



Message from the Pastor

The following are the words of Father Richard Rohr, a Catholic priest I often turn to for comfort and guidance.

“The curtailing of individual freedom to live, move, and work may be a new experience for some of us - but is familiar to communities who have suffered from oppression for centuries. By necessity, they have developed ways of coping with fear and uncertainty on an individual and communal level.....We cannot face large-scale crises as individuals; we cannot carry the pain of this reality on our own, nor can we only look out for ourselves. The pain is communal and *so too must be the response.*”

As I closed my sermon last Sunday, for the good of all, Stay Home. - *Pastor Denny Wright*

Message from the Church Council

The Bible says, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (*Matthew 18:20*) For a while, gathering in His name is going to be a little different for our church family. We made the decision that our church building will be closed through at least April 16. We have postponed the Congregational Meeting scheduled for March 22. Even though our church doors may be closed during this time, that does not mean our church family is “closed.”

While we will not be able to have people gather in our beautiful building for worship services, we will be reaching out by phone, by mail, and online, and we are even planning a creative and safe worship experience for Easter. If you are able to engage with us online, please do. Send your email address to office@lcrmarion.org so you can receive our news updates.

Our staff is coming together to provide many ways for people of all ages to engage. We are having weekly **worship available online at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings**, and **online worship services at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays**, broadcast on our YouTube channel. Please continue to watch social media (links to right) for more information on accessing our resources.

This is a time for our church to reach out in Christ’s love to help those in need during this crisis. If YOU are in need of assistance, such as help picking up supplies or prescriptions, or if you know of a way we can help in the community, please contact us. Also, we are going to be praying. Please call us at 319-377-4689 or email office@lcrmarion.org so we can notify our prayer warriors to lift up you or your loved ones. If you want to talk to someone, Stephen Ministers will be available to provide care via telephone calls.

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Crosstalk

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[instagram.com/resurrectionmarion/](https://www.instagram.com/resurrectionmarion/)

~ YouTube ~
<https://tinyurl.com/LCRYoutube>

Worship

Services Streamed Online

While the church is closed, the Sunday morning and Wednesday night services are being streamed online. You can see them by going to our website: lcrmarion.org. If you know anyone who is having a difficult time during these uncertain days, please let them know about these services. They are very uplifting and encouraging. **The Sunday morning service is live at 10:00 am and the Wednesday night service is live at 6:00 pm.** We are fortunate to have the two great interim pastors we do, and these services can be uplifting to you or people that you know.

April 1 - Nicodemus, Pastor Nate Montover

April 5 - Palm Sunday: Money Changers, Pastor Nate Montover

Bible reading - Matthew 21:1-13

April 9 - Maundy Thursday: God's Voice In Thunder, Pastor Nate Montover

April 10 - Good Friday: Tenebrae, Pastor Nate Montover

April 12 - Easter Worship: Nobody Like Jesus,

Pastor Denny Wright

Bible reading - John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

April 15 - Easter Message, Pastor Denny Wright

April 19 & 22 / Bible reading - John 20:19-31



Update on Senior Pastor Call

Because of the COVID-19 challenges, we are stalled on our pastor candidate call. The Synod is recommending that all call activity be delayed while the nation deals with the COVID-19 virus.

The COVID-19 virus has physically shut down both our church and our call candidate's home church. We are unable to have either a large group "Meet and Greet" or a church vote on his call. Announcing his departure to his church would add to the stressful situation at his home church. It would be best if our candidate could announce and explain in person to his home church. All parties involved want what's best for both congregations.

We have discussed the situation with our candidate and he supports that we take a step back and delay the vote and announcements. He is fully committed to joining LCR as our senior pastor. A delay because of the COVID-19 virus is not going to change his mind. We have assured him that we are fully committed to presenting the call to the LCR congregation. We are going to discuss weekly with our candidate to review options as the COVID-19 situation changes.

We are trying to do what is best for our candidate, his home church, and our congregation. It will be a balancing act but we are confident that we will get through this COVID-19 situation.

- Council & the Call Committee



Noah packs boxes at HACAP

Ministry

Surgical Masks for UnityPoint



Calling all sewers! Some of our quilters are firing up their machines to make surgical masks. Would you like to help? The pattern can be found on our website under the 'downloads' tab (Olson Surgical Mask Pattern).

Fabric masks offer the benefit of being able to be washed and re-used. Healthcare workers need to change their mask several times during their shifts as their masks become soiled or damp.

Please note that the pattern on our website is for the mask part only. The hospital will provide the filter, double-sided tape, and hair bands, and then assemble the completed masks after your work is delivered.

Marion Food Pantry

Since Resurrection is not currently open for dropping off items for the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, individuals can take items to the pantry itself on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 am. Other appointments for food drop-off may be made by calling 319-775-0208. The food pantry is located across the alley from First Presbyterian Church (Marion): 864 - 12th St. They are most in need of food, toilet paper, and hygiene items. Monetary donations may also be sent – checks written to Churches of Marion Food Pantry. At this time, people are asked to not bring clothing, as the clothing closet is closed.

March/April Mission Envelopes

....will go to Matthew 25, a Cedar Rapids ministry that empowers people to transform through programs in three categories: Food, Housing/Neighborhoods, and Education (<https://www.hub25.org/>).

In January & February, \$2,160 was given for FLY (Feeding Lunches to Youth). Thank you, Resurrection givers!

HACAP Food Box Assembly

In response to the recent developments of COVID-19, the HACAP Food Reservoir will be working to have more prepackaged boxes of food readily available for partner agencies to prevent the spread of germs. Because of this, we will be needing more volunteers to pack these boxes. Below is a link where you can sign up for a volunteer slot to help us out if you are healthy, willing, and available.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f49aeac2aa1fc1-foxbox>

The health and safety of our volunteers is a top priority as well, so we are limiting groups to 5 total individuals at the moment. If you are feeling ill, have traveled outside of the US recently, or flown on a plane in the last 14 days, please do not sign up to volunteer.

FLY Spring Break Update

FLY had a very busy Spring Break with 424 lunches being served in Marion Village, Squaw Creek, and Valley View Apartments. Volunteers served between 72 - 97 children a day. Bailey Peterson, FLY intern, headed up our efforts and will be with us this summer as well. LCR's own Jared Feigenbaum will be the other FLY intern this summer. Congrats, Jared!

Linn-Mar and Marion will be taking over the efforts to feed students after Spring Break. The schools will be utilizing buses, school buildings, and the three FLY sites in their efforts to get lunches to our students in need. Please pray for the students and the school employees in this difficult time. FLY has offered the school districts assistance and will wait to hear if help is needed.

I will let you know more about FLY's plans for summer as information becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact me at jill@lcrmarion.org.

Mission of Hope Lunches

Mission of Hope is continuing their lunch program during this time of social distancing. They have switched to handing out box lunches, so people can take their meals away and eat safely. Our Resurrection group has decided to give \$150 to the Mission in lieu of the meal they planned to prepare on April 2nd. Mission of Hope can buy meals from HACAP at this time, and our group will plan to serve again in June, God willing.

Sunday School



The preschool and kindergarten classes had volunteers come in and help them make a mural about “following Jesus.”

**Sunday School
Director
Jessi Lau
jessi@
lcrmarion.org**



**preschool through
5th grades**



Our elementary students have been talking about the Lords Supper, and hosted their own sit-down meal to find creative ways to serve their peers, just like Jesus did!

Wednesday Night Live

3rd-5th Grade Students

Please check your emails, the church website, and LCR Facebook page for ideas you can do with your children to help grow their connection with God and their family. We look forward to serving you in a different way until we get through this time. *Praying together as a family is a great way to start. Let your children lead the prayers, as I have found in WNL that they are very good at it!*



WNL Director Jill Hansen / jill@lcrmarion.org

Thank you to all the volunteers and families that made our WNL Lent Meal happen. I am blessed with wonderful families and individuals who step up and help when they are needed.



Adult Faith & Outreach

Dear Adult Disciples and Lifetree Friends,

As you are aware, the state prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people at this time, so we made the sad decision to close Lutheran Church of the Resurrection through at least April 16. Things may change, and we will try to keep you posted as they do. We will miss gathering throughout the week, and we can't wait to start up again as soon as it is safe to do so! In the meantime, our adult teams are looking at online studies we may undertake. You can keep informed by checking our website (lcrmarion.org) regularly or through social media:

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/ResurrectionMarion>

INSTAGRAM: <https://www.instagram.com/resurrectionmarion/>

TWITTER: https://twitter.com/lutheran_of

YOUTUBE: <https://tinyurl.com/LCRYoutube>

If there is a way we can help you out during this time, please don't hesitate to give us a call at (319) 377-4689 or drop us an email at office@lcrmarion.org.

Take care! - *Lutheran Church of the Resurrection*

Coffee with Pastor Nate

Pastor Nate is producing a series of video chats on our website and social media sites that are funny, informative, and inspiring! Be sure to check them out.



Christ In Our Home

Our devotionals for April, May, and June are already here at the church. Let us know if you need one and we can arrange a way to get it to you.

Family Resources

In addition to the suggestions on the calendar page, Jessi & Jill have a TON of activities listed on our website for kids and families - <https://lcrmarion.org/ministries/youth-ministry/youth-ministry-devotionals/>



- * Lots of online games and music for your children to explore
- * Email jessi@lcrmarion.org if you would like projects to put together, or craft supplies and bibles
- * I will be sending out packets of “Sunday School at Home” activities, email Jessi to sign up

If there is ANYTHING else I can do for you, that is what I am here for. Please don't hesitate to reach out. You can do this! I am praying for you. Also, if you are not receiving the church E-news, contact office@lcrmarion.org or let me know and I can get you connected! - Jessi Lau

Jill Hansen has started an online blog of activities for families on our website: lcrmarion.org. Keep checking our site and social media posts for fun and hope-filled activities.



Always know that I miss you all and pray for your safety daily. Please send me photos that we could share on our website of what you and your family are doing to spend time together as a family (jill@lcrmarion.org).

Giving

Many staff duties and building expenses continue whether the church is open or closed. Our council has made the decision that all church staff will continue to be paid. During this closure, the staff is exploring new options to serve our congregation and our community. We ask that you continue your financial support of the church through this time, if you are able.

We gratefully accept checks mailed to the church at: 3500 - 29th Ave., Marion, Iowa 52302.

....or....

This may be an opportunity for you to try online giving. We have several options:

* Simply Giving forms, which will allow you to give your offering via automatic bank deposit, are available online on our “Downloads” page, or on our “Giving” page at lcrmarion.org. You can complete the form and send it to the church. Please write ATTN: Joan Meyer (Recording Secretary) on your envelope. You can also scan the completed, signed form and email the attachment to recording.sec@lcrmarion.org.

* Give+ app, available for download through iTunes or the Google Play Store. Search for Give+ and download the app to your smartphone or tablet. Once the app is installed, select Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marion, IA. This app allows for recurring and one-time donations via credit/debit card or checking/savings account.

* PayPal button on the giving page of our website. A PayPal account is not required to complete this gift option.

Our primary concern right now is to bolster our church family in their faith, and to help provide for the spiritual and physical needs of our congregation and the larger community. We know that the church is not really the building, but all the members and friends who are ministers. Please reach out to us with your needs. In this time, we want to encourage you and equip you to be intentional in staying connected with your church family; be vigilant in prayer; and to be a bearer of His light to the world.

EDGE Youth Group

EDGE is moving online!



Contact Katie to get info on joining our live-streams each Wednesday night:
katie@lcrmarion.org

all EDGE students - If you don't have a Bible at home, contact me and we will get one dropped off in your mailbox!

You can also take part in our Sunday Study, even if you haven't in the past. Contact Katie



Confirmation

I have a crazy idea. If your kids are needing some sort of distraction while social distancing, I'd love to give them on-line guitar or bass lessons. I can FaceTime, and as Confirmation is one of my priorities at LCR, your schedules would be the priority and I'll make my schedule work around yours. All you need is a guitar with strings on it. If you don't have one, I'll get you one.

My primary concern right now is for our church to serve your needs. Families and volunteers. You come first. I haven't wanted to burden our committee or volunteers with additional emails and texts since we are now all being overwhelmed with on-line communication. So please forgive me if I am making too many decisions on my own. But here goes:

* There will be no further accounting for sermon notes or service hours. Whatever your child has done up until our the time of social isolation is fine. Parents will have the final decision about whether requirements for the year have been met.

* **We will schedule a Confirmation worship service just as soon as we know when we can gather again at the church.** I want all of you to assume that we are all good as far as confirmation goes, and I am honored to confirm all 8th graders once this is all behind us. The church is here to serve you. We are NOT going to burden you.

I'm looking forward to Confirmation next year, and I'm looking forward to worshipping with you when this is all over. - *Pastor Nate Montover*

Prayers

Prayers are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized in March:

Finnigan Cannon, Glen Madsen

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(Resurrection members) Deanna Harding, Finnigan Cannon, Dennis Conway, John Wilkinson, Lyle Bischof, Cheryl Irland, Marilyn Canady, Andy McRoberts, Barbara Wilkinson, Mike Rosz, Clark Gull, Marlys Claussen, Paul Bendixen, John Howe, Eugene Henry, Bernadean Spilde, Rick & Penny Siefken, Arvis Hahn, Bob & Jan Berridge.

(family and friends) Nick Hazelton, Joe Paulson, Vic Daman, Judy Brewer, Scheel brother, Will Springer, Ruth Ann Stai, Grandpa Harley, niece Peggy, Avona Lehmann.

Those living in care facilities:

Vera Olson, Martin Winch (The Views), Pat Rose, Larry Wogahn (Bickford Cottage), Esther Burrack (Hallmark), Ernest Jones (Crestview)

Those in military service:

Taylor Johnson, Paul & Chrystal McDonough, Aaron Moose, Steven Anderson, Jake Anderson, Haley Eickstaedt, Will Fritz, Steve Fritz, Todd Kopperud, Michael Berridge, David Berridge.

Those who celebrate:

- Scott & Sally Immerfall on the birth of a new granddaughter, Sloane Immerfall, Feb. 25th. Parents are Jordan & Holly Immerfall.

Those who mourn:

- Karen Madsen and family on the death of Glen Madsen on March 24th.
- Paul Burrack and family on the death of Esther Burrack on March 18th.
- The family and friends of past member, Dwayne Miskell, who passed away on March 8th in Spring, Texas.

Those in Transition:

- Those suffering from the COVID-19 infection and all others adapting to life under health restrictions.

Pastoral Care - With rules about confidentiality at our hospitals, we will not know that you or your family member is sick or in need unless you call the church office (319-377-4689).

Are you feeling overwhelmed by the current health emergency, or by other issues? Resurrection's Stephen Ministry is still here to help you work through stress, confusion, or anything. Call the church office or Mary Hajek (numbers below).



Lutheran Church
of the Resurrection
319-377-4689

Stephen Leader
Mary Hajek:
319-899-6454

Please let the office know about prayer needs or when you wish to have a name removed. The names of friends and family who are dealing with illness will be listed for 2 months.

Stewardship

Treasurer's Report for February 2020

	<u>February</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$38,835	\$105,174	\$110,999
General Fund Expenses	\$48,210	\$ 97,551	\$106,263
Cash Balances	<u>02/29/2020</u>	<u>02/29/2019</u>	
General Fund	\$32,573	\$16,430	
Clearing Accounts	\$59,479	\$48,815	
Growth & Outreach Fund	\$46,392	\$36,198	

2020 Growth & Outreach Fund

Growth & Outreach Fund Receipts through Feb 29th	\$ 21,353
Growth & Outreach Fund pledges through Feb 29th	\$ 20,261
Offerings received toward those pledges	\$ 20,378
% of pledges received	100.7%

This fund has three 'buckets': maintenance (building upkeep and repair); ministry (Director of Connections); and Mission (Camp Chisomo, Camp EWALU, Habitat for Humanity, Take Away Hunger event).

Total given to Camp Chisomo for the year is \$1,707, for Habitat for Humanity \$1,707, and for Camp EWALU \$1,707 commitment. Our building maintenance costs for the year through February was \$8,286, and Connections staff person / related training was \$4,915.

Church Council

The Council met on March 17th. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved. The General Fund balance was \$32,573 at the end of February.

New Business

- Council decided to close the physical structure of LCR until at least April 16th.
- Council decided to continue paying staff during the current situation.
- Discussion of growing online ministries during these short-term restrictions.

Call Process

- Council decided to postpone the Call Vote due to government restrictions on group size
- A tentative timeline going forward was agreed upon

Stewardship: A final comp package was agreed upon with the Pastoral Candidate

Outreach: First team meeting was one of orientation and organization. Optimism abounds!

Governance: n/a

Next Council Meeting - 4/21/20

Copies of minutes and treasurer's reports are in the church office.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
TOGETHER
connected through the promise of Jesus

General Fund Summary

After two months of 2020:

- ◆ Receipts are 108% of our anticipated income, pro-rated through February.
- ◆ Expenses are 100% of the 2020 budget, pro-rated through February
- ◆ Your faithful giving has provided: \$5,000 to the ELCA/Synod and \$2,160 to FLY program from Mission envelopes.

Those who donate through 'Simply Giving' do not receive offering envelope packets in the mail. Whenever you want to give extra for holidays or mission, you can pick up light green 'mission offering' envelopes at the Welcome Center literature rack.

Digital Giving

***Simply Giving** - Join over 90 LCR members who give regularly through automatic drafts from their checking or savings accounts. You can elect to give weekly, monthly, or quarterly. Enrollment forms are available in the info rack by the Welcome Center.

***PayPal** - There is a DONATE button you can click on our website for giving.

***Give+ Mobile Phone App** can be downloaded from Google Play or iTunes.

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the RESURRECTION
3500 - 29TH AVENUE
MARION IA 52302

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Jill fills food boxes at HACAP

Lord, you created a beautiful yet unpredictable world. We give you praise for the glory of creation and we ask for your continued strength to face the uncertainties of life with courage and good faith. Give us clear hearts and minds to live our lives without fear, knowing that despite the uncertainty of daily life we rest secure in the certainty of your love.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (2 Tim 1:7)

Lord, remind us of the strength you have given to the human race. Remind us that we often discover our strength during times of trial and crisis. Remind us that you are with us, walking with us in our fear and uncertainty. Remind us that Easter is coming. We pray these things in your name. Amen.

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing, he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

(1 Corinthians 10:13)



CONTACT US!

office hours:

Monday–Friday,
9 am–4 pm

phone: 319-377-4689

fax: 319-377-4680

email: office@lcrmarion.org

www.lcrmarion.org

Interim Pastor Denny Wright - denny@lcrmarion.org

Interim Pastor Nate Montover - nate@lcrmarion.org

Children's Ministry: Jill Hansen - jill@lcrmarion.org

Children's Ministry: Jessi Lau - jessi@lcrmarion.org

Youth Program: Katie Kascel - katie@lcrmarion.org

Communications: Cari Redondo - cari@lcrmarion.org

Volunteers: Marcia Edwards - marcia@lcrmarion.org

Office Manager: Evelyn Beck - evelyn@lcrmarion.org

Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org

Custodians: Marsie Hemminger, Dave Cosgrove

