

*Reaching out in Christian love to all!*

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Huxley, IA 50124  
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[www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)

THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
February 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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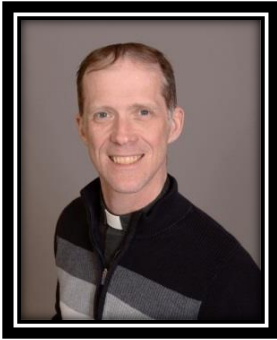
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Palestine will accept your offering!

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.*



## Contemplating the Computer Screen and God's love ----- With Pastor Eric

*<sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>**Love never ends.** 1 Corinthians 13:3-8*

Jesus lived on the margins and moved the margins to include all people, and hence invited hostile crowds to want to edge him out of existence, as in Luke 4:14-30 in Nazareth. Today the church wants to edge Jesus out of our worship anytime the margins are made too wide and include too many who are not like us. Recently I was sitting at my computer, contemplating the way Jesus offended so many people so quickly in his ministry. I asked, "Why?" The answer was at the top of my screen. My word processing instructions at the top read: "Drag the margin boundaries on the rulers." That is why he upset people so much: in his life he dragged the margin boundaries of race, creed, and color to include all people and when those boundaries start effecting rulers...well. He dragged the margin boundaries when he gave a common meal, which we have made a holy meal symbolic of his inclusive love for all people. Jesus is dragged to the edge of a cliff to be put out of the lives of his townspeople because no one wants the margins of daily living to be inclusive of strangers.

Well, I continued to consider this question “why?” especially in our day with so much media saturation and ways to communicate. I thought about the font size on my computer and how we try to save paper here at the church. I try to use fewer copies and sheets of paper, so I tend to mess with font sizes. How many words can I get on a page? So, I move the margins and reduce the line spacing and mess with the fonts. What if we took God’s desire to save people as if God only had one sheet of paper for the printer and needed to put as many names on it as God desired? God would reduce or remove the margins and make everything denser. God’s love demands using every means possible to get your name on that paper. Maybe we can take the “book of life” and imagine it as only one page (8.5X11)?! I tried this experiment and found that it was chaotic to make out any names and I had to use a magnifying glass to make out letters. Perhaps, deep down we are afraid that we will be forgotten in the mass of letters and identities. Somehow God will not see us, or that we might get displaced by someone else. How could God possibly love me AND love “those” people?

The good news of Jesus Christ is that God does remember you – every hair, every thought, every dream, every step – of you! The love of God gives everything to make sure that you are on that page! A divine aspect of love is that the more love you give, the more you have and when you think that you’ve given it all like Jesus did on the cross, then surprise you have so much more, an abundance! I hope that we contemplate the possibilities and purposes of God’s love at work in our lives this year.

Let us pray. Heavenly God, who loves the world so much that you gave you only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life, may we embrace this love and share it with others, in Jesus’s name. Amen.

# GET INVOLVED

## Dawn Dialog with Jesus

**Sundays at 7:30 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**

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** after worship in the south conference room. Anyone who would like to inquire about Palestine Lutheran Church and find some insights into its history, people and ministry are welcome. For prospective members, new members and yes, even veteran members! All are welcome! Let the church office know if you are interested so that we can prepare materials (@ [palestinelutheran@gmail.com](mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com) )

## **Theology on Tap**

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



**Join us Sunday, February 20<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 February 2, 9, 16, 23 @ 6:30 p.m. in North Fellowship Hall – for teens 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## **Ballard Creek Assisted Living Worship**

Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30pm – You are invited to come for worship with Pastor Eric.

## **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

## **Epiphany Week 5**

**Focus:** What is Jesus calling us to leave behind to follow him?

**“Then Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now you will be catching people.’ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.”** Luke 5: 10-11 (NRSV)

Read Luke 5:1-11

## **Epiphany Week 6**

**Focus:** Knowing you are blessed by God today, how might you bless others?

**“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.”**

Luke 6:20-21 (NRSV)

Read Luke 6:17-26

## **Epiphany Week 7**

**Focus:** What does it mean to love our enemy?

**“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.”** (Luke 6:27 NRSV)

Read Luke 6:27-38

## **Transfiguration of our Lord**

**Focus:** Being transfigured

**“And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.”** (2 Corinthians 3:18 NRSV)

Read 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2





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 2021 Youth Camp. Early Bird pricing ends February 15th. Visit their website at

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

**Upcoming Riverside Events:**

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Daddy-Daughter Dance – *register online in advance*

March 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> – Marriage Retreat – *register online in advance*



You are cordially invited  
to the bridal shower of

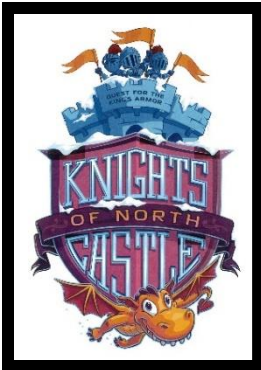
***Jessica Blackmer***

**Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> @  
Palestine Church 2-4 p.m.**

**VBS SUMMER 2022**

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 April.
- Seeking volunteers – many different roles to fill. Contact Candi Engler ([volley\\_602@hotmail.com](mailto:volley_602@hotmail.com)) if you are interested.





## Weather Policy Reminder

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

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



**Let's shower a few of our members with birthday cards!**

**Alvina Larson's 101<sup>st</sup> birthday February 9<sup>th</sup>!**

**Anita Brendeland's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday February 16<sup>th</sup>!**

**Bernadine Cast's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday February 13<sup>th</sup>!**

**Katherine Saveraid's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday February 18<sup>th</sup>!**

**Virgil Larson's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday February 15<sup>th</sup>!**



**February 2022**

- 1 Hol, Alyssa
- 3 Johnson, Evelyn  
Hauge, Michael
- 6 Thomas, Alexander  
Twedt, Grant
- 7 Elliott, Trice
- 8 Nelson, Richard (79<sup>th</sup>)  
Saveraid, David
- 9 Larson, Alvina (101<sup>st</sup>)  
Shelton, Tom
- 11 Shelton, Gabe  
Shelton, Kristin  
Van Pelt, Alise
- 13 Cast, Bernadine (90<sup>th</sup>)  
Kopaska, Deb
- 15 Erickson, Carter  
Larson, Virgil (80<sup>th</sup>)
- 16 Brendeland, Anita (93<sup>rd</sup>)  
Kam, Melinda  
Ness, Toni
- 17 Williams, Matthew
- 18 Gotta, Nina  
Saveraid, Katherine (88<sup>th</sup>)  
Thomas, Caroline
- 20 Dykstra, Avery
- 22 Lewis, Aubrey  
Rasmussen, Cheryl  
Sample, Justin  
Thomas, Cindi
- 24 Medici, Stacy
- 27 Larson, Aaron
- 29 Dykstra, Travis



- 14 Deidre Qual & Merlin Lyon  
(45<sup>th</sup>)
- 16 Jason & Melinda Kam
- 24 Leonard & Sue Larson

*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*



**ALTAR GUILD:** Nancy Fausch and Melanie Fausch

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**  
February 6<sup>th</sup>: Roger & Deb Moore  
February 20<sup>th</sup>: Deidre Qual

**OFFERING COUNTERS:**  
Cindi Thomas; Jeannie Williams

**GREETERS\*, \*\*:**  
**Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>:** Mark & Jen Pote;  
Ken & Louise Larson  
**Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>:** Kent & Shelley Klingbeil;  
Brent & Missy Larson  
**Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>:** Chris & Amanda Richter;  
Jean Saveraid  
**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>:** Brad & Lesa Lewis;  
David & Vallery Eisenmann


\*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.


## March

2022

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>30</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Annual Meeting Chili Cook Off</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>13</b> <i>Cookie Sunday!</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship New Member Orientation in conference room</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> 
<p><b>20</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion 5:00 p.m. Theology on Tab @ Fenceline Beer Lab</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><i>Newsletter deadline</i></p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Dawn Dialog via Zoom 9:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship; Transfiguration of our Lord New Member Orientation in conference room 2:00 p.m. Bridal Shower for Jessica Blackmer</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>

# FEBRUARY 2022

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>  Blood Drive 3-7 p.m.	<b>2</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	<b>3</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters R.O.C.K to Meals From the Heartland 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	<b>10</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9 a.m. Council Retreat Riverside Daddy/Daughter Dance Pre-registration required
<b>15</b> Deadline for early-bird Riverside Camps for summer	<b>16</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	<b>17</b> 3:30 p.m. Ballard Creek Worship 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	<b>24</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>March 1st</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:00 p.m. ZOOM Palestine Prayer Time 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 – 8:00 R.O.C.K meets 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	<b>3</b> 6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study	<b>4</b> Riverside Marriage Retreat 4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Pre-registration required	<b>5</b>



# COUNCIL MINUTES

*These minutes are not yet approved.*

## **Agenda – Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

Sunday, January 9, 2022 @ 8 a.m.

**Pastor Eric, Haylie Clark, Deidre Qual, Chris Richter, Brad Lewis, Kent Klingbeil, David Eisenmann, Candi Engler, Tim Wilson (by phone), Jean Saveraid were in attendance. Brent Emerson, Kristin Shelton, Julie Emerson and Jen Pote were absent.**

A quorum was established.

**Devotions:** Brad – “Habits of a church”

**Read Vision and Mission Statements.**

**Goals and Reflections:** Great Christmas Season.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** Chris Motioned to approve the minutes. Candi Engler seconded. All approved unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Deidre

General Fund: \$4,405.42

Total PLC Checking: \$89,974.80

Parsonage: \$15,999.65

Chris Richter motioned to approve and David E. seconded. All in favor unanimously.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Klimpel

Refer to Pastor’s Report -- Pastor read through his report.

**New business:**

1. Approve Baptisms from last month. Cora Lucille Thomas 12-19-21. Amelia Sue Ilene Obranovic 12-25-21. Brad Lewis motioned to approve both baptisms. David Eisenmann seconded. All voted unanimously.
2. Approve Baptism for this month. Drew George Sandquist 01-23-22. Candi motioned to approve the baptism. David seconded. Everyone sang unanimously.
3. Approve the raises for the staff. Chris motioned to recommend the 2022 budget to the congregation. David seconded. All members in attendance voted in favor of the recommendation.
4. Approve the 2022 Annual Budget. Candi motioned to recommend the 2022 budget to the congregation. Jean seconded. All voted unanimously to recommend the budget to the congregation.
5. Retreat. February 12<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. Brad will line up the ISU Alumni Center.

**Unfinished business:**

1. The Nominations Committee – Update on needs. There are some older members who would like off committees, so we need to make sure that they are off committees if they want to be. Are we ready to start a Nominating Sheet?
2. Reports are due today – Annual Meeting January 30<sup>th</sup> after church.
3. Lights, Ceiling, Mice

**Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer:** David Eisenmann motioned to adjourn. Chris Richter seconded. Every member sprinted for the door to try and make it to church on time

**Next Meeting:** February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Retreat @ ISU Alumni Center 9 a.m.

**Treats:**

**Devotions:** Church provided



## MINUTES

*These minutes are not yet approved.*

**Sunday, January 30th, 2022 @ 10:45 AM**

**Call to Order** ..... Kristin Shelton, President  
A quorum was established by Mark Pote.  
Online attendance was noted by Brent Emerson on Facebook

**Devotions** ..... **Brad Lewis “Being Grateful”**

**Read Vision and Mission Statements.**

**Secretary’s Minutes, January 24th, 2021** .....Brad Lewis, Secretary  
Chris Richter motioned to approve the minutes. Mark Pote  
Seconded. A unanimous vote was received to approve the  
minutes.

**Pastor’s Report** ..... Pastor Eric Klimpel

**Elections :**

A motion was made by Chris Richter to vote all committees all on one vote. This was seconded by Bruce Hartman. A vote was unanimous vote was received to approve the motion.

A vote to approve the committee ballot was unanimous.

A motion was made by Louise Larson to approve all the council positions as presented. This was seconded by Nels Dovre. A vote was unanimous vote was received.

A vote on the council at large positions were voted in unanimously.



A vote on the President voted unanimously.

A vote on the Vice President voted unanimously.

A vote on the Secretary voted unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report** .....Deidre Qual, Treasurer  
Chris Richter motioned to approve. Jen Pote seconded. The congregation unanimously approved the treasurer’s report

**Audit Committee Report** ..... Mike Thomas & Brad Lewis  
2 new people for the audit committee report: Council will appoint.

**Budget** .....Brad Lewis, Finance Committee  
A motion to approve a 3% increase for the staff was made by Chris Richter. This was seconded by Jean Saveraid. All approved unanimously.

A motion to approve the budget was made by Candi Engler. This was seconded by Jeff Van Pelt. All approved in favor of the motion.

**New Business:**

Tech Position – Motion by Dick Kepler to investigate what creating a Tech Position would entail. Nels seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

Balcony Update.  
Raise the scholarship from \$100 to \$200. Doreen Blackmer motions to raise the College scholarship from \$100 to \$200. Chris Richter seconded. The motion was approved unanimously but will be in effect 2023 since budget was already approved.

**Adjourn/Closing Prayer** ..... Kristin Shelton, President  
Bruce Hartman motioned to adjourn. Chris Richter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



## ***Remember in Prayer***

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

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, Phil Zeller

Friends and Family of: Ralph Kalsem, 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, Alberta Helmke, Sara Prochnow Ojard, Joe Curtiss, Lilah Hurley, Marlys Larsen, Harriet Sheldahl, Abby Huntrods, David Vagneur

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Official results forthcoming from blood drive February 1st:

**Thanks to Deb Moore for coordinating!**

**The next blood drive is scheduled for October 11, 2022.**

*Thank you for donating!*



## First Communion Class

This year's first communion classes will be held after church (10:45-11:30) on **March 6<sup>th</sup>, March 27<sup>th</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and April 10<sup>th</sup>** (this avoids spring break Sundays). The class is designed for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level, however, if your child is younger and you feel they are ready to participate, that is fine. Class will meet in the conference room. 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 the church office at [palestinelutheran@gmail.com](mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com).



## Ballard Clothing Pantry

March is Palestine's month to staff the Clothing Pantry at Ballard Creek.

**Open:**

**Wednesdays 4-6 p.m., Saturdays 10-noon, Sundays 1-3 p.m. (masks required)**

When you sign up, include your phone number in addition to your name, and check to see who has the shift before and after yours. If the previous person hasn't arranged to give you the key, call him/her. Likewise, when you are done with your shift, arrange to pass the key to the next person. The Clothing Pantry is a valuable service for many people in our community. It stays open only because of generous volunteers.

Please consider this important opportunity to serve our community. See Deb Moore for more information. (515-460-1037). The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.

**Please consider staffing at least one shift.**



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

**Cora Lucille Thomas**

*(Baptized 12-19-21)*

Cora is the daughter of Joe and Emilee Thomas and the sister of Caroline. Her baptismal sponsors are Olivia Thomas and Sam Duffy.



**Amelia Sue Ilene Obranovic**

*(Baptized 12-25-21)*

Amelia is the daughter of Karina and Sarah Obranovic. Her sponsors are Jackie Pezzetti, Michael Hauge, & Stacy McCaffrey.

**Drew George Sandquist**

*(Baptized 1-23-22)*

Drew is the son of Tom and Kari Sandquist.

He is the brother of Henry and Wyatt.

His baptismal sponsors are Garrett and Ellen Longnecker and Jennie Huxford.



# CHILI COOK OFF January 30, 2022



**CHILI COOK OFF  
WINNER!**

**CHRISTA HARTSOOK**



Thanks to everyone that participated either by bringing chili to share or by taste testing!

The R.O.C.K. Group was happy to accept \$514 in donations from the "voting" to take to Meals From the Heartland on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> when they go to box meals.

**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, adults, and families!

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families; in teens who are overcoming years of trauma and building bright futures; 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's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

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

*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).*

## **Experiencing Love Incarnate**

Penelope had been in and out of residential treatment at various facilities across Iowa for a few years. Her most recent placement was at LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly, which provides 24/7 behavioral healthcare and support for children and teens.

Upon her arrival, Penelope was able to build a relationship with the new LSI Spiritual Life Leader, Pastor Kyle. The voluntary Spiritual Life program connects youth on Bremwood's campus to faith-based music and art, youth group, and chapel sessions. After Pastor Kyle had begun to settle into his new call with LSI, he began hosting a worship service each week for children on campus centered around the eucharist. Penelope enjoyed participating in worship and encouraged her peers to join in.

One day while talking with Penelope, Pastor Kyle asked her what got her so excited about worship and why she encouraged her peers to attend.

"Dude," Penelope responded. "It's because we get communion!"

As Pastor Kyle continued the conversation with Penelope, the two discussed the importance of communion and how being fed through the bread of life empowered us to live amongst and for our neighbors.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day this month, Penelope's story about receiving the sacrament of communion helps us to remember that our love for one another is possible through the one who first loved us. No matter who we might receive valentines or sweet treats from on Feb. 14, we trust that all are embraced in love through Jesus Christ.

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