



 *Palestine*
Lutheran Church

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

1375 Highway 210, Huxley, IA 50124
515-597-2620 (Pastor) 515-597-2624 (Office)

palestinelutheran@gmail.com

www.plchuxley.com

THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
March 2023



Rev. Eric Klimpel, Pastor
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936-444-3895 (cell)
ericklimpel@gmail.com

Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison
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dovren@gmail.com

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page(s)

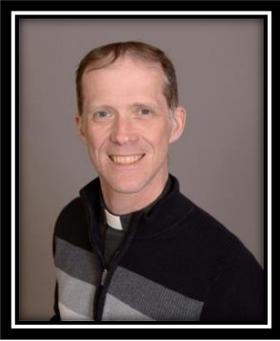
Pastoral Care.....	2
Tithes & Offering.....	3
Pastor’s Monthly Report	4-5
Lenten Suppers	5
Get Involved	6-7
Lent, Midweek Offerings, Holy Week Offerings	8-9
Daily Faith Practices	10
Birthdays and Anniversaries	11
Monthly Calendar	12-13
Council Minutes	14-18
Prayer List for February.....	18
R.O.C.K’s Valentine fundraiser pics	19
Eater Lily orders	20
Blood Drive Results	20
Clothing Pantry Sign-Up Reminder	20
Faith Sisters Invite Event	21
LSI Story and Monthly Newsletter	22-23

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

Palastine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:
Palastine Lutheran Church
1375 HWY 210
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website 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.



Leaving the Door Open a crack during Lent

..... With Pastor Eric

Let anyone with ears listen! - Matthew 11:15

When I was a child, I used to be afraid of the dark especially after seeing a scary movie or reading a scary book. I would ask my mother to leave the door open to my room. As I got older, my fear began to disappear and I became more assertive and analytical about my dreams and my fears of the dark, so I would have my mother close the door; however, she would always keep it open just a crack. I began to realize how important that became to me as I grew into adulthood and had my own children. In our society we are quick to shut people out of our lives for various reasons out of fear, anxiety, anger. We try to shut people out and sometimes we are shutting ourselves in as well. We might not even know the difference. I think what Jesus teaches us is to keep the door open a crack let the light in a bit or let the fresh air in too. We have a cliché “Take what they say with a grain of salt.” That is, consider what some says with a wider context – given them the benefit of the doubt – pay more attention to what’s behind the words or the intent. Don’t be so quick to shut the door! To react so quickly! And before you judge, decide what is right or true, consider what’s in your heart and what God has done for you, and more so, in Jesus Christ for you.

In Genesis, God declares that it is not good for you to be alone and so God creates a partner, others to help create and live together. So why would we want to shut ourselves off from those God places in our path – what is laughter without someone to share it with? What is joy without others to rejoice with you? What is grief without someone to sit in it with you and listen? What is love all alone? It’s not always easy but we need it more than ever!

During these 40 days of Lent, I invite you to take on a new discipline. Well, the discipline is not new, but it does take intention and practice. I would like you to practice listening and responding to what you hear. Listening on text or social media is not what I'm writing about here. You need to be with people to listen. Body language, cadence of words, inflection and finally actual words are essential to listening. You will need to ask questions and spend time to listen for understanding as well. As you practice with friends and family, you will discover the door opening wider and wider to the world around you. Take it a little at a time.

Let us pray. ***Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of prayer and time to listen and respond to you every day. Thank you for the gift of Lent so that we might practice the disciplines of spiritual growth together as we reflect on your sacrificial love shown on the cross and the promise of new life, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord we pray. Amen.***



**Join us at 6 p.m.
Wednesdays during Lent.**

March 1 st	Walking Tacos
March 8 th	Soups/Chili
March 15 th	St. Paddy's type food
March 22 nd	Lasagne
March 29 th	Soups

*Sponsored by R.O.C.K.
Sponsored by Confirmation
Sponsored by Council
Sponsored by Sr. Choir
Sponsored by
Fellowship/Evangelism*

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

ericklimpel@gmail.com

Youth Confirmation Ministry

Wednesdays from 6:30 pm to 7:00 p.m. March 1, 8, 22, 29 in the 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 @ ericklimpel@gmail.com

R.O.C.K. Group

For high school students. The R.O.C.K. Group typically meets on the first Wednesday of every month from 6:30 – 8 p.m. March 1st the R.O.C.K. Group is serving the mid-week Lenten meal at 6 pm.

New Member Orientation Meetings

March 12th 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 March 26th, 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! 😊)



Lent
PRAY. FAST. SERVE.

*Journey Into Lent & Holy Week 2023
Guide And Devotional Material
Available on the website (plchuxley.com), in Fellowship Hall,
and in the e-news beginning February 12th*

LENT MIDWEEK OFFERINGS

Honey bees. These busy bees didn't get their reputation as hard workers for nothing! Support families and healthy honey bee colonies with this buzzworthy gift. Honey bees provide honey to eat and beeswax to transform into hand-crafted soaps and candles, allowing a family to start a small business selling their products. As an added bonus, these little bees boost crop growth on the farm by pollinating plants everywhere they go.



Twenty Dollars provides a colony of bees for a community in need of support and a creation in need of pollinating agents.



Our Offering efforts are through **Lutheran World Relief (LWR)**

Lent Midweek Offerings

Ways to Give:

1. Give online “Lent Offerings”
2. Collect change every day and add it to your home hive (*Bring on Palm Sunday, April 2*).
3. Place in offering plate during Mid-week worship.

Pick up “Home Hive” in Fellowship Hall (one per family). Each hive returned will be eligible for a bee raffle on Easter (*just to make it fun*)!



Holy Week and Special Offering



ELCA

Holy Week Special Offering & Easter

Special Offering– **Lutheran Disaster**

Response 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.

*Please designate “Easter Special” on your offering
to go towards Lutheran Disaster Response*



Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website www.elca.org →Resources→ Downloadable Resources→ Bible studies

2nd Sunday of Lent

Focus: *This week how might you be an instrument of God's pardon and faith?*

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16 (NRSV). Read John 3:1-17

3rd Sunday of Lent

Focus: *This week how might you be an instrument of God's hope and light?*

"Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.'" John 4:39 (NRSV). Read John 4:5-42

4th Sunday of Lent

Focus: *This week how might you be an instrument of God's joy and consolation?*

"I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." John 9:39 (NRSV). Read John 9:1-41

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Focus: *This week how might you be an instrument of God's understanding and love?*

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'" John 11:25-26 (NRSV). Read John 11:1-45



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

March 2023



- 1 Kaedence DeVries
Julianne Schaudt
Jeannie Williams
- 4 Benjamin Ewing
- 5 Dave Mueller
- 7 Mark Doty
Andrew Larson
Aiden Lewis
- 10 Brad Lewis
- 11 Lucas Hartsook
- 12 Natalie Kruse
- 13 Madeline Sheldahl
- 16 Reese Wuebker
- 17 Rebecca Snider
- 18 Ty Siepker
- 19 Hannah Saltzman
Addy Siepker
- 20 Brittany Young
- 21 Blake Edwards
Patti Rowedder
- 22 Kevin Kopaska
Chris Nelson
Mike Rasmussen
- 23 Doreen Blackmer
- 24 Nic Schonhorst
- 25 Jessica Green
Carlee Nobiling
- 28 Erika Williams
- 29 Brent Emerson
Helen Kepler (79th)
Rick Sheldahl
Mae Wilson
- 31 Dane Tatarniuk

- 5th David Ewing & Monica Morse (25th)
- 12th Nikolas & Jenna Pilcher (1st)

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



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
26 <i>First Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship Music with Nels 10:45 a.m. First Communion class	27	28 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
5 <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> 8:00 a.m. Council Mtg 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion Music with Nels 10:45 a.m. First Communion class	6	7 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
12 <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. <i>No choir – Mindy gone</i> 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>no children's church or music after</i> New Member Orientation	13	14 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
19 <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion <i>no children's church or music after</i> 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. 4H	20 <i>April Newsletter deadline</i>	21 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
26 <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship Music with Nels 10:45 a.m. First Communion class 5:00 – 6:15 p.m. Theology on Tap	27	28 10 a.m. Area Pastor's Study 7:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study

ALTAR GUILD: Helen Kepler & Jen Pote

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

March 5th: Brent & Missy Larson

March 19th: Vivian Lundgren

OFFERING COUNTERS: Holly Twedt & Cindi Thomas

Greeters*, **

March 5th: Nancy Fausch; Chris & Amanda Richter

March 12th: Jason & Melinda Kam; Darin & Katie Madsen

March 19th: Cynthia Johnson; Jean Saveraid

March 26th: Jeff & Kim Van Pelt; Matt & Erika Williams

*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 month.

APRIL 2023

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
					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

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	2 6:30 a.m. Kiwanis	3	4
8 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service <i>Easter Lily Order Deadline</i>	9	10	11
15 7:00 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 Assoc. Mtg 6:00 p.m. Light dinner <i>No confirmation</i> 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	16 1:00 p.m. Ballard Ministerial Assoc. Mtg	17 	18 1-4 p.m. Faith Sisters Rock @ Cambridge City Center – rsvp required
22 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Green Hills Devotions 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	23	24	25 Spring workday @ Riverside
29 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	30	31	APRIL 1



COUNCIL MINUTES

These minutes have not yet been approved.

Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2023 8:00 A.M.

Attendance: David Eisenmann, Julie Emerson, Candi Engler, Pastor Eric Klimpel, Kent Klingbeil, Leonard Larson, Brad Lewis, Jennifer Pote, Chris Richter, Kari Sandquist, Greg Saveraid

Quorum Established: Yes

Devotions: Greg, "Peace"

Treats: Chris, donuts

Goals and Reflections: A church on the rise

- We're in good spot (financially, members, growth)
- Let's not get complacent

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- Motion to approve: Engler
- Second: ?
- Vote: Yes

Treasurer's Report:

- General Fund Balance:
 - Good year, very strong January, lots of incoming from easytithe.com
- Total Checking: \$35,788
- Issue +/-:
 - Youth fund is located at other institution, not at Thrivent
- Motion to approve: Larson
- Second: Klingbeil

Pastor's Report:

- Notes:
 - Humbled by general fund checking account, big blessing, finance is an indicator of congregational health, but can lead to sense of complacency. Need to continue to look for ways to build on it.
 - New members are not so new. Will be seeing “familiar” faces at future services where those faces will be officially introduced as new members. This couples with updates to church roster/directory by Lesa, very proud of that. It is important to keep members included on communications, so it is a frustration because we don't have the necessary information until they are officially members. It's important to have new member ceremonies during the service to it is a public affirmation of their admission to the congregation. It's important to make sure people are ok with the new member process, so far it has been “OK”.
 - Congregation meeting and budget planning as a highlight of the last month.
 - Parochial report was very exciting and ahead of time. Per report attendance, congregation and funds have gone up. Shouldn't get a call from the bishop because of positive news in the report. Credit to Lesa because “she's a planner”, and so numbers/data arrive early. Pastor is appreciative.
 - Every year we get a call from Synod to reconfirm commitment for support to Synod. Percentage has not changed for a long time. Another factor is that PLC gives to a lot of organizations directly. Pastor has directed the Synod to the financial reports to demonstrate pattern of giving.
 - Pastor visited two people in the hospital simultaneously, which has never happened before.
 - Discernment process upcoming. PLC handled it well last time, better than other churches that Pastor has been a part of. We accomplished all our goals. Portends well for the future.

Excited for doing this again after ten years. Usually works best when a new pastor is coming into a church. But also works for a pastor to “renew” his call, it feels very timely.

- Ash Wednesday & Lent. Lent guide is complete. Will be sent out to whole congregation via email.
- First communion coming up, it is believed to include five members.
- Fish Fry coming up. Sign ups to go out and posted.
- Jolly family is joining. Swans will be joining.
- TV13 will be conducting spot light on the new food pantry location.
- It was noted that baptism to funeral was a positive ratio.
- Appreciation vocalized for service hours worked at food pantry by Pastor, although it’s likely this has always been on the report.
- It was noted that Zoom Bible Study is an important part of PLC that is led by Pastor.

New Business:

- Council Retreat
 - Chris to discuss venue with others
 - Date set for March 5 from 1 -6 p.m.
 - Goal is to distribute materials ahead of time for review.
- Schedule for Committee Reports at Council meetings
 - It has been a long-time goal to get each committee to come to council meetings to be heard.
 - Planning to have six committee leaders come in April and seven in June
 - Chris to schedule. Info to be provided in advance.
 - Pastor would like to add in some administration topics (reimbursement, do we have access to our money?, other little things) Pastor to obtain a list of discussion topics from Lesa.

- Sound update
 - Chris met with A/V guy, who is consolidating information to provide proposal. Chris requested a proposal for two options: basic and “Cadillac”. Once proposal is available it will be shared, which will be the basis for additional competitive quoting.
- New cleaning crew?
 - Meeting needed with the cleaning crew to set expectations, define areas where there is need for improvement, and ultimately make sure challenges in the eyes of PLC are properly communicated. Can Mark do that? Need to make sure there is some grace due to the employees (troubled individuals).
- Parsonage
 - Someone who is very interested in moving. Kim is Haylie Clark’s mom.
 - Property committee is currently evaluating repair needs.
 - Nels is moving out spring break.
 - Parsonage is a net positive due to housing shortage. Might be useful in future pastor search, could be a differentiator.

Old Business:

- West Windows, install date?
 - Frustration. It was determined Story Const had not ordered new windows after all, although it has been believed the windows were in stock for some time.
 - Fortunately, Munn is ordering windows at original price. Story Construction should have them in 3-4 weeks.
 - Need to plan to get pews through hole when windows arrive.
- Kumla Dinner/Steak Fry/Fish Fry
 - Only need from council is for people to sign up to help.

Closing Statements:

- Brent needs help with Lent live stream. Chris to speak with Brent.

Adjourn:

- Closed with Lord's Prayer
- Motion to Adjourn: Leonard
- Second: Candi
- Next Meeting: Mar 5
- Devotions: Kari
- Treats: Chris



Remember in Prayer

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

Adrienne Brown, Penelope Brown, Lori Edwards, Will Keeps, Marcia Kisner, Helen Miller, Lynzee Makoski, Doris Ness, Henry Rumbaugh, Shirley Saveraid

Family and Friends of: Linda Lantz, 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

R.O.C.K. Valentine's Treats and Flowers Fundraiser Feb. 12th



THANK YOU to everyone who provided yummy desserts and to everyone that donated to R.O.C.K.! \$970 was raised.





Easter Lilies for Easter Worship

Blumsters will be offering Easter lilies at a cost of \$20 (tax included). The plants will be delivered to church for Easter Sunday worship.

You may sign up for plants by calling Blumsters 515-597-2200 or Tracy Sheldahl's cell phone 515-450-1961. Please let them know (at the time you order) if you are placing the plant in memory of or in honor of someone.

The deadline to order is **Sunday, March 8!**



BLOOD DRIVE SUCCESS

February 7th!

- 40 people on the schedule going into the drive
- 34 registered to donate
- 3 first time donors!!
- 30 were able to donate
- 33 units of blood collected!!!
- **Up to 99 lives saved or sustained!!!!**

Thanks to Deb Moore for organizing this event.



The Clothing Pantry sign up to work a shift for Palestine's month of March is in fellowship hall. Please consider working at least one shift. Thank you!

Jesus is my Rock

And

that's how I Roll!



Attention **LADIES!!** Join the **Faith Sisters** for a
FREE Rockin' afternoon
of **food**, fun and **fellowship!**

Dig out your Bobbi socks and roll up your cuffs!
Wear your favorite 50's **Rock and Roll** outfit.



Saturday March 18, 2023

1:00-4:00

Cambridge City Center



Bring your gently used clothing, accessories and jewelry to
swap/share for our **Retail Therapy!**

RSVP to 515-220-4251

March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month! Take time this month to recognize social workers in your life and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa, we want to give thanks to all our social workers who do such important work every single day. Without you, LSI wouldn't be able to provide the essential services that Iowa families need.

Our social workers provide a variety of services to families in Iowa, such as crisis child care, in-home programs and classes for parents. These services provide families the support and education they need to care for their young children.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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 LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Social Work is Rewarding Work

A child saying “mom” for the first time at 3 years old, a parent getting a job that brings them joy – these are successes that are important to Mallory Berkenpas, Service Coordinator in LSI’s Early Childhood department in Sioux City.

Mallory has been an employee of LSI for more than a decade, and has held many different roles in supporting children and families. “My heart lies in working with children and families and prevention work, because I’ve seen the value in it. I see how important it is. I wish more people knew and understood and valued the work that is done in the early childhood period because it is so crucial,” said Mallory.

She expressed that one of the most rewarding parts of her job is being able to see, experience and walk this journey alongside these families, who along the way, make these small or big strides – whatever that means for them.

“Maybe the child says ‘mom’ for the first time at 3 years old, which is something that has happened in our program. That’s a big win for this child that didn’t speak from zero to three years old, and did because of the interventions we helped that family find,” said Mallory. “All of those successes are so important to me and also my staff – being able to see them grow, build their skill set and feel good about their work.”

“Social work can be so hard... so I think being able to see those small and big wins along the way is important,” said Mallory.

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