staff, givers of finances, time and talents. His people generously show up to help the Riverside ministry to grow and flourish.

Our prayer throughout our time at Riverside has been “Help us to love others the way you love!” We pray you have felt loved when you have come to the camp. We have some time to ready ourselves for our retirement in October 2018 It is a new chapter in our lives and we will be seeking the Lord for His strength to move into that season. Please pray for us as we transition out of something we have lived and loved with every part of us into the ‘unknown!’

Our goal is to help in every way possible to see the transition at Riverside go smoothly. It is God’s camp and He is faithful! We plan to stay involved as supporters and volunteers at Riverside. It will be a joy to see the camp continue to reach people with His Truth and love. There will be many tears that flow throughout this next year, but we are really excited about what retirement will mean for our family which includes eleven grandchildren! Summer 2019 will be the first summer we will be available for our family in 22 summers. There’s got to be a lot of fun awaiting us!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your constant love, encouragement, and support! We love you & pray God’s continued blessings on your lives!

#### **From Rachel:**

We are so grateful for Dave and Jan and the impact they have had on this camp and ministry. God has done amazing things in this place because of their faithful leadership. They leave a beautiful legacy here. We are excited to honor and celebrate that legacy, and we hope you are, too! Please send them a note of congratulations and thanks.

There will always be some concern and unease during times of transition. Dave and Jan have been at Riverside for twenty years. Many, many lives have been impacted during their time here, and I suspect that includes many of you who are reading this. My personal experience with Riverside is as a camper for many summers, a staff member for two summers, and a board member for the last five years. When I think about the way Riverside has shaped my faith, and subsequently my family, my work, and my community, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. I imagine most of you feel the same way.

God gets the glory for this. All of it. I will not, however, discount the fact that He gets the glory because that’s how Dave and Jan have led this ministry for the last twenty years. He gets the glory because they have been faithful. He gets the glory because they have been obedient to Him. He gets the glory because they walk in confident humility and love others as Christ does.

I want you to know that the Board of Directors will be seeking a leader with the same attributes so Riverside can continue to be a place where God gets the glory. The Board already has a Transition Committee in place and has done much work to prepare for this moment. We will be looking for a leader who loves and leads like Christ, and then steps aside to give God all the glory. While we are searching for this leader, we will be striving to lead that way as well. We are working really hard to be faithful and obedient. He is good, and He knows what’s in store next for Riverside.

In the meantime, I have a few asks. Please be praying for the Board of Directors and the Transition Committee!

There is a lot of work to be done, and we would be blessed by your prayers for wisdom, faithfulness, and energy. Next, please know and remember that Riverside exists because of the Body of Christ. Please continue to be a part of this community. We need you now more than ever! If you have questions or concerns about this transition, please don’t hesitate to contact me at [rachel@riversidelbc.org](mailto:rachel@riversidelbc.org), or reach out to one of the Transition Committee members listed below.

Finally, the Board invites you to come celebrate with us! Save the date for a retirement celebration on September 1st, 2018. We’re excited to celebrate the legacy Dave and Jan are leaving, and congratulate them as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Rachel Gustafson  
President, Board of Directors  
Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp

#### **Transition Committee**

Rev. Judy Converse, Northwood  
Rev. Tim Maybee, Iowa Falls  
Rachel Gustafson, Clive  
Kim Muller, Urbandale  
Sherry Maakestad, Pella  
Enrique Ochoa, Cedar Falls

## Merry Christmas from LSI!

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:5*

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! Every day, as a ministry partner of LSI, you help bring the light of Christ to others.

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know parents who feel hopeless, with little to no resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of the foster care system, who fear they will never belong to anyone or have a family to love them.

LSI’s work is Christmas work, shining love, compassion, and light in places of darkness, despair, abuse, neglect, addiction, and loneliness. We could not do this important work without you, and we are so grateful.

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

*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).*



## A Voice for Change

Morgan struggled with anger management before coming to LSI’s Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly. When she was in stressful situations, she tried to escape her emotions by running away. But she can remember the exact moment she knew she wanted to make a change.

“One day at Bremwood, another resident lashed out at a staff. I was just sitting there thinking this is not the life I want to live,” Morgan says. “This is not me. This is not who I want to be.”

She worked hard to practice her coping skills and soon graduated out of Bremwood. But Morgan wanted to do more to give back and help others.

Morgan, now 19, is going to college for Agricultural Business. She recently took her first international trip to Haiti to study local farming, and she’s already saving money to take a similar trip to Brazil next year.

Morgan turned to LSI once again – but this time, not for herself. Instead, to help others in need: youth just like her who need support, a listening ear and words of encouragement. LSI and Woodhaven Shelter had been there for Morgan during some of her darkest times. Now, she wants to be there for those who need it.

She is now employed as a Youth Associate in LSI’s Woodhaven Shelter! When a new resident comes through the doors, Morgan is there to show them that no matter the odds, they can make a better life for themselves. She is there to help other youth find their path to hope, healing and wholeness.

