



 *Palestine*
Lutheran Church

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

**THE PALESTINE PRESS
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

APRIL 2026



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

Nels Dovre, Youth Liaison
319-331-7368 (cell)
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 visitation for members who would like to have one. Please contact Pastor Eric if you would like to have a visit. You do not have to wait for him to call.

Call 515-597-2620 or email ericklimpel@gmail.com

We would like to work out what is best and safest for the visit and distribution for each person.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page(s)

Pastoral Care	2
Tithes & Offering	3
Pastor's Monthly Report	4-5
Get Involved	6-7
Easter Morning Schedule	7
Daily Faith Practices	8
Fish Fry Recap	9
Lenten Supper Thank You	9
Lent Special Offering Information	10
Holy Week Schedule	10
Birthdays and Anniversaries	11
Monthly Calendar	12-13
Church Council Member Information	14
Council Minutes	15-17
Prayer List for March	17
Spring Clean-Up @ Palestine	18
170 th Anniversary Agenda	19
Riverside Upcoming Events	20
VBS Summer Dates and Volunteer Mtg Info.	20
Clothing Pantry Thank You	21
Women of the ELCA Spring Cluster Invitation	21
College/Military Update	22
R.O.C.K. Group Fundraiser Coming Soon	23
Right Now Media Opportunity	23

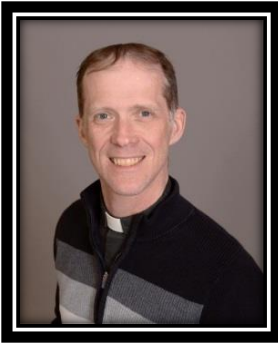


Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:
Palestine Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 189
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website www.plchuxley.com and
click on the bright red ONLINE GIVING tab on
the right or scan the QR code.
4. **Text GIVE** to 515-207-6435.



Thank you. Continue to pray and know God is with us.



Sharing the Gospel According to John's Way With Pastor Eric

³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. – John 9:30-31

Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." - John 1:46

"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" – John 4:29

During Lent we discovered John's gospel approach to gathering people to Jesus. I call it the "come and see" approach. Each story from the calling of Nathaniel to the Woman at the well, to the Man Born Blind, shows us a strategy that, supported by the Holy Spirit, changes and transforms lives and church communities for centuries. First, I give a testimony which means that I share what God has done for me. Second, I give a simple invitation to come and see for themselves. Third, I encourage them in their own experience as they encounter God for themselves. It sounds straight forward but we know how nervous invitation makes us. I get it and I encourage you with the story of the man born blind in John 9: 1-41.

This story is about a man who gets his world turned upside down when Jesus finds him and gives him sight after years of darkness. Out of 41 verses only two are dedicated to the healing itself, while the remaining 39 are about this man's testimony as it grew and

evolved over time. He begins with just telling the facts as he experienced them namely the “what” and the “how”. Notice that as he tells others what happened, they become curious and ask questions and notice again how as various people wrestle with these questions, the man begins to get closer to the “who” healed him. Finally, after facing some trials, Jesus finds him and reveals himself to the man with sight. “What has God done for me?” takes some time to answer and will change as you answer it. Each conversation and encounter with God’s Word in community will lead to deeper questions and reflection on “who God is in Jesus.” The key is to share with others as often as possible and approach your testimony with a spirit of gratitude especially in the midst of the tough parts and challenges.

When a group of tourists saw a war veteran without legs go to the Shrine of Lourdes, they whispered and laughed, "Does he suppose God will give him back his legs?" The veteran overheard this remark. Turning to the group, he said, "No, I don't expect God to give me back my legs. I expect him to show me how to live without them."

Perhaps if we just asked the right questions, we would discover that God is not in the business of bringing pain and suffering into our lives. Rather God gives strength to live even in the midst of the worst kinds of suffering.

Sometimes I think that reframing an experience helps by asking the right questions and listening for the “*God moment*” when mourning becomes comfort, or struggle becomes opportunity. Share what God has done for you in this place, invite others to come and see for themselves, and let the Spirit work. **Amen.**

GET INVOLVED

Men's Bible Study

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



ZOOM Bible Study

Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. “Living Generously”. (8 Sessions). When Mary anointed Jesus’ feet with perfume and wiped them with her hair, it was a remarkably generous and loving act – one that continues to inspire us today. In this eight-part series, Jonathan de Bernhardt Wood explores the simple yet powerful moment in which a friend and follower of Jesus displays the kind of astonishing generosity God Himself pours out on us. The wonder of the gospel is that this can be your story too as you discover the freedom of living generously. If you need help securing material, please contact ericklimpel@gmail.com. Create an account free at this link (RightNow Media): <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/palestinelutheran> Click on Palestine Quilt Square symbol.

R.O.C.K. Group

For high school students. The R.O.C.K. Group will also meet for the last time this school year on **Wednesday, April 15th**. See email updates from Nels for specific monthly activities.

CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. @ Palestine Lutheran Church – 7th & 8th grades - Classes on the Small Catechism with the goal of confirmation at the end of a two-year ministry of service, discussion and fun. Questions? Contact Pastor Eric Klimpel @ ericklimpel@gmail.com

Food Pantry Ministry

Help serve at the local food pantry in Huxley by signing up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b48acaa2ba3f85-food#/>. The pantry is currently going through some changes. If you have questions, contact Deb Moore (515-460-1037) and if she doesn't know the answer, she'll find out.

New Member Orientation Meetings

April 12, 2026 after worship in the south conference room as arranged by Pastor. 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)

Theology on Tap

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

➡ **Join us for the next one in April 19th from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** at Flight in Huxley, 931 N US HWY 69, Huxley, IA 50124 (*No reservations needed, just show up! ☺*)



JOIN US EASTER MORNING:

April 5, 2026

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Holy Communion led by R.O.C.K.

Breakfast Continental served by K.I.C.K. & R.O.C.K.

9:30 a.m. Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion

Easter Egg Hunt courtesy of Christian Education Committee



Daily Faith Practices

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

Easter

Focus: *Live as Easter People*

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

(Colossians 3:2-3 NRSV)

Read Colossians 3:1-4

2nd Sunday of Easter

Focus: *A Living Hope*

“By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...” (1 Peter 1:3b NRSV)

Read 1 Peter 1:3-9

3rd Sunday of Easter

Focus: *Living in Exile*

“If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.” (1 Peter 1:17 NRSV)

Read 1 Peter 1:17-23

4th Sunday of Easter

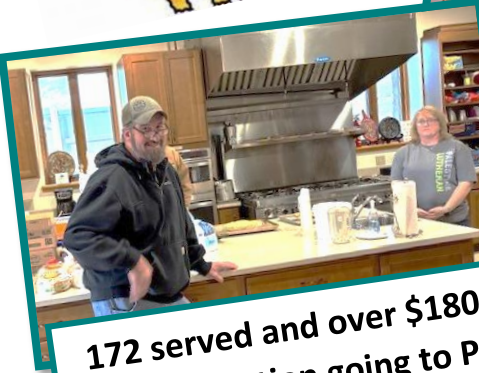
Focus: *Return to the Shepherd*

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.” (1 Peter 2:24-25 NRSV)

Read 1 Peter 2:19-25



March 7th in Memory of Spencer Pote



172 served and over \$1800 raised
with a portion going to Palestine
youth groups!!
Thanks to everyone who helped
make it a success!



Thanks to all the groups that
hosted Wednesday evening lenten
meals!

Evangelism/Fellowship, R.O.C.K. Group, Church Council,
Choir, and the Quilters



**Lent Special Offering this year will go towards
Joppa: Helping Homeless People for Lent**

Joppa is a volunteer-driven, interdenominational nonprofit based in Des Moines, Iowa, dedicated to helping homeless individuals survive, find permanent housing, and rebuild their lives. Please write in your check memo “special lent offering”.



We are also collecting nonperishable food for our local food pantries. Fill up a grocery bag and bring it to church now through April 11th!

**Palestine Lutheran Church
Holy Week Schedule 2026**



March 29th – Palm/Passion Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship service; Blessing of the Quilts; Blessing of the Palm Crosses; Passion of Matthew
April 1st – Gethsemane Prayer Service	7:00 p.m. Candlelight worship and bidding prayers.
April 2nd – Maundy Thursday	7:00 P.M. First Communion, Office of the Keys, Washing Feet, Stripping of the altar
APRIL 3RD – Good Friday	2:00 p.m. Passion of Christ movie in conference room 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross in sanctuary 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship Experience
April 5th – EASTER!	7:00 A.M. Sunrise Worship; Holy Communion <i>Led by R.O.C.K. Group</i> Breakfast- <i>Continental (free-will offering)</i> 9:30 a.m. Festival Worship; Holy Communion Easter Egg Hunt <i>courtesy of Christian Education Committee</i>



APRIL 2026

BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH



- | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Mason Kam
Derrick Rhoads | 2 | Mike & Holly Larson |
| 3 | Marlys Hartman (88 th) | 19 | Marvin & Lori Edwards |
| 6 | Craig Fausch
Greg Saveraid | 23 | Tyler & Sarah Roelfs |
| 9 | Cheryl Blackmer
Kyle Jolly | 24 | Andrew & Kristine Polich |
| 11 | Marvin Edwards (70 th) | 25 | Dennis & Diane Wright |
| 12 | Wyatt Sandquist | 26 | Mark & Jen Pote |
| 18 | Garrett Jensen
Katie Madson | 27 | Quinn & Norma McBride |
| 19 | Margo Baldwin | 30 | Jessica (Blackmer) & Brian Green |
| 21 | Hadlee Nobiling | | |
| 26 | Emmalyn Kruse | | |
| 27 | Maizy DeVries
Emma Sample | | |
| 28 | Bob Snider (79 th) | | |
| 29 | Olivia Ewing | | |



Let's shower the following member with birthday cards:

April 3rd Marlys Hartman (88th)
See mailed newsletter for address.

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



ALTAR GUILD: Teri Klimpel & Jen Pote

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

April 2nd: Henry & Jan Rumbaugh

April 5th: Henry & Jan Rumbaugh (Festival service)

April 19th: Henry & Jan Rumbaugh

OFFERING COUNTERS: Brad Lewis; Aubrey Lewis

USHERS: *needed*

Greeters*, **

April 5th: If you are here and can greet, please do!

April 12th: Louise Larson; Tim & Julie Huxford

April 19th: Bill & Sandy Harleen; Jason & Melinda Kam

April 26th: Jean Saveraid; Helen Kepler

*Greeters scheduled are asked to serve coffee/juice/water during fellowship



**All greeters for the month are asked to bring two dozen treats to share on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

2026

MAY

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				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	TUESDAY
<p>29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>No Choir rehearsal</i> 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> 10:45 a.m. First Communion Class</p> <p>Lesa on vacation →</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study</p>
<p>5 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service; Holy Communion Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Festival Worship; Holy Communion Easter Egg Hunt</p> <p><i>Easter</i></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 10 a.m. Rock Creek Worship Ankeny (Pastor) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study</p>
<p>12 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00 a.m. Council Mtg 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> <i>Cookie Sunday</i> <i>New member orientation</i> 10:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Spring Clean-Up 12:00 p.m. VBS Volunteer mtg @ Fjeldberg</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study</p>
<p>19 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion <i>Music with Nels</i> ROCK meal-to-go pick up 12 – 5 p.m. Church in use 5:30 p.m. Theology on Tap</p>	<p>20 <i>May Newsletter deadline</i></p>	<p>21 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 1:00 p.m. Cedars Worship Madrid (Pastor) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study</p>
<p>26 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> 170th Anniversary</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study</p>

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Gethsemane Prayer 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Gethsemane Prayer Service</p> 	<p>2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday; Holy Communion; First Communion</p>	<p>3 Good Friday 2:00 p.m. Passion of the Christ movie 5:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</p>	<p>4 Easter Vigil <i>(devotionals available)</i></p>
<p>8 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Prayer Support Group 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 4:00 p.m. Wedding rehearsal</p>	<p>11 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Spring Blast @ Riverside 2nd – 6th grades 4:00 p.m. Ness-Unkrich Wedding</p>
<p>15 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. R.O.C.K last Gather @ Mtg for school year</p>	<p>16 1:00 p.m. Conference 1 Pastor Gathering <i>(Pastor)</i></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:00 a.m. Women's Spring Cluster @ Bethesda in Ames 12 – 3 ROCK preparing to-go meals</p>
<p>22 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Green Hills Devotions <i>(Pastor)</i> 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation</p>	<p>23 10:00 a.m. North Polk Ministerial Meeting <i>(Pastor)</i></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>29 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 1:00 p.m. Chaplain's Meeting <i>(Pastor)</i> 6:30 p.m. Confirmation</p>	<p>30 11:00 a.m. Ballard Ministerial Mtg</p>	<p>MAY 1</p> 	<p>2</p>

Meet Our Newest
**CHURCH
COUNCIL**
MEMBERS!



Jean Saveraid resides with her husband, David, in rural Huxley. They have two sons and two granddaughters. Jean is involved in many community organizations; Beta Sigma Phi (service organization), BCPAA (Ballard Community Band/Chorus), and the Ballard School Board. Jean retired from the Gilbert CSD after 28 years of teaching and continues to substitute in that district.

With her husband, Jean assists in raising and showing Percheron draft horses at the Iowa State Fair. Jean has been a Palestine Lutheran church member for 43 years and aids in a number of communities such as Worship, Council, and taking care of the Fellowship bulletin board. Palestine is a place of worship that meets her spiritual and fellowship needs.



Darin Madson

Hello Palestine! My wife, Katie, and I have been married for almost 20 years, and we are originally from southern Minnesota. We now live near Maxwell, where we raise cattle and our two boys, Rafe and Gus, who attend Ballard schools. Professionally, I am a veterinarian and work at Iowa State

University in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory as a pathologist. Most days are a mix of family, farm life, and work at ISU. Katie and I have been members of Palestine since 2012.



These minutes have not yet been approved.

Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/07/2026

Minutes are intentionally left blank. Please refer to your mailed newsletter.

This page intentionally left blank. Please refer to your mailed newsletter.

This part of the page intentionally left blank. Please refer to your mailed newsletter.



Remember in Prayer

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

Kristy Brownfield, Marvin Edwards, Jon Irwin, Terri Irwin, Betsy Johnson, Rose Locker, Pat Martin, Norma McBride, Debra Ness, Larry Pote, Jean Sandquist, Tim Shoemaker, Oriett Snider, Randy Young

Family and Friends of: Sally Greve, Roger Larson, Dick Cast, Cheryl (Ness) Shranklen, Marge Sheldahl, Sandy Wirtz, Ken Larson, Alice Kahler, Harold Rittgers, Esther Orn, Dick Kepler, Dennis Green, Charles Sheldahl, Cynthia Peterson, Bethine Nelson, Dick Brown, Penny Brown



2026 SPRING CLEANING AT THE CHURCH!

Help is wanted to spring clean prior to our 170th Anniversary celebration April 26th.

Goals:

- Complete ten projects
- Prep for the 170th Anniversary Celebration April 26th
- Get as many people as possible involved

Schedule:

Clean-up day:

- Sunday, April 12th – after church until 4 p.m.
- Yard pick up/gutters/windows/interior cleaning/smoke detector installation

Backup day:

- Sunday, April 18th – after church until 4 p.m.
- Finish up any leftover work like digital sign landscaping/parking lot drain/urinal repair

Lunch will be provided.



Scan the QR code to sign up or sign up in fellowship hall. You can pick one-hour projects or longer projects!

Palestine Lutheran • April 26, 2026



**Be part of a fun day of
celebrating & remembering!**

AGENDA (*subject to change*)

- 9:30 a.m. Church Service - Sanctuary**
- 10:30 a.m. Congregation Photo - Outside**
- 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Meal**
Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs/chip/potato salad Costco/Sam's Club cake with ice cream
- 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Kids Games, Coloring, Etc**
Various locations
- 12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Panel 1 – Lay Members' Reflections - Sanctuary**
- 1:00 p.m.–1:15 p.m. Transition/break**
- 1:15 p.m.–2:45 p.m. Concert Reunion Bloom – Fire pit**
- 2:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Transition/break**
- 2:45 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Panel 2 – Pastors' Perspectives - Sanctuary**



3001 Riverside Rd, Story City, IA 50248

1-800-373-7748

www.RiversideLBC.org

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

UPCOMING RIVERSIDE EVENTS:

❖ Youth Camp

Registration is open for Riverside 2026 Youth Summer Camps.

Visit their website at www.riversidelbc.org

❖ Spring Blast (2nd – 6th graders)

April 11th 9:30 – 4:00 p.m.

K.I.C.K. will reimburse the \$45 registration fee for 3-6 graders!



Registration for
volunteers will be on
Fjeldberg's website

<https://www.fjeldberg.lutheran.org/> clearly
marked "VBS
Volunteers". Please
sign up if you are able!

Thank You

to everyone who helped staff
the Clothing Pantry in March.

You are appreciated!

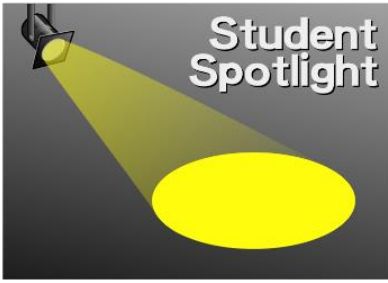


*A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped staff the Ballard
Community Clothing Pantry in the month of March:*

Doreen Blackmer, McKenzie Bushaw, Scott Bushaw, Robin Doty, Lori Edwards, Paris Hitchcock, Helen Kepler, Katie Madson, Drew Makowski, Lucy Makowski, Noah Makowski, Dennis Millang, Donna Millang, Deb Moore, Roger Moore, Chris Nelson, Deidre Qual, Tracy Rhoads, Jean Saveraid, Holly Twedt, Noah Wendt, Diane Wright

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

*You are invited to the **SPRING CLUSTER** meeting
Saturday, April 18th @ Bethesda Lutheran Church,
1517 Northwestern Ave., Ames at 9:00 a.m.*



COLLEGE/MILITARY UPDATES:

*This month we are
featuring:*

Whitney (Larson) Johnson



Whitney has been busy. Whitney went from National Guard to active duty (army) within the last few months. She is now a signals collector, Sergeant Whitney Johnson.

She also got married over the summer while her beau was on leave, (Cooper Johnson). He is also active army.

They are stationed at Fort Drum, New York.

Congrats to the
happy couple!





The R.O.C.K. Group will be taking orders for to-go meals of ham balls and party potatoes.

Make a meal (or two) easy on yourself and support their mission trip.

Order on sign up in fellowship hall or on the weekly email, pick up after church Sunday, April 19th.



We're excited to share that our church now has unlimited access to **RightNow Media**—the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources. This extensive library has **more than 20,000 videos** taught by leaders like Francis Chan, Jennie Allen, J.D. Greear, Dr. Tony Evans, and many more. These Bible study videos can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include **free discussion guides and handouts**.

rightnow MEDIA

A GIFT FROM OUR CHURCH

Free Access to 25,000+ Bible Study Videos—Anytime, Anywhere, from Any Device

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



android chromecast  iPhone & iPad **Roku**  fireTV

Palestine Lutheran Church
1375 HWY 210
P.O. BOX 189
Huxley, IA 50124-8110
Address service requested