

*Reaching out in Christian love to all!*

 **Palastine**  
Lutheran Church

1375 Highway 210

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)

**THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**April 2022**

**Rev. Eric Klimpel, Pastor**  
515-597-2620  
936-444-3895 (cell)  
[ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)



**Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison**  
319-331-7368 (cell)  
[dovren@gmail.com](mailto: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](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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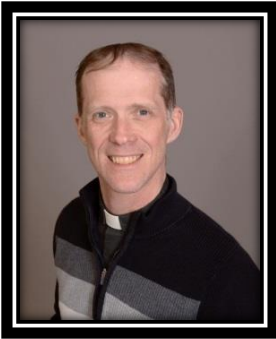
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A graphic with a golden sunburst background and the text "Tithes & Offering" in a stylized font.

Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
1375 HWY 210  
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.*



**Let Go, Trust God, Rise Up!** -----  
-----**With Pastor Eric**

<sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now

to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (*Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:18-21*)

Just before Lent, our congregation council gathered in the Iowa State Alumni Center for many hours on a Saturday to ask one another a series of questions about God's plan for our present and future on the tail end of COVID. We asked about what we feared before, during, and after the pandemic regarding the "congregation's life and future." We wondered what's holding us back from pursuing God's purpose for us in this place. We asked what dreams and hopes are burning in our hearts and minds for this congregation, and what opportunities has God provided us to flourish in this new time.

We challenged ourselves and one another to let go of what's holding us back. There is nothing easy about letting go but that is exactly what Jesus calls us to do every day. Let go of past sins, hurts, and mistakes because they weigh us down and keep us from learning and growing. Repenting is part of this process of "letting go," which comes from the light and power of the gospel which is forgiveness. We let go to continue the relationship in a new and deeper way with God and with other people.

Once we named our fears and worries then we addressed them and began to let go. Now we had space to dream and voice the Spirit's calling from within us. What is God empowering in our dreams for our community? We came up with ideas from a recreation facility, to increased staffing for youth and adults, to a greater footprint with social media and livestream, to reaching out in meaningful ways into our own denomination, etc. Pastor Dick Wills, in Walking to God's Dream, states this exercise well when he writes, *"Instead of asking God to bless your good ideas, ask God to alight you with the things God wants to bless!"*

The space for dreaming and wonder gave way to the final task of our time together – Rising up to embrace new opportunities that we believe God is inviting us to pursue. What does this look like? It looks something like prayer and focusing on God. It looks like people getting together and trying new things. It looks like renewing traditional understandings in a new time with respect and discernment. It looks like the love of God lived out in each person, each family and in every neighborhood. Maybe it's more "reaching out events" or staffing for community facility use, or developing interns for ordained ministry, or a recreation center for gatherings and community sports year-round. What opportunities do you see as you let go, trust God, and rise up?

Much like Holy Week itself, we begin with our own hopes and expectations with praise as on Palm Sunday, then we encounter the fear, doubts and worries of what pursuing these ideas might mean when God shapes them into more than we thought or bargained for, and we resist or do nothing, like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. On the third day, Easter comes, and we let go of our fears as new opportunities rise up among us and dreams become manageable steps and people become empowered in a new way! Try this yourself.

Amen.

# GET INVOLVED

## **Dawn Dialog with Jesus**

**Sundays at 8 a.m.** via ZOOM. Reflection and Prayer on Gospel text for the day “Where two or three are gathered in my name, then I am there among them.” (Matthew 18:20). An invitation is in the weekly email announcements. Daily Discipleship will be attached in the Wednesday email announcements for the following Sunday.

## **Men’s Bible Study**

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

## **Power of Prayer**

**Wednesdays at noon** via ZOOM. An invitation is emailed out to enter into prayer together every Wednesday. You can email in a prayer request or call the church with a special request. We will pray together for 30 minutes. Join once or every Wednesday! If you would like an invite, call or email Pastor Eric.

## **ZOOM Bible Study**

**Thursdays in January @ 6:30pm – 7:30pm** on Zoom - Introducing **THE STORY** – a video curriculum gives groups the opportunity to learn, discuss, and apply what they experience in the places where God’s Story intersects with our Story in daily life. Discover together where your story aligns with God’s Story and get encouragement and hope along with an overview of the Bible “God’s Word”. **We will have two books option to participate – “The Story: Getting to the Heart of God’s Story” (participant’s guide) by Randy Frazee, and “The Story: The Bible as one continuing Story of God and His People” Forward by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee.** If you need help purchasing these books, then please contact [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

## **New Member Orientation Meetings**

**Typically Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** after worship in the south conference room. **Due to First Communion class, only the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of April will have the new member class.** 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 Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 to 6:15 p.m.** at the Fenceline Beer Lab, 107 S Main Ave, Huxley, IA 50124 (*Drop in if you would like ☺*)

## **Confirmation Classes**

Wednesdays April 6, 20, 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in North Fellowship Hall – for teens 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## **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))



# 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

## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Focus:** *How can we express our love of the One who gives us life?*

**Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. John 12:3 (NRSV)**

Read John 12:1-8

## **Palm Sunday**

**Focus:** What does the death of Jesus mean to my life?

**"Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last." Luke 23:46-47 (NRSV)**

Read Luke 22:14-23:56

## **Easter**

**Focus:** *How do we tell and live the Good News of the resurrection?*

**"'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen ....' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest." (Luke 24:6, 8 NRSV)**

Read Luke 24:1-12

## **Week 2 of Easter**

**Focus:** *How do you come to believe the Good News of the resurrection?*

**"Then Jesus said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'" (John 20:27)**

Read John 20:19-31



# Holy Week Schedule



## **Palm Sunday**

April 10<sup>th</sup>  
@ 9:30 AM  
*Procession of  
Palms  
Narrative  
Reading*



## **Prayer @**

### **Gethsemane**

April 13<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00 PM  
*Community  
Prayer  
Candlelight*



## **Maundy Thursday**

April 14<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00 PM  
*First Communion  
Confession  
Foot-washing  
Stripping the Altar*



## **Good Friday**

April 15<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00 PM  
*Service of  
Shadows  
Stations of the  
Cross @ 5:30 PM*



## **Easter Vigil**

Saturday @ 7 PM  
**Easter Sunrise**  
@ 7:00 AM  
Easter Eggs @ 9:00 AM  
**Easter Festival**  
@ 9:30 AM



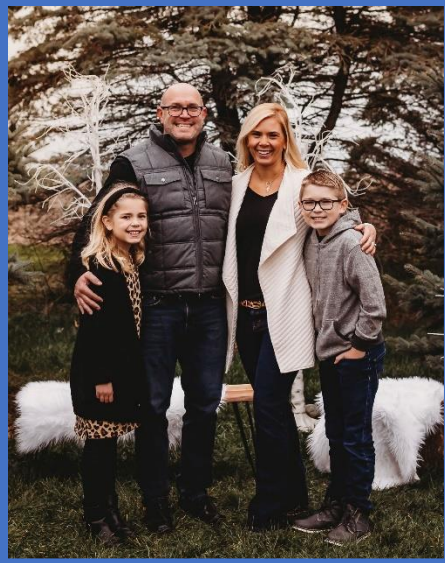
## **VETERAN BENEFITS**

My name is Amy Franklin and I am the community outreach manager for Memorycare.com. I wanted to reach out and to let you know about the work my team is currently doing to help veterans learn about the memory care benefits that are available to them.

Based on our research and conversations we have had with community leaders across the US, many veterans suffering from Alzheimer's are unaware of the available programs that can help maintain or improve their quality of life. So we created a resource that provides comprehensive information on topics like available care options and financial support that can provide assistance during their time of need. You can read more about work here: <https://www.memorycare.com/veterans/>

 **MemoryCare.com**

# MEET our Council President



I grew up a good Catholic kid in Adair, Iowa. After graduation I attended Iowa State University and received my B.S. in Health and Human Performance, and have worked in the fitness industry for the past 21 years. While at ISU I met my lovely wife, Amanda (who was baptized here at Palestine, the granddaughter of Wanda Halverson). We

have been married for nearly 16 years and have two wonderful children, Jax 12 and Eden 10. We love to be outdoors with all of the animals on our little funny farm. After losing both of my parents, it was Palestine Lutheran Church that became the foundation to my healing process and I am forever grateful. I look forward to being here for my Palestine Family for whatever you need.

*Chris Richter*



- |    |                                    |    |                          |
|----|------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1  | Mason Kam                          | 2  | Mike & Holly Larson      |
|    | Derrick Rhoads                     | 18 | Garry & Sandy Wirtz      |
| 2  | Logan DeHaven                      | 19 | Marvin & Lori Edwards    |
| 5  | Alisha Cox                         | 23 | Tyler & Sarah Roelfs     |
| 6  | Craig Fausch                       | 24 | Andrew & Kristine Polich |
| 7  | Cindy Friedrichsen                 | 26 | Mark & Jen Pote          |
| 9  | Cheryl Blackmer                    |    |                          |
|    | Marvin Edwards                     |    |                          |
| 12 | Brookelyn Rahner                   |    |                          |
|    | Wyatt Sandquist                    |    |                          |
| 15 | Todd Schmidt                       |    |                          |
| 18 | Garrett Jensen                     |    |                          |
|    | Maggie Larson                      |    |                          |
|    | Katie Madson                       |    |                          |
| 19 | Margo Baldwin                      |    |                          |
| 22 | Wayne Reinhart (71 <sup>st</sup> ) |    |                          |
|    | Carolyn Tatarniuk                  |    |                          |
| 27 | Maizy DeVries                      |    |                          |
|    | Emma Sample                        |    |                          |
| 28 | Bob Snider (75 <sup>th</sup> )     |    |                          |
| 29 | Olivia Ewing                       |    |                          |
| 30 | Ruth Evans                         |    |                          |

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

### **OFFERING ENVELOPE QUERY**

There is a clip board in fellowship hall with everyone's name alphabetized – please mark if you would or would not like to receive envelopes. I have marked those that have told me their preference already. **Please do this by Easter! THANK YOU!**



**ALTAR GUILD:** Teri Klimpel & Donna Millang

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Henry & Jan Rumbaugh

**April 17<sup>th</sup>:** Lyle Martin  
7 a.m. service: R.O.C.K.

**9:30 service:** Helen & Laura Kepler

**OFFERING COUNTERS:** Matt & Erika Williams

**GREETERS\*, \*\*::**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Matt & Erika Williams; Nancy Fausch

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Lora Young; Matt & Michelle Siepkner

**April 17<sup>th</sup>:** Henry & Jan Rumbaugh; Cynthia Johnson

**April 24<sup>th</sup>:** Laura Kepler; Bruce & Angie Hartman

\*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.

# May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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
<p><b>27 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. First Communion class</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>3 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:00 a.m. Council Meeting 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. First Communion class Easter Lily order deadline</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>10 Palm Sunday</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:10 A.M. Senior choir and Children's choir 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. First Communion class</p> 	<p><b>11</b></p>
<p><b>17 EASTER!</b></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 a.m. Festival Worship; Holy Communion</p> 	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>24 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. New member class 1:00 p.m. Mindy piano recital 5:00 p.m. Theology on Tap @ Fenceline Beer Lab in Huxley</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>

# APRIL 2022

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SAT.
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12 p.m. Prayer Time 1 p.m. Quilters 6 p.m. Light meal 6:15 p.m. Conf. 7 p.m. Lent Worship	<b>31</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12 p.m. Prayer Time 1 p.m. Quilters 6 p.m. Light meal 6:15 p.m. Conf. 7 p.m. Lent Worship	<b>7</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> River-side Spring Blast
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12 p.m. Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 7 p.m. Gethsemane Prayer Service	<b>14</b> 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday	<b>15</b> 2 p.m. Movie "The Passion of Christ" 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7 p.m. Tenebrae Worship	<b>16</b> 7 p.m. Easter Prayer Vigil
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12 p.m. Prayer Time 12:30 p.m. Prayer Support Group 1 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Conf.	<b>21</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>22</b> Men's Retreat @ Riverside – 24th	<b>23</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12 p.m. Prayer Time 1 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Conf.	<b>28</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>



*These minutes are not yet approved.*

**Agenda – Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

Sunday, March 6, 2022 @ 8 a.m.

**Attendance:** Pastor Eric, Brad Lewis, Haylie Clark, Leonard Larson, Jen Pote, Candi Engler, Kent Klingbeil, Chris Richter, Deb Moore, Kristin Shelton, Deidre Qual. Greg Saveraid and Julie Emerson were absent.

**Quorum Established:** Yes

**Devotions:** Deb “The redemption of the do-gooders”

**Read Vision and Mission Statements.**

**Goals and Reflections:**

- Increase engagement
- Continue momentum

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

- Motion to approve: Leonard Larson
- Second: Kent Klingbeil
- Approved unanimously

**Treasurer’s Report:**

- General Fund Balance: \$15,507.77
- Total Checking: \$95,646.58
- Issues +/-:
- Motion to approve: Brad Lewis
- Second: Jen Pote
- Approved Unanimously

## **Pastor's Report: see attached**

Thriving beyond Covid, Fish Fry idea is on the table, Council April 6<sup>th</sup> dinner

## **New Business:**

- Approve Baptisms of Saltzman and Reece Wuebker:
  - Motion to approve: Leonard Larson
  - Second: Kent Klingbeil
  - Approved Unanimously.
- **Nominate Mutual Ministry Reps:** Matt Williams and McKenzie Bushaw
  - Motion to approve: Candi Engler
  - Second: Kristin Shelton
  - Approved Unanimously.
- West Windows and Sump Pump
  - Get a bid from Story on West Windows
  - Chris and Mark will look into doing the Sump Pump

## **Old Business:**

- Mice: What is the plan? Mark is increasing the amount of boxes around and looking for holes.
- Welcome wagon updating from the Evangelism Committee
- April 6<sup>th</sup> dinner – variety of soups. Kristin will send out email.
- Balcony project update. Please don't start until after VBS.

## **Closing Statements:**

### **Adjourn:**

- Motion to Adjourn: Haylie Clark
- Second: Jen Pote

## **Close with Lord's Prayer**

### **Next Meeting: 4/3**

- Devotions: Leonard Larson
- Treats: Haylie Clark



## ***Remember in Prayer***

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

Tyler Anderson, Jean Bair, Anita Brendeland, Joan Carson, Matt Carver, Tonya Crees, Bev

Echtenkamp, Julie Gentry, Dolores Hauge, Phyl Hughes; Warren Johnson, Kevin Klingbeil, Alvina Larson, Roger Larson, Merlin Lyon, Lynzee Makowski, Loree Ness, Paul Ness, Linda Nordstrom, Roy Paradise, Kathy Saveraid, Shelton Family, Rachel Sinclair, Deidre Qual, Karen Rew, Harold Rittgers, Shannon Tope, Sarah JoAnn Young

Family and friends of: Dean Simmons, Charles Brendeland, Tanner Houseman, Jimmy Young, Darrell Rout, John Maier, Travis Ellis, Mae Rivard, Doris Ness, Nathan Stupka, Bart Mason, Lowell Elliott, Kaytie Anderson, Debbie Bollmeyer, Linda Lantz, Hannah Tjernagel, Barb Larson, Jackie Greene, Roy Greene, Ardell Lundgren, Judy Fausch, Mary Nienow, Norma Dovre, Sara Prochnow Ojard, Joe Curtiss, Nancy (Ness) Weber, Lilah Hurley, Marlys Larsen, Harriet Sheldahl, Abby Huntrods, Marilyn Saveraid, Eleanor Chabale-Schofield, Mary Lou Hoover



3001 Riverside Rd, Story City, IA 50248

1-800-373-7748

[www.RiversideLBC.org](http://www.RiversideLBC.org)

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

### **Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp -Youth Camp**

Registration is open for Riverside 2022 Youth Camp.

Visit their website at [www.riversidelbc.org](http://www.riversidelbc.org)

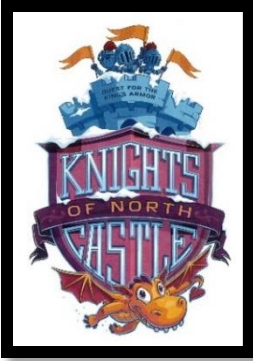


### **Upcoming Riverside Events:**

- April 9 Junior's Spring Blast (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders) – *K.I.C.K. will reimburse the \$30 registration fee!*
- April 22-24 Men's Retreat



## VBS



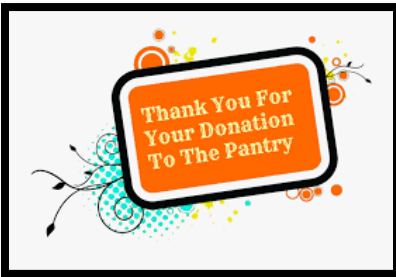
Join us as we travel to the North Castle!

- Our quest will take place **June 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>** from 6-8 p.m. @ Palestine
- Registration details will be provided in soon.
- Seeking volunteers – many different roles to fill. Contact Candi Engler ([volley\\_602@hotmail.com](mailto:volley_602@hotmail.com)) if you are interested.

THANK  
YOU!



*Special thanks to those that have helped  
clear the snow this winter!*



*Thank you to all that  
donated their time to work  
shifts at the Clothing  
Pantry! It is very  
appreciated!*



**We welcome our new brother and sister in Christ:**

**Mack D. William Umland**

*(Baptized Feb. 27, 2022)*

Mack is the son of Michael and Elizabeth Umland and the brother of Neva and A.J.



**Sophia Grace Saltzman**

*(Baptized March 6, 2022)*

Sophia is the daughter of Jacob and Hannah Saltzman.

**We also welcome our new members:**



*Niko and Jenna Pilcher*



*Ethan O'Loughlin*

# Congratulations



**MR. AND MRS. PILCHER**

***Married March 12, 2022***

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## CHOIR NEWS & NOTES

On Palm Sunday, April 10, the Senior Choir invites children to sing "Hosanna" with us for a Processional right at the beginning of worship! We would like to do a walk/sing through at 9:10 on this date, so if you would like your children to be involved, please have them in the Sanctuary at 9:10 to practice logistics. Ask Mindy or Nels if you have any questions! We look forward to putting this together!



***Mindy DeVries***



**Lutheran Disaster Response**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” (Matthew 5:9).*

Friends,

I write to you again about our neighbors in Eastern Europe. First, I thank you for your outpouring of prayers and generosity — you are making a difference in the lives of people impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response during this crisis are already at work. Because of your generosity, \$1 million will support the Lutheran World Federation and these member churches:

- German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania

They are distributing hygiene supplies, food, medicine, bedding and psychosocial and pastoral care to refugees and internally displaced people, most of whom are women and children.

**[Your support has made this possible, but more work remains. Your gifts to “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used in full \(100%\) to address the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries.](#)**

Additional responses through partners in these countries and others in the region are expected in the coming weeks and

months, and Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying those partners as the situation evolves. We pray for the Roma communities and foreign nationals who are facing racial and ethnic discrimination at the borders as they flee Ukraine. Our companions are ensuring that people in these marginalized groups will be treated with respect and dignity as they seek safety.

We know there are many organizations that you can choose to support, but it is only by giving to Lutheran Disaster Response that guarantees your gift will fund ELCA-supported work through faith partners in the region.

You can make a donation on their website by clicking [here](#) on this link or go to: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

**Additional Ways to Give:**

Checks or money orders can be sent to:

**Lutheran Disaster Response**

**P.O. Box 1809**

**Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check memo line.

Give by phone at **800-638-3522** (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CT) or [online](#).

Together we pray for our siblings in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. May God be with them in their time of need.

In Christ's service,



The Rev. Daniel Rift  
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran  
Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**Your gift will be  
doubled! LWR will  
match up to  
\$422,000 of our  
church's gift.**

### **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

According to the most recent Iowa Department of Human Services data, 10,539 Iowa children were subject to abuse or neglect. The most common forms of abuse included denial of critical care, physical injury, exposure to illegal drugs or dangerous substance, and sexual abuse.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) helps combat child abuse through prevention, safety, and stability services, as well as mental and behavioral health care.

Through regular in-home visits to families, LSI Early Childhood Services prevent child abuse by giving parents the support, education, and resources they need to build a healthy, stable home for their children. In 2021, our Early Childhood programs provided more than 11,000 of these in-home visits to families.

LSI Family Centered Services help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable, and LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center serves many children and youth who have experienced trauma from past abuse or neglect.

You can make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto: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](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://Facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **Creating Bright Futures**

When Makenzey found out she was pregnant, she felt nervous and overwhelmed at the thought of being a first-time mom. She didn't know what to expect, but she wanted to create the best life for her child. While she was pregnant, Makenzey enrolled in a local service that provides free housing to expecting moms. Through the organization, she learned about LSI Early Childhood Services. With support and guidance from her LSI Parent Educator, Hannah, Makenzey prepared for a healthy birth and transition into motherhood.

“Being a new mom was really scary for me. I had no idea what I was doing,” Makenzey says. “I needed to learn the basics.”

Since Makenzey welcomed her daughter, Maleigha, she has since found a job she loves and saved enough money to find a home for her new family. Through it all, Hannah provided check-ins with Makenzey, introducing her to important resources, educational materials, and age-appropriate toys and activities to ensure Maleigha hit all her developmental milestones.

“Especially when you're a first-time mom, you'll have a lot of questions. I don't have a ton of support right now, but Hannah helped me and answered every question I had about being a mom,” Makenzey says. “LSI has been a really helpful service.”

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