



Reaching out in Christian love to all!

THE PALESTINE PRESS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**APRIL 2025** 



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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.

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### Palestine will accept your offering!

- Bring to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
- Mail check to:

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Palestine Lutheran Church P.O. Box 189

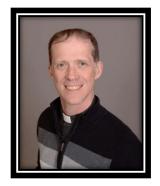
Huxley, IA 50124

3. Give online through Easy Tithe.

Go to our website <a href="www.plchuxley.com">www.plchuxley.com</a> 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.



### 

<sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim <u>Christ crucified</u>, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, <u>Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God</u>. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and

God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

#### - I Corinthians 1:22-25

I've heard that "certainty" is the opposite of faith. Sounds weird to write that idea down. If we were to make a list of things that we are certain about then the list might be surprisingly small and if pressed...uncertain. Faith is a gift that shines in the face of uncertainty because it allows us to extend ourselves while also acknowledge what we know and don't know. Instead of "certainty" I prefer the word "wisdom" which is a combination of experience, intuition and knowledge. I pray for God's wisdom quite often because I believe it calls for God's active presence and great humility. I think that wisdom helps to "work smarter and not harder" in a way that might seem counter intuitive.

We have walked through Lent reflecting and gleaning the wisdom of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel. Jesus took the law and the prophets and taught the wisdom behind them which we might call principles of application, or the "So what?" in a sermon, and that wisdom did not seem like wisdom – according to the world that is. Jesus did not stop with this sermon! He shared his wisdom with us even on the cross upon which he suffered and died! We examined this wisdom through the "words that last forever" theme on Sundays. Each word from Jesus amid suffering has wisdom for us who suffer and die in how to respond and faithfully move through such times with the promise of Easter on the other side.

Now in April we are entering "Holy Week" with a new ear and eye for God's wisdom in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Martin Luther had insight into the death of Jesus which he called the "Deus absconditus" Latin translates into "Hidden God." He believed that on the cross of Jesus, God is the closest to us! So close that God seems hidden! If this is true, then there is great love, mystery, faith and wisdom to be received and experienced in other such moments in our life this side of heaven.

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, author of wisdom, may we enter this Lent journey and Holy Week with hearts and minds attuned to your wisdom and deep love, so that we might receive sustenance and grow into the people whom you created us to be for you and one another in Jesus's name. Amen.



Children are invited to join the Sr. Choir Palm Sunday Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> to sing "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

Please come at 9 a.m. on April 13<sup>th</sup> to practice.



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

## GET INVOLVED

### **ZOOM Bible Study**

Tuesdays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm – <u>Life By His Word Bible</u> <u>Study Series: Paul's Missionary Work and Epistles – Study of</u> ROMANS

This Bible study provides discussion questions, application, and summary insights. Each chapter and book of Paul's Mission Work and Epistles is explored, offering a rich and full approach to study and devotion. Each lesson is divided up in easy to use one-page handouts. The study includes teaching materials and student materials in two formats: PDF to print directly and RFT for customization. Copies are available in the Fellowship Hall at church.

### Men's Bible Study

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

### Food Pantry Ministry

Help serve at the local food pantry in Huxley with our Fjeldberg friends. Volunteer at the pantry! Contact Merle Rasmussen vikinggames@huxcomm.net

### R.O.C.K. Group

For high school students. The R.O.C.K. Group will typically meet the  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Wednesday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m.

### 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 April 13<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Fenceline Brewpub in Huxley, 107 S Main Ave, Huxley, IA 50124

### **New Member Orientation Meetings**

April 27<sup>th</sup> 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



## Join us at 6 p.m.

Wednesdays during Lent.

April 2<sup>nd</sup> April 9<sup>th</sup>

Walking Tacos
Pancakes & sausage

Sponsored by Council Sponsored by Property



SR. CHOIR PERFORMANCE MARCH 9TH



## Daily Faith Practices

Daily discipleship themes can be used for Bible study. They are available on the ELCA website <a href="www.elca.org">www.elca.org</a> → Resources → Downloadable Resources → Bible studies

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

**Focus:** Press on towards Christ

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:14 NRSV)

Read Philippians 3:4b-14

Palm Sunday

**Focus:** Same Mind as Christ

"And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:7b-8 NRSV)

Read Philippians 2:5-11

Easter

**Focus:** Defeating Death Itself

"For [Christ] must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (1 Corinthians 15:25-26 NRSV)

Read 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

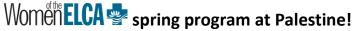
**Focus:** The resurrected Christ – who was, who is, and who is to come

"Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come ...from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth."

Revelation 1:4b-5 (NRSV)

Read Revelation 1:4-8

### Women are invited to the annual





Business Meeting--Lunch

### Gilbert GILBERT... Fjeldberg HUXLEY ... Palestine HUXLEY

There will be a program including a guest speaker from Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Guests are asked to bring a \$5 donation for registration and twin sized bedding (sheets, pillows, quilts, colorful bedding) to help furnish the beds that Sleep in Heavenly Peace makes and distributes to ensure every child has a bed.



### Join us Friday, April 11th

@ 5 p.m.

A sign up for sides and volunteer help is in fellowship hall.

## Anniversary Milestone



# Dennis & Diane Wright's 55th on April 25th

We wish Dennis and Diane many blessings as they celebrate this milestone in their marriage.

They were married at Moulton Christian Church in Moulton, lowa

#### **APRIL 2025**





- Mason Kam
   Derrick Rhoads
- 3 Marlys Hartman (87<sup>th</sup>)
- 6 Craig FauschGreg Saveraid
- 7 Cindy Friedrichsen
- 9 Cheryl Blackmer Kyle Jolly
- 11 Marvin Edwards
- 12 Brookelyn Rahner Wyatt Sandquist
- 15 Todd Schmidt
- 18 Garrett Jensen Maggie Larson Katie Madson
- 19 Margo Baldwin
- 21 Hadlee Nobiling
- Wayne Reinhart (74<sup>th</sup>)Carolyn Tatarniuk
- 26 Emmalyn Kruse
- 27 Maizy DeVries Emma Sample
- 28 Bob Snider (78th)
- 29 Olivia Ewing
- 30 Ruth Evans (71<sup>st</sup>)

- 2 Mike & Holly Larson (20<sup>th</sup>)
- 19 Marvin & Lori Edwards
- 23 Tyler & Sarah Roelfs (20<sup>th</sup>)
- 24 Andrew & Kristine Polich
- 25 Dennis & Diane Wright (55th)
- 26 Mark & Jen Pote
- 27 Quinn & Norma McBride
- 30 Jessica (Blackmer) & Brian Green

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



Let's shower the following members with birthday cards:

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Marlys Hartman (87<sup>th</sup>)
See mailed newsletter for address



**ALTAR GUILD:** Lesa Lewis & Jen Pote

### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

**April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Doreen Blackmer; Laura Kepler **April 20<sup>st</sup>:** David & Vallery

Eisenmann (Festival service)

OFFERING COUNTERS: Brad

Lewis; Holly Twedt

**USHERS:** needed

Greeters\*, \*\*

**April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Chris & Amanda Richter; Doug & Lori

Schonhorst

April 13<sup>th</sup>: Tom & Kristin Shelton; Jeff & Kim Van Pelt April 20<sup>st</sup>: Mike & Cindi Thomas; Lora Young

April 27<sup>th</sup>: Ben & Candi Engler; Eric & Teri Klimpel

- \*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.

### 2025

MAI							
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
				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
SUNDAY	IVIONDAT	TUESDAT
<b>30</b> 4th Sunday of Lent 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship Music with Nels First Communion Class	31	10 a.m. Rock Creek Worship Ankeny (Pastor) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
6 5th Sunday of Lent 8:00 a.m. Council Mtg 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion Music with Nels Congregational Mtg First communion class	7	8 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
13 Palm Sunday 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:00 a.m. Children's choir joins Sr. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship Music with Nels Cookie Sunday First Communion class 5:30 p.m. Theology on Tap	14	15 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 1:00 p.m. Cedars Worship Madrid (Pastor) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service; Holy Communion Breakfast (TBD) 9:30 a.m. Festival Worship; Holy Communion Easter Egg Hunt	May Newsletter deadline	22 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
<b>27</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship Music with Nels New member orientation	28	29 10 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study

### April 2025

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light Dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	3	4	9:00 a.m. Women's Spring Cluster @ Palestine 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Spring Blast @ Riverside 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> grades
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Light Dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service	10	5 p.m. @ Palestine Dad & Me Retreat @ Riverside	12
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Prayer Support Group 1:00 p.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. North Polk Ministerial Assoc. Mtg (Pastor) 7:00 p.m. Gethsemane Prayer Service	7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday; Holy Communion; First Communion	2:00 p.m. Passion of the Christ movie 5:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service	Easter Vigil (devotionals available)
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Green Hills Devotions (Pastor) 1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Confirmation	24 11:00 a.m. Ballard Ministerial Meeting (Pastor)	25	26
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	MAY 1  Happy otay Day	2	3



## These minutes have not yet been approved. Palestine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Date: 03/09/2025

See mailed newsletter for minutes



### Remember in Prayer

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

Kristy Brownfield, Sam Engler, Betsy Johnson, Dolores Hauge, Alice Kahler, Gemma Lynch, Judy McKinney, Joey McBride, Cindy Peterson, Larry Pote, Havanna Roelfs, Jean Sandquist, Tim Shoemaker, Pastor Stubbs, Omar Tesdell, Ramsey Tesdell

Family and Friends of: Clara Eisenmann, Dan Eisenmann, Dena Bloodsworth, Charles Bowers, Sarah Piper, Helen Miller, Jacob Leedom, Dan Bushaw, Elaine Paradise, Charlize Flick, Lee Briggs, Thomas Noll, Linda Lewis, Roger Larson, Sally Greve, Krisha Barrett, Dick Cast, Cheryl (Ness) Shranklen, Marge Sheldahl, Sandy Wirtz, Shirley Pierce, Ken Larson



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 2025 Youth Summer Camps. Visit their website at <a href="https://www.riversidelbc.org">www.riversidelbc.org</a>

### Spring Blast

April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 4:00 p.m.

(2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders)

K.I.C.K. will reimburse the \$40 registration fee for 3-6 graders!

### ❖ Dad & Me Retreat

April 11-12

COST: \$75 per adult; \$50 per child (4 & under free)

**Includes:** Three meals and snacks, overnight lodging in a Riverside cabin, amazing fun, worship, games, plenty of outdoors time, and

memories that will last forever!

## Annual Gala Saturday, April 5, 2025 5:30-9:30pm

At Gatherings Event Venue

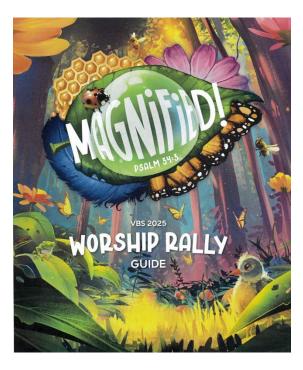
1024 6th St, Nevada, IA 50201

Tickets: Please RSVP by March 21.

Price: \$125/person

Entire table reservations available.

https://www.riversidelbc.org/the-gala



MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
FOR VBS
SUMMER 2025

June 22-26 (Tentative dates)

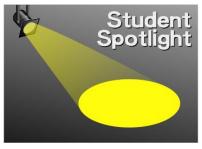
Seeking volunteers – many different roles to fill. Contact Candi Engler volley 602@hotmail.com) if you are interested.



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

Robin Doty, Lori Edwards, Paris Hitchcock, Eric & Teri Klimpel, Norma

McBride, Dennis & Donna Millang, Deb Moore, Roger Moore, Chris Nelson, Deidre Qual, Tracy Rhoads, Jean Saveraid, Holly Twedt, Wendt Family, Lora Young



## COLLEGE/MILITARY UPDATES:

This month we are featuring:

**Derrick Rhoads** 



Derrick is attending the University of Northern Iowa still majoring in accounting.

For fun, Derrick is in an accounting club and is playing club tennis. He is looking forward to moving into an apartment off campus with friends for his sophomore year.

### **JOIN US EASTER MORNING: April 20, 2025**



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

R.O.C.K. Breakfast TBD

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

Easter Egg Hunt courtesy of

Christian Education Committee



### **April 2025 LSI Story**

LSI serves lowans of all ages; from families with newborns navigating parenthood, to Refugee and

Immigrant elders, and children of all ages. One of the most vital populations LSI supports is young parents, especially those navigating the challenges of early motherhood. Cheyenne F., a Family Support Specialist for LSI's Healthy Families America (HOPES) program, shares the impactful work she's doing with young mothers in need of support.

She shares that she had the privilege of working closely with NF, a young mom who has shown incredible growth and resilience.

The Healthy Families America (HOPES) program is an evidence-based child abuse prevention program that provides support to prenatal families and families with children ages 0-5. LSI's Family Support Specialists work with families like NF's to provide the guidance and resources needed to break cycles of abuse and neglect and build strong, healthy foundations for children and parents alike.

NF's journey began in June 2023 when she reached out for help. At 19 years old and pregnant, NF was living in Muscatine County and knew she needed extra parenting support. Through the HOPES program, Cheyenne began building rapport with NF right away and learned about NF's challenging upbringing, which included bouncing from foster home to foster home starting at age 6.

"NF had faced so much inconsistency and pain in her early years," shared Cheyenne. "It was clear that she had a lot of unresolved trauma, but it was equally clear that she wanted to make a positive change in her life, especially for her baby."

Throughout the course of their work together, Cheyenne and NF focused on building trust and creating a safe space for NF to share her experiences and challenges. NF revealed that after High School, she fell into a pattern of poor choices, including run-ins with the law. NF got pregnant, and although she knew the father, he didn't want to be involved in her pregnancy or her life. Despite this, she had two strong support networks: her foster parents and her current roommate.

Cheyenne shares that NF struggled with controlling her behavior, and she feared she might end up back in jail, which unfortunately happened. When she was incarcerated, Cheyenne made sure to stay in contact with her foster parents and provided them with regular updates and support.

When NF was released from jail, she confided in Cheyenne that she was considering running away with her baby, which prompted Cheyenne to share valuable resources with her to support her mental health, housing, and employment.

"I knew that if NF ran, it could jeopardize the progress we had made. But with the right guidance and resources, NF began to see a different path forward," Cheyenne shared.

Cheyenne expressed her excitement about NF's progress stating, "NF has made such huge strides. She started attending therapy twice a week and has also found a job at a local consignment store. She's enrolled in anger management classes and is committed to creating a better future for herself and her baby."

Today, NF's baby is thriving, meeting all developmental milestones. NF continues to meet regularly with Cheyenne and enjoys engaging in evidence-based activities that are tailored to her needs as a young mother. "I'm so thankful for the HOPES program. I don't know where I'd be without the support of Cheyenne," NF shared.

It's stories like NF's that remind us why the work we do is so important. With the right support, anything is possible.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at <a href="mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org">Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org</a> or 563-676-2065.

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 and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

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