



**Palestine**  
Lutheran Church

1375 Highway 210

P.O. Box 189

Huxley, IA 50124

515-597-2620 (Pastor)

515-597-2624 (Office)

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

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

*Reaching out in Christian love to all!*

DECEMBER 2023



**Rev. Eric Klimpel, Pastor**  
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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 visitation for members who would like to have one. Please contact Pastor Eric if you would like to have a visit. You do not have to wait for him to call.

Call 515-597-2620 or email [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

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

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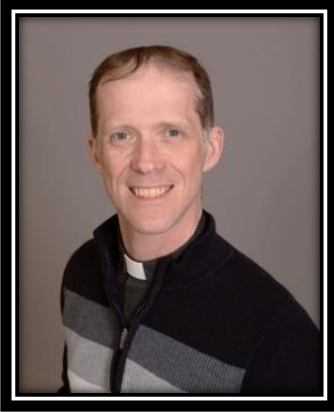
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A graphic with a golden, sunburst background and a dark blue border. The text "Tithes & Offering" is written in a white, serif font with a drop shadow.

Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 189  
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.
4. **Text GIVE** to 515-207-6435.

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



## I can't wait to wait

.....*With Pastor Eric*

*Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace,  
- 2 Peter 3:14*

*For nothing will be impossible with God." - Luke 1:37*

They say, "A watched pot never boils." After several minutes of field tests, I can confirm that a watched pot does boil.

They say, "It's as boring as watching paint dry." After several minutes of watching paint dry, I understand why someone might be bored if that's the only option (*which doesn't have to be the case*).

I enjoy the advent season most years. I find the process of waiting to be a refreshing break from constantly stimulating my every moment with "stuff" – *worries, thoughts, tasks, images, words, activity, and the list goes on...* I am exhausted just writing about it. The day after Halloween our neighbors decorated for Christmas, and I still have a whole tree full of leaves ... Waiting... what a glorious concept and profound at Advent time.

Advent means "coming." Jesus is adventing first as an innocent baby and now as a triumphant King. And here's the thing, we cannot go to Him, so we must wait. However, we are not good at waiting and getting worse as time goes on. You know what I mean. Maybe we should take another look at what waiting is and means through the season of Advent?

We know that something or someone is coming which will make a huge difference in our life together. We know that we cannot hasten it's (his) coming or go to meet halfway. What a terrible feeling almost powerless with no control, and yet what about the peace? The peace of not "*needing or having to or being able to do anything*" but just being in the moment(s) imagining and celebrating the possibilities of what might be when arrival happens! As we wait on the Lord, we are free to embrace this peace amid our daily "*stuffing*". Maybe you rest in this peace and consider what's important and what's not, or you reflect on priorities to let go of somethings while holding other's a bit closer. Try it.

This year we will focus on the candles of the advent wreath. Take a few moments each Sunday and focus on the burning candles – sense their steady light and calming glow. Each week, the light grows until it arrives at Christmas day and still it remains steady and calm. Maybe we can learn something from that small flame this holiday and what it means to wait.

*Let us pray. Come, O Come, Emmanuel and grow the peace within us. Let your light grow and your love flow into our being, so that we might find rest and awaken to life as you give it day by day and moment by moment. Amen.*



## Weather Policy Reminder

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

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

# GET INVOLVED

## **ZOOM Bible Study**

**Tuesdays from 7:30pm – 8:30pm – The Light of Grace** - This Bible study for Advent enlightens the heart, mind and soul with the Good News that the Light of the World graces us with his presence every day of our lives. Study and discussion questions, prayers and reflections help us to receive by grace the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love, as Zechariah, Isaiah, Elizabeth and Mary did. For use with the Advent devotional booklet of the same name or alone. The large-format Leader's Guide includes all answers, helpful notes and session directions. ***Get book in Fellowship Hall.***

## **Men's Bible Study**

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

## **Youth Confirmation Ministry**

For youth in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades – 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 @ [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

## **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.

## **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](mailto:catsrus@huxcomm.net))

## **New Member Orientation Meetings**

Typically every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com) )

## **Theology on Tap**

Gathering for adults who want to fellowship, relax and solve the world's problems together while creating some potential new ones. We will take time to fellowship around God's Word and grow together as a community.

➔ **Join us for the next one December 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** at Fenceline Beer Lab in Huxley, 107 S Main Ave, Huxley, IA 50124

**Sounds of the Season Christmas – Sunday, December 3 @ 6pm in Faith Christian Fellowship** (186 S Grant Ave, Elkhart) - This holiday experience is a talent showcase for the community around the holiday theme. Please send Pastor Kevin Nebola the names and information of all that want to share their talents- whether it's vocal or instrumental or a reading! Send these to this email [fcofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:fcofelkhart@gmail.com) or to Kevin's mobile number. 515-371-7510.





# 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

## **Advent 1**

**Focus:** *What are you waiting for this Advent season?*

**“Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.”** Mark 13:33 (NRSV)

Read Mark 13:24-37

## **Advent 2**

**Focus:** *How is confession and preparation a part of your daily life?*

**“And people from the whole countryside ... were baptized ... confessing their sins.”** Mark 1:5 (NRSV)

Read Mark 1:1-8

## **Advent 3**

**Focus:** *What are you expecting this Advent season?*

**“He came to testify to the light.”** John 1:28 (NRSV)

Read John 1:6-8, 19-28

## **Advent 4**

**Focus:** *What does it mean to trust God as a faithful disciple?*

**“Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”** Luke 1:38 (NRSV)

Read Luke 1:26-38

## **1<sup>st</sup> Christmas**

**Focus:** *How does being a disciple bring peace?*

**“Now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word.”** Luke 2:29 (NRSV)

Read Luke 2:22-40



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT PALESTINE

“The Light of Grace” advent theme. Advent materials will be available in fellowship hall. The handbook is on our website. Pastor Eric has many resources available to us to prepare for Jesus:

- ❖ Advent Calendars, Devotion booklets, Family Devotions and Activities booklets, and the Holiday Resource Guide will be available in front of the sanctuary entrance in fellowship hall by the first Sunday of Advent.
- ❖ **Advent Wreath kits will be available December 3<sup>rd</sup>.**  
*Donation for materials is appreciated.*

**Special Advent Offering:** Each Sunday of Advent you are invited to contribute to our special advent offering. Please designate on your offering if you wish for it to be towards the special offering.

**God's Global Barnyard**

*Buying a family farm! Help a family break the cycle of poverty – for good. A cow, a couple of goats, a dozen chickens, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training can create a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty. With eggs, milk, and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can make a big difference.*



*Bring Laundry Soap, Body Soap, Dish Soap, Body Wash, Toilet paper, Diapers, Feminine Hygiene products...Items necessary and hard to stock and buy for Food Pantries and clients. Drop in containers designated on Sunday or at any activity.*

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SPECIAL OFFERING 2023**

We will collect thru Epiphany (Jan. 7). Get (barns) in Fellowship Hall

**Christmas Eve:** *Nativity of Our Lord; Holy Communion*  
4:00 p.m. (*livestreamed*)

**Christmas Day:** *Nativity of Our Lord; Holy Communion*  
10:00 a.m. @ Nazareth Lutheran in Cambridge  
(*breakfast to share/eat*)

**Epiphany Celebration:** *Star of Wonder Worship*  
Sunday, January 7<sup>st</sup> @ 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion



## **Remember in Prayer**

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

Adrienne Brown, Mark Braun, Sandy Harleen, Alice Kahler, Vivian Lundgren, Deb Ness, Havanna Roelfs, Chad Rumbaugh, Jean Sandquist, Tim Shoemaker, Omar Tesdall, Ramsey Tesdell, Diane Wright

Family and friends of: Marilyn Saveraid, Mary Lou Hoover, Roy Paradise, Anita Brendeland, Linda Fausch, Alvina Larson, Warren Johnson, Bev Echtenkamp, Merlin Lyon, Mindy Kahler, Kathy Saveraid, Arleta Wilson, Gary Davis, Shirley Saveraid, Clara Eisenmann, Dan Eisenmann, Dena Bloodsworth, Charles Bowers, Sarah Piper, Helen Miller, Diane Larson, Janet Thompson, Jacob Leedom, Dan Bushaw, Elaine Paradise



***Congratulations to our Confirmands 10-29-23!***



December 2023

- 2 Jill Rahner
- 4 Jody Calvert  
Jacey Johnson
- 5 Austin Klimpel  
Travis Young
- 11 Laurie Hill  
Christy Mueller
- 12 Lora Young
- 15 Owen Williams
- 18 Grant Klingbeil  
Andrew Polich
- 19 Spencer Wise
- 20 Brian Harleen
- 21 Louise Larson (77)  
Nikolas "Niko" Pilcher
- 22 Jax Richter
- 24 Whitney Larson
- 25 Tim Wilson
- 27 Marvin Sorensen (90)
- 28 Cody Fausch  
Ben Larson  
Rafe Madson
- 29 Max Clark  
Harold Rittgers (94)  
Lucas Williams
- 31 Penn Hill  
Adaline Jolly



- 5 Bill & Sandy Harleen
- 10 Joseph & Emilee  
Thomas
- 19 Scott & Alyssa Johnson  
Mike & Cindi Thomas  
Cheryl & Mike Rasmussen
- 21 Kim & Bob Jensen
- 27 Donna & Mike Lisowski

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



*Let's shower the following members with birthday cards:*

- 27 Marvin Sorensen (90<sup>th</sup>)
- 29 Harold Rittgers (94<sup>th</sup>)

*See mailed newsletters for addresses as I don't like to put that information on the website.*



**ALTAR GUILD:** Jen Pote & Teri Klimpel

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**  
**December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Nancy Fausch & Julie Huxford  
**December 17<sup>th</sup>:** Deidre Qual  
**X-mas Eve:** Henry & Jan Rumbaugh

**USHERS:** Mark & Jen Pote; Tom and Kristin Shelton

**OFFERING COUNTERS:** Matt Williams

**GREETERS\* , \*\*:**  
**December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Troy & Jody Calvert; Jason & Melinda Kam  
**December 10<sup>th</sup>:** David & Vallery Eisenmann; Ben and Candi Engler  
**December 17<sup>th</sup>:** Brad & Lesa Lewis; Cynthia Johnson  
**December 24<sup>th</sup>:** Dick & Helen Kepler; Rich & Chris Nelson  
**December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Anyone that is here this day is welcome to greet  
 \*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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**January 2024**

| 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      | 31        |          |        |          |

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b><br>8:00 a.m. Council Mtg.<br>8:30 a.m. Choir<br>9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion<br>Music with Nels<br>Make Wreath kits<br>New member class<br>Senior Tea<br>6:00 p.m. Sounds of Season Christmas<br>6-7:30 p.m. K.I.C.K. X-mas program rehearsal | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>10:00 a.m. Area Pastor's Study<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>ZOOM Bible Study                                |
| <b>10 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b><br>8:30 a.m. Choir<br>9:30 a.m. Worship<br><i>Music with Nels</i><br><i>"Cookie Sunday"</i><br>X-mas program rehearsal – 12:30ish<br>4:30 p.m. X-mas music & program<br><i>Meal to follow program</i>   | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b><br>10:00 a.m. Area Pastor's Study<br>7:30 p.m.<br>ZOOM Bible Study                                   |
| <b>17 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b><br>8:30 a.m. Choir<br>9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion<br><i>Music with Nels</i><br>5:00 p.m. 4H<br>5:30 p.m. Theology on Tap  | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b><br>10:00 a.m. Area Pastor's Study<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>ZOOM Bible Study<br><i>Newsletter deadline</i> |
| <b>24 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve</b><br>8:30 a.m. Choir<br>9:30 a.m. Worship<br><i>No children's church</i><br><i>No music with Nels</i><br><b>4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service; Holy Communion</b>  | <b>25 Christmas Day</b><br>10 a.m.<br>Worship @ Nazareth Lutheran | <b>26</b><br>10:00 a.m. Area Pastor's Study<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>ZOOM Bible Study                               |
| <b>31 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas; New Year's Eve</b><br>9:30 a.m. Worship<br><i>No children's church</i><br><i>No music with Nels</i>   | <b>1</b><br><br><b>Happy New Year's Day!</b>                      | <b>2</b>   |

# DECEMBER 2023

| WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY           | SATURDAY   |
|---|--|------------------|--|
| <p><b>6</b><br/>           7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br/>           1:00 p.m. Quilters<br/>           5:30 – 6 p.m. K.I.C.K. meal<br/>           6 – 7:30 p.m. K.I.C.K. rehearsal<br/>           6:30 p.m. Confirmation<br/>           6:30 p.m. R.O.C.K.</p> | <p><b>7</b><br/>           6:30 – 8 p.m. Study with Bishop<br/>           Current via Zoom</p> | <p><b>8</b></p>  | <p><b>9</b><br/>           9 – noon R.O.C.K.'s Christmas Extravaganza!</p> |
| <p><b>13</b><br/>           7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br/>           1:00 p.m. Quilters<br/>           6:30 p.m. Confirmation</p>   | <p><b>14</b></p>   | <p><b>15</b></p> | <p><b>16</b></p>   |
| <p><b>20</b><br/>           7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br/>           10:30 a.m. Green Hills<br/>           12:30 p.m. Prayer Support Group<br/>           2:00 p.m. North Polk Ministerial Mtg<br/> <i>No quilting</i><br/> <i>No confirmation</i></p>        | <p><b>21</b></p>   | <p><b>22</b></p> | <p><b>23</b></p>   |
| <p><b>27</b><br/>           7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br/> <i>No quilting</i><br/> <i>No confirmation</i></p>   | <p><b>28</b></p>   | <p><b>29</b></p> | <p><b>30</b></p>   |
| <p><b>3</b><br/>           7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br/>           1:00 p.m. Quilters<br/>           6:30 p.m. Confirmation<br/>           6:30 p.m. R.O.C.K.</p>  | <p><b>4</b></p>  | <p><b>5</b></p>  | <p><b>6</b></p>  |

For an online version of this calendar go to this link:  
<https://www.mychurchevents.com/subscriber/calendar/edit/month/2023-12-01/2023-10-01>

# COUNCIL MINUTES

*These minutes have not yet been approved.*

## 11/12/23 Council Agenda

|   |                |   |                 |   |                 |   |               |   |                         |
|---|----------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|---------------|---|-------------------------|
| x | Haylie Clark   | x | David Eisenmann | x | Julie Emerson   | x | Candi Engler  | x | Pastor Eric Klimpel     |
| X | Kent Klingbeil | x | Leonard Larson  |   | Brad Lewis      | x | Jennifer Pote | x | Chris Richter           |
| x | Greg Saveraid  | x | Kari Sandquist  | x | Kristin Shelton | x | Deidre Qual   | X | Special guest Mark Pote |

**Devotions by (Larson):** (Leonard Larson gave the following speech 56 years ago)

“Dear A students, B students, C students, D students and so on... we are all friends” Put differently: “Dear A Christians, B Christians, C Christians, D Christians and so on”, we’re actually all pass/fail in the eyes of Christ.

Either you believe you’re saved through Jesus Christ or you do not. You can only be saved if you come through that door... through to Jesus Christ. God has mercy upon mercy, he’ll always take care of us as long as we ask for his mercy. It does no good to ask Him for what we want, you have to ask Him for His guidance. It works out better to ask for guidance rather than to tell Him what we want. How many of our excuses will God be able to say you deserve grace? A good friend told Leonard once excuses are only good for the giver.

**Vision Statement:** Read by Council

### Goals and Reflections: Season of Giving

This is a perfect time of year to worry about our own level of giving. There are a multitude of ways to give thanks: pray for friends, church, etc. Costs nothing to say we’re thankful. Do little acts of kindness,

great ways to give back. Smiling at a stranger. It's amazing the value those acts can have. Might be the best part of that person's day. Look for those reasons to give back, be the bright spot in someone's day.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

- Motion to approve: Eisenmann
- Second: Larson
- Vote Y/N: Passed

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- General Fund Balance: \$12,359.70
- Total Checking: \$12,094.08
- Motion to approve: Shelton
- Second: Eisenmann
- Issues +/-: Fixed issue with youth fund, adding into other assets category. Should not reflect in the actual checkbook. Saw something that was miscoded. The Parsonage fund is negative because it exceeded the initial amount, but the loan covers overage. Rock fund is higher than reflected. Beef dinner brought in \$1878 as reported by Leonard. Is there a way to add venmo/code to scan for fundraising? People don't have cash for fundraising events. It's convenient to have it for fundraising events. Maland fund is not showing the full amount.

### **Pastor's Report: Pastor gave report.**

### **New Business:**

- Insurance Break up
  - Richter reported that Palestine Lutheran Church has officially changed the insurance to Auto Owners. Apparently they are picking up tons of churches. Several major church insurance companies are leaving Iowa. Policy is equal to or better in some ways (deductible is lower). Palestine Lutheran Church is in a good spot going forward.

- Utilities update
  - Larson reported that things are getting done. Refuse to give easement because we cannot get back if we give it up now. Work being done to find out where lines/sewer is. Utility Company has been amicable to work with.
- Sound system:
  - Richter provided scope of work to Council to review. Scope includes improvements outlined previously for a basic level of improvement, including hiding visible cables. Part of the project scope will be to organize the upstairs balcony and add a “command station”. Project will include organizing the choir loft. May be able to add a row of seating. Mindy Devries has been consulted. By December will have Nelson Electric add additional scope needed to implement improvements. After Nelson Electric bid is received the whole plan will be presented to council and then to the Congregation for approval. Goal is for this to occur in January. The project scope is basic but it allows for a phase two later should the church decide to add functionality in the future.
- News Letter: in church mailbox and email, no snail mail
  - Mailing the newsletter costs an estimated \$1200 per year. Would be a source of cost reduction. A printed copy will be provided to anyone who requests it.

Overall communication is always a critical factor at a church. There were concerns voiced that if a newsletter is not looked at until later in the month it leads to communication problems. A big chunk of the church secretary’s job is creating the newsletter. Putting the newsletter online limits what information can be published due to confidentiality. Emailing the letter is an option.

Should we do a survey to find out people’s preferences on how to receive info?



- 72 Degrees plumbing company has plumbers available. They recently completed \$1400 in work at the church for work that Mark Pote could not fix himself.
- Mark Pote asked the Council who have we used for pest control in the past?
- Active Shooter Training with Huxley Chief of Police Nate Albaugh was held at the church Thursday Nov 9 at 6:30pm. The Chief went through expected response time of an active shooter event, where it is likely the event will be over by the time police can respond. The training provided was based on a “modified” ALICE training which is the training that was recently deployed at Ballard Community School District. The church training discussed hiding vs fleeing vs confronting a shooter given the specifics of the situation. Pastor and Huxley Chief plan to schedule a walk through to evaluate the church property. Richter agreed to create a layout to provide to Huxley Police.
- Council considered the matter of a special offering for Advent/Christmas. Larson made a motion to approve using the funds to buy a farm for recipients in Peru or Uganda. Saveraid seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor except one vote against.

**Old Business:**

- Windows, no updates at this time.

**Adjourn:**

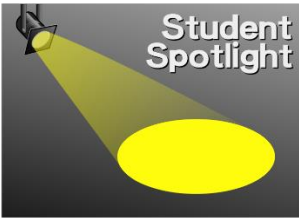
- Motion to Adjourn: Eisenmann
- Second: Pote
- Next Meeting: Dec 3, 2023
- Devotion: Saveraid
- Treats: Pote

## *Tusen Takk!*

*Thank you to everyone that provided salads, desserts, peeled potatoes, made kumla balls and helped in the kitchen. We also appreciate those that came to eat or order. We served 158 dine-in and 129 carry out orders!*



Thanks to K.I.C.K. Kumla servers



## COLLEGE/MILITARY UPDATES:

*This month we are featuring:*  
**Ben Ewing**



Ben enlisted in the Army National Guard and completed Basic Training at Fort Jackson, SC and AIT at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. He is a Transportation Specialist serving at the Perry, IA Unit. Ben is currently attending DMACC and will have an Associate Degree in Ag Business. He plans to continue his education at Iowa State University in the Fall of 2024 majoring in Ag Studies. He also works for Platinum Fence Co.



*Senior Tea  
Sunday,  
December 3rd  
Following worship*



Palestine Lutheran Church's Annual  
*Christmas Extravaganza!*  
December 9th, 9am to Noon  
Proceeds go to our high school youth group  
- service projects and summer retreat  
Cookies & gift shopping too!

**Donations requested from the congregation!** McKenzie has a sign-up sheet available in fellowship hall. We have some amazing bakers in our congregation and always look forward to what you create for us to share! Please bring donated items to the church kitchen by Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 a.m.!



## K.I.C.K. Upcoming Events:

- **Senior Tea Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** *Singing*
- **Christmas Program – Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:30 p.m. Special music followed by “Manger Tales” Program**  
Meal to follow – *free-will offering*  
*All program participants are asked to bring one dozen cookies or treats to share for the meal.*

### **Rehearsal Schedule:**

**Sun., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 6-7:30 p.m. – practice, light snack provided

**Wed., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>:** 5:30 – 6 p.m. – meal provided; 6-7:30 practice

**Sun., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>:** After worship until noon/12:30ish – Final practice (including pre-k – 2<sup>nd</sup> graders)

—————▶ We would love help from any parents/family members to support our Christmas program practices and preparation!! Costumes, meal/snack prep, scenery, backstage help, or rehearsal management are all roles we could use help with – let us know if you are willing to help. Here is the link for the meal items if you can donate any items:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qWe4kQeGHwo\\_VzVCQj9IKRtrpjwJHPxCOmHuSsnXoOs/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qWe4kQeGHwo_VzVCQj9IKRtrpjwJHPxCOmHuSsnXoOs/edit) or sign up in fellowship hall.

—————▶ Sunday School age kids are encouraged to attend Music with Nels after worship as we are practicing the songs for the program on Sundays.

### **Contact any K.I.C.K. advisor with any questions:**

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**Shannon Wilson**

515-450-7002

[shannon@iastate.edu](mailto:shannon@iastate.edu)

Here is a list of Palestine Members who are 85 or older (\*), widowed the last 2 years, and/or homebound to some degree. Please consider sending a Christmas card!

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *Dick & *Bernadine Cast        | *Ronald and *Rosalie Locker |
| *Nancy Fausch                  | *Vivian Lundgren            |
| *Marlys Hartman                | *Quinn and Norma McBride    |
| *Dolores Hauge                 | *Judy McKinney              |
| Virgil Larson                  | Deidre Qual                 |
| *Leona Larson                  | *Harold Rittgers            |
| Roger Larson c/o Oriett Snider | *Marvin Sorensen            |

*Please refer to mailed newsletter for addresses.*





**The Next Person You  
Meet in Heaven by  
Mitch Albom**

published 2018

You may have heard of some of this author's other books including "Tuesdays with Morrie" and "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" because they were best sellers. This fictional book is a sequel to "The Five People..." and tells the story of Annie who, as a child was hurt in an amusement park accident that she can't remember much about. Annie grows up in a broken home with a mother who just doesn't understand her and school mates that bully her. She reconnects as an adult with a friend from her early school years and ends up marrying him. Her happiness is cut short, however, when she convinces her husband to go on a hot air balloon ride where another freak accident, just after her wedding, results in tragedy. Throughout the book, Annie meets people in heaven that help her understand that despite the difficulties in her short life, her life had meaning and affected the lives of many others. The *next person* she meets in heaven is her new husband, causing her incredible guilt about the accident. She learns that on earth and in heaven, things may not always be what you expect, but the narrative of your life is never accidental. I would recommend this book to anyone questioning the importance of their life in relation to the big picture and as an example of how God weaves our lives together. Check it out today in the PLC library.

Review by Doreen Blackmer

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