



The Palestine Press

August 2017

Volume XXXI Number 8
Monthly newsletter of
Palestine Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

Our Vision:

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

Mission Statement:

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

Considering the Cornstalks and Soybean Plants

----- With Pastor Eric

On July 16th we read the Matthew version of the parable of the sower (*Read Matthew 13:1-9*). I can't get my mind off that parable as I gaze out almost any window and see fields of corn and soybeans. Jesus speaks to us in this farming story about the *Words of the Kingdom*. What does he mean by that? For the purposes of this article let us consider "*Words of the Kingdom*" as a testimony to how the Kingdom of God breaks into our lives and impacts us with expressions of love, grace, and unexpected joy. This "*Word of the Kingdom*" is the seed which is scattered everywhere in expected and unexpected places – in both the wedding chapel and in the oncologist's office, and in churches, as well as in the stands at sporting events.

As I look out over the vast field of corn plants, I smile at the power of the seed. The seed wants to grow! The DNA of the seed contains all it needs to grow and flourish with amazing resilience and tenacity – from something small to a larger source of life in oxygen and nourishment. And even though maybe ¼ of the seeds we plant will fall on inhospitable soil, ¼ of them are likely to bear fruit. Some people get discouraged because ¾ attempts at planting seeds bear no fruit. And they stop trying – stop hoping, stop looking for the Kingdom of God. But I can find hope that ¼ of my seeds will bear fruit! It encourages me to plant all the more. If you dream of a 30-fold harvest, plant 120 seeds. When God's Word is the source of this seed, then we should remember what Isaiah 55 says, "my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." We will never truly know what seed will flourish and rest in God to give the growth as needed and embrace every opportunity to continue to watch for the seed planted in our midst and share its fruit with others around us.

Questions to pray about:

- 1.) What seeds are being planted in your life and in your congregation?
- 2.) What seed are you planting in others around you?
- 3.) What do you see growing? Spiritually? Relationally?

Prepare for **"God's Work. Our Hand" Sunday**
(September 10th, 2017)



"God's work.
Our hands."
Sunday is an
opportunity
to celebrate
who we are

as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. The 2017 dedicated day of service is Sunday, Sept. 10. Mark your calendars today! We are currently making arrangements for a variety of volunteer opportunities. Watch and listen for ways you can be involved.



Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ - every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life - flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

You work every day to make your community a better place. Let us continue doing this work together in 2017!



Be sure to follow us on facebook to keep up to date on what is happening at church.

We have a shared Google drive for photos for church activities. This helps us have access to great photos to share for the church's website and social media accounts.



For now, we are looking for group photos. We are working to come up with a photo release to protect those not wishing

to have their photo shared online.

If you have photos of church events that you are willing to share you can send them electronically to the church, Pastor Eric, Kari Sandquist, Lori Schonhorst, Lesa Lewis, Emily Saveraid, or Julie Emerson.



We will be transitioning to the Children's Church format for Sunday School for the entire year term this year. Kids will go to class immediately following the Children's Message and return during the Sharing of the Peace. Kids will go to the choir loft following the service to let their joyful voices be heard.



Sunday School Teachers Needed!

We need teacher volunteers to help our kids learn about all the exciting things that happen in the Bible.

- Rotational model – we pair teachers up so you don't have to teach every Sunday
- Our teachers' manuals are very clear – little to no prep time required

If you are interested, please contact Michelle Siepker or Erika Williams

Important Sunday School dates:

August 20 – Blessing of the Backpacks- bring your backpack to church and receive a special blessing to start out the school year!

September 10 – Rally Day – watch for announcements about how your family can participate in exciting service projects for "God's Work, Our Hands"

September 17 – 1st day of Sunday School

Palestine Lutheran Church
Worship & Study Opportunities-
August 2017



Call in number to listen to worship services: 597-3994
[Please be sure to put your phone on mute or sounds from your home will be carried to all phones that have dialed in for the service.]

Wednesday, August 2

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

Saturday, August 5

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

Sunday, August 6 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Communion in pews; ROCK lead worship/report on Mission Trip

Monday, August 7

2 p.m. Women of ELCA Bible study

Wednesday, August 9

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

Saturday, August 12

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

Sunday, August 13 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship: Pastor Jen Andreas, supply pastor

Wednesday, August 16

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

Saturday, August 19

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

Sunday, August 20 11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship: Holy Communion; Blessing of teachers and students, backpacks, lunch boxes;

Affirmation of Baptism-receive new members

Wednesday, August 23

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

Saturday, August 26

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

Sunday, August 27 12th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Community Worship@ Nord Kalsem Park (weather location – Ballard Middle School) as part of Huxley Prairie Fest

5 pm ROCK Informational meeting Re: ELCA Youth Gathering 2018

Wednesday, August 30

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

7:00 p.m. Confirmation parent meeting

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

www.elca.org → Resources → Downloadable

Resources→ Bible Studies

August 6 9th Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Matthew 14: 13-21

Tips of Discipleship: *Have Compassion*

August 13 10th Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Matthew 14:22-33

Tips of Discipleship: *Trust in Christ*

August 20 11th Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Matthew 15:[10-20], 21-28

Tips of Discipleship: *Be Bold*

August 27 12th Sunday after Pentecost –

Community Worship @ Nord Kalsem

Primary Text: Matt 16:13-20

Tips of Discipleship: *Declare Christ*

September 3 13th Sunday after Pentecost –

Primary Text: Matthew 16:21-28

Tips of Discipleship: *Lose Your Life*



The choir is on break over the summer.

Check in the September Palestine Press for start up dates and times for the choir to begin a new season. Do you love to sing? We are a welcoming choir that loves to use our voices for praise. We would love to have you

join us!

If you are interested in singing a solo (or small group) OR playing an instrument for worship, please let me know!

Maybe you have a favorite hymn you would love to sing. Or a duet with your son or daughter. Maybe you play violin, or trumpet, or piano, and have a song you would like to share. I can accompany any style of music, and I would love to work with you. If you are interested, come talk to me at church, send an email to mindydevries@yahoo.com, or give me a call: 515-729-7992.

~Mindy DeVries

Confirmation Parent Meeting - Wednesday, August 30th @ 7pm - material will be emailed in advance to parents and confirmands going into 7th or 8th grade for the coming school year - please contact Pastor Eric with any questions (ericklimpel@gmail.com) and to confirm your child's participation this year. Tentative start date for this school year will be: Wednesday, Sept 13th - There might be a kickoff event with area Lutheran congregations on Sept 6th? To be determined.



August 2017

Volunteer schedule

Greeters

8/6 Holly & Tim Wise
David & Vallery Eisenmann
8/13 Pat & Lyle Martin
Mike & Holly Larson
8/20 Brad & Lesa Lewis
Matt & Michelle Siepker
8/27 Del & Vivian Lundgren
Sandy & Garry Wirtz

Acolytes –

8/6 ...
8/13 ...
8/20 ...
8/27

Lectors -

8/6
8/13
8/20
8/27

Ushers

Robert Snider, captain Dick Cast
Chuck Bowers Andrew Larson
Timothy Wise

Sunday Fellowship

Families who greet also serve beverages for fellowship.

Assistants

8/6 Lyle Martin; Dennis Millang
8/20 ... David & Vallery Eisenmann

Offering Counters

Tom Shelton, Brent Emerson

Altar Guild

Helen Kepler, Donna Millang

Mowing (church & parsonage grounds)

July 31-August 6 Aiden Lewis
August 7-13 Aiden Lewis
August 14-20 Aiden Lewis
August 21-27
August 28-Sept 3

Deliver Food Pantry donations for August

"August is **Baby, You're Mine** month at the food pantry - please donate baby items- wipes, diapers, talcum powder, toiletries, baby food, formula."

Sponsored by Palestine Mission Outreach Committee.

Looking Ahead

Fall programming resumes in September

1. Children's church
2. Palestine Piecemakers
3. Choir

Church Office: 515/597-2620

Fax number: 515/597-2621

Website: www.plchuxley.com

Secretary's Office: 515/597-2624

Church e-mail is: PLC@huxcomm.net

Pastor Eric Klimpel's email: ericklimpel@gmail.com

cell: 936/444-3895

Building Improvement/Repair Update

The roof repairs, soffit/facia replacement, and other exterior repairs were completed the first part of June. I have heard several compliments about how much better the exterior looks now and want to thank the Property Committee and anyone who helped with the process of getting this done! We were about \$10,000 short of having enough to pay for the bill from Hedrick Construction that was due the first part of July, so based on the congregational approval given at the special meeting in March, we borrowed \$10,000 from South Story bank. The terms are 5.25% interest and we will pay interest only on a monthly basis and pay the principal down as we receive additional funds designated to Building Improvement. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to the Building Improvement fund for this project as we'd like to pay down the debt as quickly as possible.

As a reminder...you can make contributions online or on any mobile device to this fund along with any other offerings. Just go to our website at www.plchuxley.com and click on the "Online Giving" link on the homepage and you can set up an account to quickly and easily give anytime and anywhere!

Thank you,
Church Council

Next Council Meeting – Sunday, August 6 at 8 a.m.

Church Council 2017

President: Matt Williams

Secretary: Jacob Huxford

Financial Sec'y: Dick Kepler

Council:

David Eisenmann

Cynthia Johnson

Brad Lewis

Kristin Shelton

Pastor Eric Klimpel

Vice President: Jeff Van Pelt

Treasurer: Deidre Qual

Nels Dovre

Bruce Hartman

Laura Kepler

Jean Saveraid

Lora Young

Pastor Eric will be on Vacation - August 10th to 17th –

On Sunday August 13th, Pastor Jen Andreas of Lord of Life Lutheran Church & Lutheran Campus Ministry in Ames will lead worship.

During this time, please contact Pastor Heidi Williams, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Slater, if you need pastoral care (1-515-450-0490)

Remember in Prayer

The following were included in the Prayers of the Church during July: Anita Brendeland; Gerald Carlson; Joan Carson; Mark Doty; Kim Fears; Alvina Larson; Merlin Lyon; Deb Moore; Pat Murphy; Greg Nordstrom; Deidre Qual; Christian Russell; Lorraine Sorensen; Arlene Wee; Randy Young.

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

We welcome the newest member of our family of faith...
...received by Holy Baptism on July 9, 2017, **Josephine Danielle Engler** (born June 20, 2017). **Josephine** is the daughter of **Ben** and **Candi Engler** and sister of Annabelle & Sam. Her baptismal sponsors are Ben Johnson and Lydia Johnson.

We welcome her into the Lord's family as a child of God!

We extend our prayers and sincerest Christian sympathy...

...to family and friends of **Lisa (Erickson) Kling**.

...to family and friends of **Rodney Halverson**.

...to family and friends of **Arlene Dames** (grandmother of Mike Thomas)

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

Council minutes from the July 9th meeting were not received by 'press' time. Below is the treasurers report as of 7/9.

PLC Checking Account	
Benevolence	\$ 630.00
Building Improvement	2,560.00
Confirmation	1,331.24
Evangelism/Fellowship Committee	204.47
General Fund Checking	2,821.21
Kitchen	2,425.00
Parsonage	5,614.73
Technology Fund	3,464.86
Total PLC Checking Account	\$ 19,051.87
LIABILITIES	
South Story Bank – Building repair loan	\$ 10,000.00

August



- 2 - Lowell Brendeland
- 5 - Tracy Blackmer
Tony Ness
- 6 - Amy Larson
London Roelfs
- 7 - Vallery Eisenmann
Laura Kepler
- 8 - Arlyce Engles
- 10 - Taylor Larson
- 12 - Alyssa Johnson
Drake Klingbeil
- 16 - Garry Wirtz
- 17 - Tyler Roelfs
- 19 - Denise Elliott
Sarah Jensen
Allan Kopaska
Megan Rowedder
- 21 - Mary Kate Russell
Dominic Kopaska
- 24 - Robby Keltner
- 26 - Brinley Dykstra
- 27 - Leonard Larson
Del Lundgren
Jacob Williams
- 28 - Chloe Shelton
Karina Snider
- 29 - Bryan Brendeland
Noelle Hartsook
Charles Sheldahl
- 30 - Ian Minnihan

Celebrating Their ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 – Russ & Mindy DeVries
Paul & Katie Porter
- 4 – Ken & Louise Larson
Matt & Sarah Moore (5th)
Roy & Elaine Paradise
- 6 – Kevin & Jeannie Williams (35th)
- 13 – Jim & Nina Gotta
- 14 – David & Vallery Eisenmann
Adam & Molly Wuebker
- 15 – Tim & Shannon Wilson
- 16 – Bob & Oriett Snider
- 18 – Ordean & Liz Johnson
Justin & Jodie Sample
- 21 – Allan & Deb Kopaska
- 22 – Penn & Laurie Hill (25th)
- 23 – Kyle & DeAnn Jolly
- 27 – Brad & Lesa Lewis
- 29 – Andrew & Cally Larson
Sam & Andi Shaffer
Charles & Evy Sheldahl
Dan & Kirsten VanSnelan

If your birthday or anniversary was not included or is listed incorrectly, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

VBS: THANK YOU to everyone who took part in VBS this year. Whether you were a student, a volunteer, donated food or supplies, brought kids, or anyone else who enjoyed our time with Riverside, we appreciate your willingness to help us stay "Rooted" in Christ's kingdom and support ongoing Christian education. We're looking forward to more fun with Riverside next year!

Dear Palestine,

Thank you for the money to go to Riverside. My favorite part was the Mime.

Nic

Southeastern Iowa Synod Restructuring Proposal

Within both the Office of the Bishop and the leadership of the synod council, ongoing conversations have focused on “best practices” related to fostering a deeper sense of connection and partnership throughout the synod. Looking ahead to 2020 as a period of transition (election of a bishop), the time seems right to explore how best to position the synod for a continually changing landscape.

The Synod Council convened a task force to consider aspects of the “Synod Structural Revision” proposal in September 2016. A draft proposal was reviewed by the council in December 2016. In February 2017 the council voted to forward the *Southeastern Iowa Synod-Structural Revision* to the 2017 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly for consideration. After a year of conversation and gathering feedback, the Synod Council will then forward a proposal onto the 2018 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly for action.

Blog 1—Structural Revision—A Proposal for Revision

Participants at the 2017 assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod caught the first glimpse of a proposal for changing some of the ways we organize for mission in this synod. The proposal was developed within the synod council and was forwarded to the assembly with an invitation to the whole synod: “Help us think and talk about this so that we can do what we do together both faithfully and well.”

With that, we have set upon a yearlong period of discernment regarding the proposal itself and whether or not it can be improved upon.

While it appears that the proposed change involves a lot of “moving pieces,” a careful look reveals the three components around which most of what is being offered revolves. The synod council, synod deans, and ministry cohorts. Each will be introduced in more detail in future installments of this blog. For now, it is important to know that with this approach:

- The synod council will be a bit smaller than it is now, will more accurately reflect the population distribution of the synod, and will incorporate a representational nominating process similar to what is used in electing the ELCA Church Council.
- The synod deans will be appointed or elected by the synod council upon the recommendation of the bishop, will function primarily as catalysts for collaborative ministry, and will seek to bring greater consistency to the way the office of dean is carried out across the synod.

- Ministry cohorts consists of the congregations and ministry partners in geographically defined areas that are larger than the current conferences, but are not intended to function like conferences have functioned, which relieves pressures that might seem apparent at first glance.

It is also important to note that this shift in structure is designed to be budget-neutral, in that it should not increase the costs of doing synod ministry.

The year-long period of conversation and shared discernment will include listening posts this fall, a number of web-based resources, and varied opportunities for people across the synod to “weigh in.” The plan and hope is to take action on this or some revised version of a proposal at the 2018 synod assembly, including the necessary resolutions for implementation.

So, why now?

On the one hand, this synod will experience a shift in leadership in 2020 with the election of a new bishop. Our shared goal is to do our best to assure that this synod is in the best possible position for future-oriented ministry.

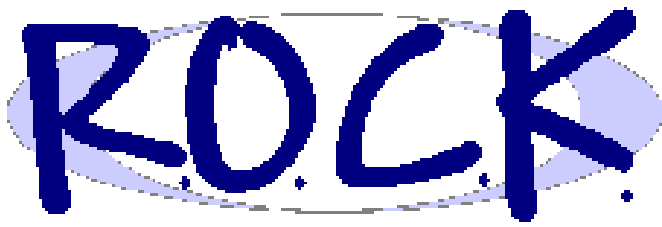
On the other hand - and more importantly - the proposed shifts seek to be responsive to current realities, including some of the significant challenges we face together today.

At the synod assembly, I encouraged people to begin the work of engaging the changes being proposed by the synod council by looking for what aspects of the proposal appear to be most promising. That is another way of saying, “First, be open to what is being proposed,” which is a constructive way of setting the stage for understanding the “why” and the “hoped-for outcomes” inherent to the work. That encouragement still stands.

With your help, we will continue to improve on the way we carry out our shared mission. In the conversation ahead you will hear lots about collaboration and networking, creativity and increased vitality. I hope that this much remains clear: At the center of it all is the good news that in Christ Jesus, God so loves this world. All the things we do and the particular ways that we do them are geared toward experiencing and sharing that good news.

Check the synod website for updates & additional information

<http://seiasynod.org/synod-restructuring-proposal/>



Reaching Out for Christ's Kingdom

Please join us during worship on Sunday August 6th as we will be sharing about our experience on our **mission trip** to Perryville, Arkansas **June 11-14, 2017**. We participated in a Global Gateway Extended Program through Heifer International.



Who: any high school student freshman-senior interested in attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering

What: Informational meeting for more information and to gain an idea of who would like to attend the Youth Gathering June 27-July 1 2018 in Houston with the theme "This Changes Everything," based on Ephesians 2:8, "By grace you have been saved..."

When: 5 p.m. on Sunday August 27th

Where: Meeting will be in the North Hall

More information on the website
www.elca.org/YouthGathering

For further questions or concerns please see Kari Sandquist



Parade Saturday, August 26, 2017 @ 10 am

Palestine will have a float in the parade. This year's theme is "Red and Blue – Supporting Fire and Police". Come to Huxley & enjoy the parade!

Ice Cream Social Saturday, August 26 from 6-8 pm @

Railroad Park

We're on the calendar – watch & listen for details on how you can help!



Community Worship for Prairie Fest 2017 –

Our worship service on August 27th will be with the churches of the Ballard Ministerial Alliance at Nord Kalsem Park at 10:00 am. (Ballard Middle School is the weather location). All offerings

at that service will go towards that meal project.

Note: Regular offerings toward ongoing ministry at Palestine for that day can be offered along with previous weeks offerings or the following weeks offerings, or dropped off at the church during the week.



GATHER AT THE GARDEN

Whether you have a green thumb or not, you are welcome to join us at the church garden on Tuesday evenings starting at 7pm. We'll be tending to the garden, weeding and gathering produce for the local food/clothing pantries. Remember, anyone can stop out anytime and take what they'd like from the garden.



September 3rd, 10th, and 17th Sundays – You can donate books you’ve read OR books that have been “hanging” around that you haven’t read for the **BOOK**

LOVERS BASH here at Palestine church Sundays, September 24th and October 1st.

Great way to get some winter reading! “Bring some, take some.”

Any genre – religious, romance, history, scifi, western, etc. Children and adult books can be donated. On September 24th & October 1st (if any are left) at fellowship time after church you can take home some “new” reading material.

So bring books to put in our donation boxes the first 3 Sundays of September and plan to pick out books you haven’t read the last Sunday in September and the first Sunday in October.



Family-To-Family

Family to Family Class is a free 12 session educational program for family, significant others and friends of adults living with mental illness. It is an evidence-based program taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there. It not only provides critical information and strategies for taking care of the person you love, but you will also find out that you are not alone and there is hope!

When: Mondays September 11 - November 27th

Where: NAMI CI Center - 416 Douglas Ave, Ste #205, Ames

When: 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Register by: September 1 - 515-292-9400 or namiofci@gmail.com

Garage



NAMI Central Iowa (the National Alliance on Mental Illness) will hold its annual Garage Sale Fundraiser on **Friday, August 11, from 9 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.**, and from **8:00 A.M. to noon on Saturday, August 12**, at **Collegiate United Methodist Church (Wesley Hall), 2622 Lincoln Way, Ames**. NAMI-CI is a United Way of Story County partner agency.

Here I Stand - Traveling Martin Luther



As part of the Reformation 500 celebration we have available here at church “Here I Stand: Traveling Martin Luther” as a way to keep Martin’s Good News message of God’s grace moving. Press out the Martin Luther figure from the easy-to-assemble activity sheet. Stand him up at home or in the classroom. Throughout the celebration year, as you travel around your hometown or abroad, bring traveling Martin Luther with you. Take photos of him on

the journey, anywhere where the Good News of God’s free gift of grace can be shared. We would like to create an album on Facebook and see how the Good News spreads. Please send your photos of traveling Martin Luther on his activities and adventures to the church or Pastor Eric’s email.



Tuesday, August 1
Potluck

Monday, August 14
Food will be provided and freewill donations will be accepted.

5:30-7 p.m. at the picnic shelter in Centennial Park, Huxley. A relaxing evening meal with fun and fellowship. We’d love to see you there- and feel free to bring friends!

PALESTINE WOMEN OF ELCA BIBLE STUDY –

Monday, August 7, 2:00 p.m.

Giving birth is a beautiful thing and essential to life, but there is nothing nice about it. Birthing new life is a violent process that produces pain, requires sacrifice and makes a really big mess. That's what we are asking for when we plead with God for renewal. Are you ready? The study for August is the final in a three session study: **Upend the tables**—What is our responsibility when the very systems that have been put in place to protect people and make sure justice is done become tools to oppress? Do we just stand by and allow injustice to continue?

The theme for the July/August 2017 *Gather* magazine is **ALL ANEW: READY OR NOT**. God calls us to the margins to bring God's kingdom to earth here and now. Like Jesus, we find ourselves standing with the least of these and turning over tables.

Gather—the magazine of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—guides you as you live and experience your faith every day. In addition to a regular Bible study, the magazine offers a mix of faith-in-life articles, theological reflections, devotions and stories that speak to the hearts and souls of progressive Christian women. *Gather* connects Christian women of all ages with like-minded others who are committed to growing in faith and building the kingdom of God—next door and across the globe.

Gather is published 10 times a year with combined issues in January/ February and July/August. Digital access is free to print subscribers.

You can now subscribe to *Gather* in a digital format.

Four easy steps to order online

<https://www.cambeywest.com/subscribe2>:

1. Check your subscription term
2. Enter your name, address, phone, and email
3. (Optional) Make an additional donation to *Gather*
4. Enter your credit card information

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|--|---------|

Your digital subscription will be auto renewed on its anniversary date. A reminder email will be sent at renewal time.

Fall 2017: "The Apostles' Creed"

This fall 2017, take part in a three-session Gather Bible study on the Apostles' Creed and what we together say we believe.

In "The Apostles' Creed," Bible study author Julia Seymour, pastor at Lutheran Church of Hope, Anchorage, Alaska, writes: "Beyond preferences or evenly deeply held convictions, the theological underpinnings of a religious community are the structure for teaching, preaching and action. For our life of faith together, creeds are more than just words. They are vessels for carrying one another through doubt, joy and sorrow."

Session titles are:

Session 1: I believe in God...

The Apostles' Creed is one of the oldest unifying symbols of Christianity. Groups of early Christians needed a tool for teaching and evangelism that explained the basics of the faith. The Apostles' Creed shaped their baptismal training, blessing in dying and how communities of faith defined themselves in faithful union. The creed has three parts or articles. The first article talks about God, the Holy Creator and Parent of all things. We'll explore what the Apostles' Creed says about God—and what it leaves undefined—as well as how this stirs our holy imagination.

Session 2: I believe in Jesus Christ...

In Scripture, Jesus is called the Messiah, the Son of God, a teacher, a healer, the pioneer of our faith, the rock of our salvation, Son of Man and other titles. In the Apostles' Creed, Jesus' life and ministry is briefly summed up. Jesus is described as God's only Son and our Lord—one who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born by the Virgin, who suffered under Pilate, who was crucified, died and was buried. The creed is a definition of the work of the Father, Son and Spirit, yet there is also fullness to being followers in the Way of Christ that is not described in the creed. How does the creed encompass faithful living in imitation of Christ? In other words, what does it mean to believe even more about Jesus and following Jesus than we say in the words of the creed?

Session 3: I believe in the Holy Spirit....

In the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is revealed not through characterization, but through the power of the Spirit in action. How do we understand the communion of saints, forgiveness, resurrection, the church and all that will be, as the revelatory work of the Holy Spirit? As part of the Trinity, the Spirit carries the same weight as the Father and the Son, yet many of us are drawn to one part of the Trinity more than others. How can we use the creed to perceive and honor the Spirit and the Spirit's work?

Help Us Create School Kits for Lutheran World Relief



The best time to buy supplies for the school kits is in late summer or the fall when school supplies are on sale. You can help by donating one or all of the items listed below.

Guidelines:

Please give new items only. Do not donate items with any religious symbols; decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks) – bags will be available in July in the choir/confirmation room or Oriett has a pattern you can sew your own.

Please place items in marked boxes in the choir room. In July bags with a list will be available in the choir room for you to fill if you want. ?s talk to Oriett

Lists of items needed for personal care kits, baby care kits and Fabric Kits are available near the collection boxes for the school kits. The next shipment for LWR quilts and kits is in October.

You've maybe heard the analogy about teaching someone to fish... well you can help teach a person to sew and provide the tools to earn an income and break out of poverty. **Project Promise Fabric Kits** are used in vocational training programs to teach young men and women useful, marketable skills. Cover them with love!



Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! But imagine being a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder.

This time of year can be extremely stressful. They are afraid they won't be able to concentrate or fit in at their school. They worry about the transition adjusting to a new classroom routine.

Did you know Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) partners with schools across the state to provide mental health services right in their communities? Our therapists can work one-on-one with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team is there to collaborate with families in their home and develop skills like anger management and decision-making.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift and support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy & church relations, at deborah.whitford@LSIowa.org.

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.

Happier, healthier families

For years, Bia struggled with her daughter's behaviors. McKenna, 8, lashed out against authority, and tempers regularly flared at home.

"It took a little more time to work with her on anything," Bia said.

Bia couldn't find a way to help gain control of her child, & she became more and more frustrated. That's when her DHS social worker recommended LSI's Families Together program.

Through the program, Bia regularly meets with her Families Together worker, Gaylene. Together, they are working on what Bia calls a "three-step technique."

"Whenever a possible argument comes along, I start by telling McKenna to go take a break and reset herself. Then I can go calm down and eventually, we can talk it out," Bia says. "It's teaching both of us. My main goal right now is to learn how to better handle McKenna and better handle myself."

Bia is also practicing the technique with her younger daughter, Brynn, which she says is "working perfectly." It's drastically improving the way her family communicates, and Bia says she has recommended Families Together to any friends looking for guidance.

"I love the program," she says. "I love how it works and I know if I have questions, they can give me advice on how to go about things."



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1-800-372-7748

rlbc@riverside.org www.RiversideLBC.org
"To Know Christ and to make Christ known to all."

Our new [website](#) is now live! Take a look around to see what's happening at camp. Check out Riverside's Facebook page & keep up to date on what's happening at camp.

Upcoming Events

August 31- September 1 Mother Daughter Ride with the King
September 15 – Riverside 2017 Golf Classic
September 16-17 Mother Daughter ride with the King (full)
September 23-24 1017 Women's Retreat
October 7 12:30-4:30 pm Ride with the King (grades 3-5)
October 20-22 Jr Recharge (grades 3-6)
October 27-29 or November 10-12 Jr High Recharge (grades 6-9)
November 17-19 High School Recharge (grades 9-12)

The Quilt Auction/Riverside 5K is

Saturday August 5, 2017!

The Quilt Auction is Riverside's largest annual fund raiser and the donations are great gifts to the general ministry of Riverside! We thank the Lord and all of you who give so generously!

We are very thankful to be able to welcome ALL campers to Riverside regardless of their financial situations. The result is a great reminder of how gracious our God is and how faithful are His followers!

Please come and support the ministry of Riverside by purchasing a quilt! You take home a beautifully handmade quilt AND you will have given to God's work! We are so thankful to those of you who make quilts that abundantly bless Riverside and the campers!

- 8:30 am – [Riverside 5K](#)
- 9:30 - 11:30 - Riverside Pool will be open for swimming!
- 10:00 – 12:30 – Quilt Previewing in air-conditioned chapel
- 10:00 – 12:15 – Silent Auction bidding (baby quilts/small items) Results will be known before 1:00.
- 10:30 – Brief outdoor worship
- 11:30 – 12:30 – Lunch served in the Dining Hall (free will offering)
- 1:00 – Quilt Auction in air-conditioned chapel

RIVERSIDE'S 2017 GOLF CLASSIC September 15th It's time to sign up for the sixteenth annual Riverside Fall Golf Classic! This year's event will be held at the pristine Veenker Memorial Golf Course. Check in will begin at 9:30 AM, with play beginning at 10:30 AM. You will be able to enjoy lunch while you play. **Registrations are due by August 19.**

Join us for a great day of golf with friends that will be helping Riverside build for the future. All donations will be used to help fund Riverside's new swimming pool & restore the historic chapel. Lunch will consist of grilled burgers & brats, with ice cream sundaes after the round. As always, there will be awards and prizes at the conclusion of the day.

Sponsorship and Registration

Sponsors are still needed for this event. Sponsor opportunities include Event Sponsors, \$1000; Lunch Sponsors, \$1000; and Hole Sponsors, \$500. All sponsors receive recognition, your sign on a hole, and registration for 4 or 8 players, 4 players for a hole sponsor and 8 players for a lunch or event sponsor. The registration fee of \$100 per person includes lunch, golf, cart, and prizes. Just mail in the form found by clicking the link above to register. This event is just one of the ways Riverside works to accomplish its mission of making Christ known to all. Thank you so much for your support with this event! Please call John Foster at 515-733-5271 with questions or for more information.

2017 WOMEN'S RETREAT *This fall, on the weekend of September 23-24, we will once again have an amazing weekend at Riverside just for women. This retreat is for ALL women of ALL ages! The retreat will begin at 8:30 am on Saturday and concludes with 11:45 am brunch on Sunday morning. The McDermott gals, Jan, Julie (McDermott) Van Hove, Tonya (McDermott) Menuet, Shar (McDermott) Roorda and Danette (Chad) McDermott, will be your speakers, entertainment and project leaders. Stay tuned for more about the 2017 Women's Retreat!!*

This is a weekend to be loved, served, taught, and entertained. There will be great food prepared, with no cooking or cleaning to do before or after! It will be a time to laugh, play and pray; a time to reconnect with friends and make new friends and time to be in God's Word. Enjoy God's creation by taking advantage of some options, such as horseback riding, taking a walk, or enjoying a wagon ride around camp. God's creation is so beautiful and this is a great time of year to appreciate the outdoors. There will also be plenty of chocolate and coffee!! Register online today! Cost is \$75. **Register by September 9** to ensure you have a spot.

Along with being filled up and renewed at this retreat, every year our women's retreat has an outreach project to help others in a tangible way. Attendees are asked to bring a white pillow case to decorate (we will supply fabric markers) or double fleece fabric to tie a blanket. We will do these projects together.