

THE PALESTINE PRESS

February 2020

Volume XXXVIII Number 2

Monthly newsletter of Palestine Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

515-597-2620 Pastor's office

515-597-2624 Secretary's office

Email address: PLC@huxcomm.net Web: [www. Plchuxley.com](http://www.Plchuxley.com)

FAX: 515-597-2621

Rev. Eric Klimpel, Pastor

Nels Dovre, Youth Liason

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."

Drawing a Wider Circle -----With Pastor Eric

Roy Lloyd, a Lutheran minister, once interviewed Mother Teresa. He said that one of his questions and one of her answers stands out in his mind as "a bright sun burning in my mind." He asked her, "What's the biggest problem in the world today?" And she answered, without hesitation, "The biggest problem in the world today is that we draw the circle of our family too small. We need to draw it larger every day." With all that is evil and wrong in this world today it would be easy to answer that question with a hundred different events. That's what makes Mother Teresa's response so jilting. She is saying that the problem is not so much with the world as it is with us. We need to see more people as our neighbor than we are currently doing.

I see Jesus doing this in his baptism. In his baptism he included us in his righteousness. He identified with humanity, with our need to be cleansed, and our need to be made pure. If you have been baptized then you have been drawn, by Jesus' baptism, into the circle of God's family.

I believe that the circle image can help us extend our world just a bit more day to day, or week to week, or person to person. Is it possible to extend just a bit wider that joy, smile, grace that we are given in faith to someone else? Maybe it begins with a small prayer for someone? Maybe it is a shared moment like a cup of coffee? Epiphany reminds us that the surface is about differences what looks ordinary but distinct like skin color, clothes, facial expressions, eye color, hair style, while what's inside is about what is the similar like hope, security, companionship, worry, health. The epiphany is when we recognize what is inside of people is not all that different. Jesus demonstrates God's desire to get inside us to show God's common love for all and our need for forgiveness in the midst of a shared brokenness.

Edwin Markham wrote a poem which speaks strongly to extending circles in your life,

"He drew a circle that shut me out – heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But Love and I had the wit to win; we drew a circle that took him in." God's grace envelops everyone in its circle and enables our circle to become wide and ever growing as we engage people and listen and get to know them. We become the "salt and light" in the church and in the other places of labor and leisure in God's wondrous world day by day, or week by week, or person by person.

Let us pray. Help me Lord to widen my circle in love. Amen.



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

Epiphany Week 4

Focus: *God's Foolishness*

“For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.”

(1 Corinthians 1:25 NRSV)

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Epiphany Week 5

Focus: *Proclaiming Christ*

“My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.”

(1 Corinthians 2:4-5 NRSV)

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Epiphany Week 6

Focus: *God's field*

“For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.”

(1 Corinthians 3:9 NRSV)

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Epiphany Week 7

Focus: *God's Temple*

“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.”

(1 Corinthians 3:16-17 NRSV)

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

PALESTINE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship & Study Opportunities – February 2020

Saturday, February 1

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, February 2 (4th Sunday after Epiphany)

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church, Installation of Church Council

Wednesday, February 5

7 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Saturday, February 8

7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Sunday, February 9 (5th Sunday after Epiphany)

9:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, February 12

7 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Sunday, February 16

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Children's Church

Wednesday, February 19

7 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Sunday, February 23

9:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, February 26 (Ash Wednesday)

7 a.m. Men's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7 p.m. Mid-week Lenten Worship



February Birthdays

- 1 Johnson, Evelyn
- 3 Hauge, Michael
- 6 Thomas, Alexander
Twedt, Grant
- 7 Elliott, Trice
- 8 Nelson, Richard
Saveraid, David
- 9 Larson, Alvina (99th)
Shelton, Tom
- 11 Shelton, Gabe
Shelton, Kristin
Van Pelt, Alise
- 13 Brendeland, Charles
Cast, Bernadine
Kopaska, Deb
- 15 Larson, Virgil
- 16 Brendeland, Anita (91st)
Kam, Melinda
Ness, Toni
- 17 Stowe, Deb
Williams, Matthew
- 18 Gotta, Nina
Saveraid, Katherine
- 22 Lewis, Aubrey
Rasmussen, Cheryl
Sample, Justin
Thomas, Cindi
- 24 Medici, Stacy
- 27 Larson, Aaron
- 28 Simmons, Dean
- 29 Dykstra, Travis

February Anniversaries

- 14 Deidre Qual & Merlin Lyon
- 16 Jason & Melinda Kam
- 24 Leonard & Sue Larson



*If your birthday or anniversary was not included or was incorrect, Please contact the church office so we can update our records.
Thanks!*



BLOOD DRIVE

**Tuesday, February 11th
3-7 p.m.**

Sign up one of three ways:

- ♥ With Deb Moore in the fellowship hall after church
- ♥ By calling Deb at 515-460-1037
- ♥ Via the LifeServe website: www.lifeservebloodcenter.org

Walk-Ins are welcome!



**WHEN: Sunday, February 16th
5 & 7 p.m. with child care during the
5 p.m. seating**

WHERE: Palestine Lutheran Church

COST: \$25 per person

SIGN-UP DEADLINE: February 12th

Reservation forms in fellowship hall.

Event provided by the ROCK Group.

KUMILA AGAIN!

In case you didn't get your fill, Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cambridge will be hosting a Kumla Dinner:

Saturday, February 1, 2020 5-7 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. To get advance tickets call Eileen Lewis 515-491-8927, Nazareth Lutheran Church 515-383-4328 or Marcia Kisner 515-215-0609. Leave a message and we will put you on the advance ticket list.



Minutes- Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting
(not yet approved) Sunday, January 5th 2020 @ 8:00 AM

Kristin Shelton, Tim Wilson, Pastor Eric, Nels Dovre, Cynthia Johnson, Deidre Qual, Dick Kepler, Jean Saveraid, Candice Engler, David Eisenmann, Ellen Lognecker, Brad Lewis, Brent Emerson

A quorum was established

Devotions-Tim Wilson

Read Vision and Mission Statements

Goals and reflection- It has been a great year. Exciting things to come with increased attendance-new Families and other couples. We are ending the year in the positive for the budget. No major changes to budget.

Minutes of the previous meeting-

- Tim Wilson motions to approve minutes from previous meeting. Cynthia Johnson seconded the motion. Motioned passed unanimously.

Treasurers report

Making \$2,000 payment toward loan.

- Jean Saveraid motions to approve the treasurer's report. Nels Dovre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor's report-Pastor Klimpel
Refer to Pastor's report

New business

1 Review and approve 2020 budget

Nels motions to approve 2020 budget. Candice Engler seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2 Nels/Mackenzie

Looking into dividing the liaison position between the two of them.

3 Annual Meeting Agenda Items

- Brad motions to approve the Annual Meeting Agenda. David Eisenmann seconded the motion. Motioned passed unanimously.

4 Nominating Committee – Need to check in.

- a. Discuss Potential replacements
- b. Find New President

5 Change the meeting date of Annual Meeting 1/26/2020 – announce today in church

- Candice Engler motions to move the Annual meeting to 1/26/2020. Jean Saverd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished business:

1 Update on technology – Brent Emerson

Inform the congregation of the updates that will be occurring.

2 Computer for pastor and new secretary – need to update by

January 17th for Pastor because it is running on Windows 7 which will be unsupported as of 1/17.

-

Adjourn with Lord's Prayer

Nels motions to adjourn the meeting. Kristin seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously

Next meeting: February 2nd

Treats - David Eisenman

Devotions – Nels Devotions

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance on hand January 6 th , 2020	\$25,087.75
General Fund	\$5107.93
Designated Funds	
Building Improvement	\$2086.29
Confirmation	\$2,283.86
Evangelism/Fellowship Committee	\$1,429.69
Kitchen	\$2,084.70
Parsonage	\$7,669.14
Piano fund	\$1,042.14
Technology Fund	\$3,384.00

Remember in Prayer



The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during January: Laura Aust, Dianne Blackmer, Anita Brendeland, Joan Carson, Linda Cochran, Alisha Cox, Bev Echtenkamp,

Lowell Elliott, Jackie Greene, Warren Johnson, Alice Kahler, Ralph Kalsem, Eric Klimpel, Kevin Klingbeil, Rob Larson, Merlin Lyon, Roger Moore, Loree Ness, Chuck Ostermeier, Deidre Qual, Jody Schuman, Shannon Tope, Marissa Vermeer, Nova Lynn Walte, Sarah JoAnn Young, Phil Zeller, *Family & friends of:* Valerie Brendeland, Angie Claude, Bonny Erickson, Harold Hall, Wanda Halverson, Sue Ihle, Donna Keiser, Sharon Mortenson, Judy Smith, Don Trautner, Arlene Wee

K.I.C.K. Bowling Fun!

Sunday, February 9 from 2-4 p.m.

at Tiger Bowl in Madrid.

\$13 per bowler (includes shoes, two games, and pizza)

Families welcome! We need an idea of how many will be there, so RSVP on the KICK

Facebook page or if non- KICK families want to attend, email your RSVP to the church email at plc@huxcomm.net



February 2020

Greeters

- 2/2 Dennis & Donna Millang
Bill & Sandy Harleen
- 2/9 Tim & Shannon Wilson,
Mae & Dobbin
Mike & Cindi Thomas
- 2/16 Matt & Michelle Siepker
Tylan & Addison
Lora Young
- 2/23 Rich & Chris Nelson
Brent & Missy Larson
Jacob, Zachary, Nickolas

Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

Communion Assistants

- 2/2 Helen and Laura Kepler
- 2/16 Jean Saveraid & Doreen Blackmer

Altar Guild

Melanie Fausch and Cindi Thomas

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

www.calendaroptions.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY
2 4 TH Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 a.m. Sr. Choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship; Installation of Church council; Holy Communion; Children's church 10:30 a.m. Fellowship	3
9 5 th Sunday after Epiphany No Sr. choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m. worship; Children's church 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 2-4 p.m. KICK Bowling at Tiger Bowl in Madrid.	10
16 6 th Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 a.m. Sr. Choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion; Children's church 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 5 p.m. ROCK Candelight Valentine's Dinner childcare available at 1 st seating 7 p.m. ORCK Candlelight Valentine's Dinner Newsletter deadline	17
23 Transfiguration 8:30 a.m. Sr. Choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship; Children's church 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:45 – 11:30 First Communion Class	24

February 2020

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5 7 a.m. Men's Bible study 1 p.m. Palestine Piecemakers 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	6	7	8 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek
11 3 – 7 P.M. Blood Drive	12 7 a.m. Men's Bible study 1 p.m. Palestine Piecemakers 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Rock Valentine candlelight dinner reservation due	13	14 	15 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek Daddy-Daughter Dance at Riverside 6-8
18	19 7 a.m. Men's Bible study 1 p.m. Palestine Piecemakers 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	20	21	22 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek
25 Lutheran Day on the Hill	26 Ash Wednesday 7 a.m. Men's Bible study 1 p.m. Palestine-Piecemakers 7 p.m. Mid-week Lenten Worship	27	28 Marriage Retreat @ Riverside through March 1st	29 7 a.m. Tri County Men's Bible study @ Ballard Creek

Looking ahead: 1st Communion classes February 23, March 1, 8, 29. 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. There will not be class on March 15 or 22 (spring break). Please let Doreen Blacker know by February 9th if your child will be taking the class so she can order enough books.

HOLY



COMMUNION

First Communion Class

This year first communion classes will be held after church (10:45-11:30) on February 23, and March 1, 8 and 29 (this avoids spring break Sundays). The class is designed for the 5th grade level, however, if your child is younger and you feel they are ready to participate, that is fine. Class will meet upstairs in room 12 near where the banners are stored. Doreen Blackmer will be leading the class this year and parents are welcome and encouraged to attend along with their child. If you have questions or want to enroll your child in the class, you can email her at doreenblackmer66@gmail.com or call or text 515-777-6960.

Interim Secretary hours have generally been:

Tuesdays	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Wednesdays	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Thursdays	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.



UPDATE



The Directory draft *finally* is done! We have the opportunity to fill in those members' pictures that are missing. If you would still like to submit a family photo, please email one to Robin Doty at robin@robindoty.com by Thursday, January 30th! Also, if you

ordered pictures from Lifetouch and haven't picked them up, they are in the copy room!

Hank Delateur & Family Silent Auction

Sunday, March 1st, 2020 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Nite Hawk Bar & Grill, 105 Greene St., Slater, IA

Hank's Heroes are currently collection donations for the silent auction to help Hank DeLateur and his family out after a devastating accident that happened several weeks ago. Hank sustained many injuries and is unable to work at this time. They currently reside in Sheldahl and his children attend Ballard Schools. Hank's Heroes has an account at Fidelity Bank in Huxley, Iowa if you are able to donate or call Nicky @ 515-371-1217.





Palestine Lutheran Church Lent & Holy Week Worship

Themes: **Cross Purposes** – In our Sunday worship this Lent we recognize and reflect upon God's purposes as we stand at the foot of the cross.

With a New Song – In our Wednesday evening worship this Lent we are invited along with our synod to consider the new things God is orchestrating in our world.

Resources will be available to support our Lent journey on Feb 16th via email, website, and Lenten table in the Fellowship Hall.

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 answering machine (515-597-2620), the church website (www.plchuxley.com), and the church facebook page.





3001 Riverside Rd, Story City, IA
50248
1-800-373-7748
rlbc@riverside.org
www.RiversideLBC.org

“To Know Christ and make Christ known to all.”

Online registration is now open for Summer Camp 2020! Check out what dates work best for your summer schedule, and get signed up today! A copy of the summer 2020 master calendar is available online.

The theme for Summer 2020 is “Brand New” with our theme verse coming from Romans 6:4. We pray that every camper who comes to Riverside this summer will come to know the great love of Jesus and what it means to press on after God and His Kingdom, His way in every aspect of our lives. 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 with Jesus Christ.

Upcoming Events

February 15 Daddy-Daughter Dance
February 28-March 1 Marriage Retreat
April 4 Riverside Gala
April 4 Spring Blast
April 18 Spring Work Day
April 24-26 Men’s Retreat



SNOW REMOVAL – Volunteers needed

1. Parking lots & drives
2. Sidewalks

Sign up sheets in Fellowship hall. If you have questions, check with Mike Larson. Special thanks to all that help out!

Lutheran Disaster Response

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Dear friends:

Ten years ago, a **7.0-magnitude earthquake struck near Port-au-Prince, Haiti**. This earthquake was the most powerful to strike Haiti in more than 200 years. About 300,000 people were killed in the destruction, and about 3 million people were affected altogether. Today, we remember this tragedy and grieve the loss of life.

Out of compassionate hearts, our church came together and responded in this moment of critical need. Donors like you gave more than \$13 million for Haiti earthquake relief. As a result, people in crisis gained access to clean water and food, received mosquito nets and health kits, and benefited from trauma counseling and more. You helped displaced families move into new earthquake-safe homes.

On this day, we remember and mourn the loss of Ben Splichal Larson, a 25-year-old Wartburg Theological Seminary student who was studying and serving in Haiti that January. Ben was inside the St. Joseph's Home for Boys when the top two floors of the building collapsed on him; his wife, Renee; and his cousin Jonathan. Renee and Jonathan were able to escape, but Ben was trapped in the rubble, where he died. Ben was a talented



Remembering the Haiti earthquake – continued

musician and seminarian who constantly demonstrated Christ's love. A [new prayer petition and litany](#) are available on this anniversary of his death. In Ben's memory, the **Ben Splichal Larson Memorial Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund** was established through the ELCA Fund for Leaders. The fund has raised about \$25,000 and has been matched with two students. as this, we grieve, but we also take heart as we follow God's call to respond. Your giving to Lutheran Disaster Response makes a tremendous difference in the wake of unpredictable disasters, enabling a quick response and effective long-term recovery. Thank you for your generosity! **Today, I ask you to [consider making a gift](#) to the Lutheran Disaster Response Endowment Fund that will allow our church to respond to disasters quickly — whenever and wherever they strike.**

With gratitude,



The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Funding



Join us for Lutheran Day on the Hill 2020!

9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 25

Your voice matters. Lutheran Day on the Hill is our time to join our voices together to amplify the needs of our neighbors who often feel unheard or marginalized.



Lutheran Day on the Hill – continued

On February 25, join us for a day of advocacy training and direct advocacy to legislators as part of Lutheran Day on the Hill 2020.

Registration is open through Tuesday, Feb. 18.

If you would like a free Lutheran Day on the Hill t-shirt, please register by Feb. 5th.

Schedule of Events

9 a.m. – Registration opens at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, located at 511 Des Moines Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. Parking is available in the parking ramp on the southwest corner of Des Moines Street and East 5th Street (across 5th Street from the church). Limited street parking is also available.

9:30 a.m. – Devotions; keynote address from Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director for Hunger Education at ELCA World Hunger; advocacy training and break-out sessions

11:15 a.m. – Depart for the four-block walk to the Capitol. Bus transportation will be provided if necessary.

11:30 a.m. – Group photograph at the Capitol (on the outside steps if weather permits, inside steps otherwise)

11:45 a.m. – Begin advocacy conversations with legislators. Box lunches will be available near the rotunda until 12:30 p.m. Please pick one up, then eat when it is convenient for you.

2:30 p.m. – Buses depart for home. Those who drive themselves are free to remain as long as they wish for advocacy conversations with legislators.

Join us at Lutheran Day on the Hill

This year, we'll be focusing on four key issues facing Iowans; you can click the links to learn more:

- Sustainable Funding for Iowa's Children's Mental Health System
- Investing in a Strong Human Services Workforce
- Support for Services that Empower Refugees and Immigrants
- Why We're Called to Clean Energy Advocacy: Leadership on Climate Action



Lutheran Day on the Hill – continued

This free event, sponsored by LSI and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA, is open to anyone who wants to learn more about citizen advocacy.

You can learn more about this year's advocacy statements, bus routes, schedules, and more by visiting LSIowa.org/LDH. We look forward to seeing you on February 25!



Visit www.lsiowa.org/advocacy

February 2020 **LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article** **and Story**

Happy Valentine's Day from LSI!
"We love because he first loved us."
1 John 4:19



Lutheran Services in Iowa's (LSI) mission is about love: responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We give thanks for all the ministry partners, both individuals and congregations, who help share this love for Iowa children, families, and adults!

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families, in teens who learn to trade self-harm for self-worth, in Iowans with disabilities who are growing their independence and confidence, in new parents who are raising strong and healthy families, and in so many other moments of joy. You can help carry out our mission of hope and healing by giving a gift and showing love to the Iowa families we serve. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for the love you share and create through LSI. Happy Valentine's Day!



February 2020
LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story- continued

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 and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

“I Feel Like a Parent Now.”

When Harmony learned she was pregnant for the first time, she was excited, but apprehensive. She didn’t know what to expect when raising her first child.

Harmony’s mother, Lois, helped her enroll in LSI’s Early Childhood Services, which provide parenting education and resources to families of young children across Iowa.

While she was pregnant, Harmony participated in prenatal programming, which helped her maintain a healthy pregnancy and ensure she had everything she needed when her baby was born.

When her daughter, Aya, arrived in October of 2018, Harmony and Lois began participating in LSI’s Parent Education Program, where they now attend regular classes and connect with other families in their community.

And at home, they receive weekly visits from their LSI Parent Educator, Amy. Each week, Amy brings resources for Harmony and age-appropriate toys for Aya. They work together to monitor Aya’s development, and Amy is teaching the family what to expect as Aya begins hitting her developmental milestones.

“LSI helps you learn how to raise your baby and how to learn about being a parent,” Harmony says. “Before, I felt like I was trying to swim, but I was drowning. I feel like a parent now.”

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