

Words That Last Forever



Palestine
Lutheran Church

Reaching out in Christian love to all!

**THE PALESTINE PRESS
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

MARCH 2025



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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

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

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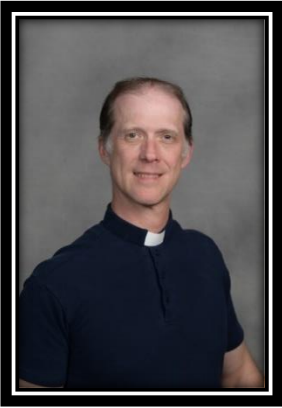


Tithes & Offering

Palestine will accept your offering!

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



Pausing at the Lakeshore -----

----- With Pastor Eric

¹ Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵ Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” ⁶ When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” ⁹ For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” ¹¹ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. – Luke 5:1, 4-11

I was caught off guard recently by one of my own sermons. I preached the Lukan account of Jesus gathering his first disciples at the lakeshore. Jesus taught from Simon’s boat and then had Simon go into deep water for a catch of fish. Simon had not caught anything all night but did as Jesus directed. The fish were so numerous that other boats need to come out and help bring in the multitude of fish. What caught my attention was the response of Simon to such amazing success. He begged Jesus to go away from him because he is a sinful man. What an odd response to success? I’m not sure that those involved would have thought to attribute such abundant fishing to Jesus. Simon did...He saw the truth behind the success and realized that it was bigger than him.

Jesus responded with the phrase “from now on you will catch people.” Here are some observations that I invite us all to consider this Lent.

- 1.) Whether we are fishermen, farmers, engineers, teachers, pastors, whatever our vocations, Jesus calls and equips us to follow him. We are children of God and disciples no matter what we do for a job. Listening to Jesus bears fruit in all situations.
- 2.) Success is not ours alone. Simon had Jesus, and his fellow fishermen to bring in the enormous catch of fish. We should appreciate and give thanks to God and those who participate in whatever success we experience.
- 3.) Repentance is key when living a Christian life. It frees us to accept and learn from our failures and make different choices. It takes the weight of our worries, fears off our backs in exchange for God’s grace and faithfulness. It helps us receive and give because we know that it’s not about “me”. It provides an openness to forgiving others because we all sin and we acknowledge that fact.

Lent is a time to reflect on our spiritual journey with God. We can read biblical stories and seek out our own stories within them. In 2025, we will reflect upon the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount and pay special attention to the seven last words of Jesus from the cross which is our most intimate and profound moment with God.

Let us pray. Gracious Father, reveal to us the depth of love and life that Jesus provides this Lent season, so that we may experience our story in Jesus’s story with depth and conviction. May we repent and grow in relationship with you with courage, in Jesus’s name we pray. Amen.

GET INVOLVED

ZOOM Bible Study

Tuesdays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm – Life By His Word Bible Study Series: Paul's Missionary Work and Epistles – Study of 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 2nd and 4th 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 March 23rd from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Fenceline Brewpub in Huxley, 107 S Main Ave, Huxley, IA 50124

New Member Orientation Meetings

March 9th 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.

March 12 th	Breakfast for Supper	<i>Sponsored by Fellowship/Evangelism</i>
March 19 th	TBA	<i>Sponsored by</i>
March 26 th	TBA	<i>Sponsored by</i>
April 2 nd	TBA	<i>Sponsored by</i>
April 9 th	TBA	<i>Sponsored by</i>



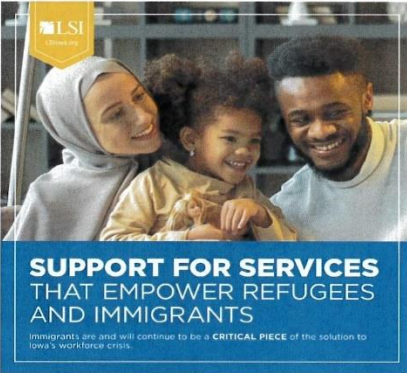
First Communion Class

This year's first communion classes will be held after church (10:45-11:30) on **March 9th, March 30th, April 6th, and April 13th**. (this avoids spring break Sundays). The class is designed for the 5th 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.

Please let the office know by February 26th so books and materials can be prepared.

Lent Mid-Week and Family Home Devotional Offerings (collected over 40 days for Palm Sunday (April 13th))



**Monetary donations for mid-week
to support LSI. Make note in
memo section of check "LSI".**

Holy Week and Special Offering

We will be collecting Donations of Food (per list below) & Special Monetary Donations from April 13th – April 27th to help serve both the Food Pantry & the Ballard Clothing & Food Pantry.

❖ Huxley & Kelley "Cupboard" Food Pantry.

Over the past year, the pantry has served 2400 people. The pantry is located at 503 E 1st Street (behind the south Casey's).

❖ Ballard Clothing & Food Pantry

Located at 602 N Main Ave., Suite 105, Huxley. Free to anyone in the Ballard Community.

**Fill a grocery bag with food
items and bring to church any
time between April 6 & 27. —
Pick up bag at church entrances**

Targeting the Most Popular Choices:

- Chef Boyardee Beef Ravioli (canned)
- Dinty Moore Beef Stew (canned)
- Chicken Breast Chunk (can)
- Carrots -sliced and diced (canned)
- Baked beans/pork and beans (canned)
- Manwich (canned)
- Helper meals (boxed)
- Pears (canned and cups)

SERVICE RECOGNITION & COUNCIL INSTALLATION February 2nd, 2025



Thanks to Deidre Qual for more than 10 years of service as the church treasurer!



Thanks to out-going council members for their dedication and service to Palestine!



Thanks to McKenzie Bushaw for her years of leadership with the R.O.C.K. Group!

NEW COUNCIL INSTALLATION

Tim Wilson, Deidre Qual, David Eisenmann, Kristin Shelton, Greg Saveraid, Mike Brixius, Scott Johnson, Mark Pote, Chris Richter, Christa Hartsook, Brad Lewis





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

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

1st Sunday of Lent

Focus: O God, how might I serve you today?

Jesus answered [the devil], “It is written ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Luke 4:8 (NRSV)

Read Luke 4:1-13

2nd Sunday of Lent

Focus: O God, what am I to do while on this earth?

[Jesus] said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.’” Luke 13:32 (NRSV) Read Luke 13:31-35

3rd Sunday of Lent

Focus: How is God being patient with you?

If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” Luke 13:9 (NRSV) Read Luke 13:1-9

4th Sunday of Lent

Focus: What does it mean to dwell in God’s grace?

Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ Luke 15:32 (NRSV) Read Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



March 2025

BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH

- 1 Kaedence DeVries
- Julianne Schaudt
- Jeannie Williams
- 2 DeAnne Jolly
- 4 Benjamin Ewing
- 7 Mark Doty
- Andrew Larson
- Aiden Lewis
- 10 Brad Lewis
- 11 Lucas Hartsook
- 12 Natalie Kruse
- 13 Madeline Sheldahl
- 16 Samantha Ewing
- Reese Wuebker
- 17 Rebecca Snider
- 18 Ty Siepker
- Hannah Saltzman
- 19 Addy Siepker
- 20 Brittany Young
- 21 Blake Edwards
- Patti Rowedder
- 22 Kevin Kopaska
- Chris Nelson (71st)
- 23 Doreen Blackmer
- Mike Hughes (77th)
- 24 Nic Shonhorst
- 25 Jessica Green
- Carlee Nobiling
- 28 Erika Williams
- 29 Brent Emerson
- Helen Kepler (81st)
- Rick Sheldahl

- 29 Samuel Argueta
- Mae Wilson
- 30 Norma McBride (81st)



Let's shower the following members with birthday cards:

- March 29th Helen Kepler**
See mailed newsletter for address
- March 30th Norma McBride**
See mailed newsletter for address



- 5th David Ewing & Monica Morse
- 25th Olivia & Sam Duffy

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



ALTAR GUILD: Donna Millang & Helen Kepler

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

March 2nd: Doreen Blackmer, Leonard Larson

March 5th (Ash Wednesday): Dennis Millang and Erika Williams

March 16th: Leonard & Sue Larson

USHERS: *needed*

OFFERING COUNTERS: Matt & Erika Williams

GREETERS*, **:

March 2nd: David & Vallery Eisenmann; Bruce & Angie Hartman

March 9th: Scott & Alyssa Johnson; Dennis & Donna Millang

March 16th: Marvin & Lori Edwards; Tim & Julie Huxford

March 23rd: Cynthia Johnson; Leonard & Sue Larson

March 30th: Jason & Melinda Kam; Rich & Chris Nelson

*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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
2 <i>Transfiguration of our Lord</i> "Name Tag Sunday" 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion <i>Music with Nels</i>	3	4 10:00 a.m. Rock Creek Worship Ankeny (<i>Pastor</i>) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
9 <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> "Cookie Sunday" New member orientation First Communion Class	10	11 10:00 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
16 <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion 5:00 p.m. 4H	17	18 10:00 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 1:00 p.m. Cedars Worship in Madrid 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study
23 <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> 5:30 p.m. Theology on Tap <i>Easter Lily orders due</i>	24	25 10:00 a.m. Area Pastors' Study (<i>Pastor</i>) 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study <i>Newsletter deadline</i>
30 <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> 8:30 a.m. Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>Music with Nels</i> First Communion Class	31	April 1 10:00 a.m. Area Pastors' Study 7:00 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study

APRIL 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		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			

MARCH 2025

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5  ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 2025 World Day of Prayer</p>	<p>8 9 – 2 Council Retreat</p>
<p>12</p> <p>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</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>19</p> <p>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 Mtg (<i>Pastor</i>) 6:00 p.m. Light Dinner 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service</p>	<p>20 11:00 a.m. Ballard Ministerial Mtg (<i>Pastor</i>)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>26</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Green Hillis Devotions (<i>Pastor</i>) 1:00 p.m. Quilting 6:00 p.m. Light Dinner 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten service</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>2</p> <p>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</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 WELCA Spring Cluster meeting @ Palestine 9:30-4 Spring Blast at Riverside Grades 2-6 (pre-registration required)</p>



These minutes have not yet been approved.

February Palestine Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 02/02/2025

See the mailed newsletter for copy of the minutes.

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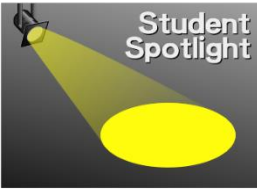


Remember in Prayer

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

Tracy Blackmer, Kristy Brownfield, Sam Engler, Betsy Johnson Alice Kahler, Jan Lewis, 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: Gary Davis, Shirley Saveraid, 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



COLLEGE/MILITARY UPDATES:

This month we are featuring:

Megan Rowedder



I am attending Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. This is my first year and it's been an awesome experience! I am studying Biomedical Sciences and hopefully going on to medical school to become a physician assistant. The main thing I am involved with is soccer. I am on the women's soccer team and we just wrapped up our season in the fall. We had a good season and it was a lot of fun! I also got my first collegiate goal which was pretty cool. During the winter, I was involved with intramural basketball and I am also involved with psychology club,

science club, and Student Activities Board (SAB).

ROCK Valentine Raffle Winner:

SHANNON WILSON (*will she go for a three-peat?*)

R.O.C.K raised \$480.00. Thank you!





KICK SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



Thank you for helping us provide 101 cans of soup and \$100 donation to our local food pantry!



Women of the ELCA

Mark your calendar for the spring CLUSTER MEETING
April 5th @ Palestine.
More details coming soon.



Easter Lilies for Easter Worship

Order your Easter Lily for **\$20** for Easter Sunday Worship.

Call Tracy Sheldahl at 515-450-1961. Please let her know (at the time you order) if you are placing the plant in memory of or in honor of someone. The deadline to order is **Sunday, March 23rd**.

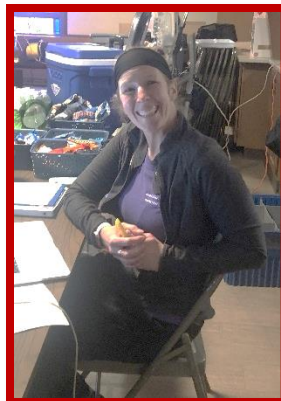
Thank You

to Matt Williams for fixing the lights in the light-up cross on the west side of the church!



Here are the official results from the blood drive:

- 37 people on the schedule going into the drive
- 30 registered to donate
- 4 first time donors!!!
- 27 were able to donate
- 30 units of blood collected
- **Up to 90 lives saved or sustained!!**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

➔ **Spring Blast! Open for 2nd – 6th graders.**

Registration:

- Register online <https://www.riversidelbc.org/spring-blast>
- Call the office at 515-733-5271 with any questions

Details

- Saturday, April 5, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm
- 9:00 am - 9:30 am check-in upon arrival and drop-off at the Dining Hall
- 4:00 pm pick-up at the Dining Hall

Cost \$40 per camper (K.I.C.K will reimburse the \$40 registration fee for any Palestine member attending.)



Ballard Clothing Pantry

March is Palestine's month to staff the Clothing Pantry. There is a sign up in fellowship hall in to sign up for shifts. The Clothing Pantry is a valuable service for many people in our community. It stays open only because of generous volunteers.

Please consider staffina at least one shift.



WANT TO BORROW ITEMS FROM THE CHURCH?

There is a check-out binder in the main church office. If you ever want to check out items you are borrowing for a short time from the church, fill out a form! Thank you!

Palistine Lutheran Church
P. O. BOX 189
Huxley, IA 50124-8110
Address service requested