



Volume 62, Issue 5  
May 2021

*"The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon."  
Psalm 92.12*

Here's a confession: for the past 18 years I had gardeners who took care of my lawn - mowed it, fertilized it, weeded it, edged it and generally made it look great. Alas, my Home Owner Association gardeners didn't come with me to Iowa, so I've had to re-learn the joys and frustrations of caring for a lawn!

Part of this, of course, is a trip to Menard's or Lowes, or wherever you prefer, and buying just the right fertilizer to help Mother Nature do her best. When I lived in Washington State I first learned about the secret numbers on fertilizer bags. You see, almost every bag of fertilizer will have three (3) numbers printed on the bag. It might be 32-5-5 or 5-10-20 or, my personal favorite, the general work horse of homeowners, 12-12-12! At first I just bought whatever bag was stacked in front of the aisle cap, but eventually I became a connoisseur of fertilizer.

The best way to understand the numbers was this little rhyme: Up, Down, All Around. The first number determined how much straight up growth you'd get. This high-in-nitrogen fertilizer would send your grass to the moon and mean lots of additional mowing. The second number determined how much energy would go into the roots, helping the grass establish itself. The third number would dictate to what extent the grass would reach out and fill in holes and gaps in the yard.

Ok, so what on earth does this have to do with us in the church? Well, besides some rather helpful information about fertilizer, I think this begs the question of what kind of 'spiritual fertilizer' might I be in need of right now! And more importantly, what kind of spiritual fertilizer would you throw on our church if you had the chance? Do we need to stand up a bit taller in the saddle and boldly proclaim our faith and gifts? That kind of growth is always exciting - but just like adding 36-0-0 to your lawn, it also creates a lot of work! Or, perhaps we need to work on our roots. Not worrying so much about keeping up with the current trends and desires, but spend time in the basics - taking the time for such timeless disciplines as prayer, scripture, worship and good works. This kind of growth is key to long-term health but it also takes concerted effort and desire. Then again, maybe what we really need to be doing is spreading ourselves out, growing our fellowship and taking up more chairs and spots in the parking lot. After all, our mission is to proclaim the Gospel to the world and there are still folks who need to hear it. This kind of growth is exciting as well, but it does come with a cost as we have to give up some of our control and allow others to shape us.

Do me and God a favor; work on at least one of these. Stretch yourself in new ways of living your faith, or take the time to work on your roots, or be intentional about inviting others to join us and then helping them connect. You see, it's spring and living things need to grow. We need to grow: Up, Down and All Around - and so does our church! Let me know what kind of fertilizer you'd put on our congregation right now. I tend to err toward the balanced 12-12-12; but maybe you see something that needs a little extra boost - tell me about it!

*Peace - Pastor Jeff*

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### Follow Us On Social Media:

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LCRYoutube

# Worship

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~ Sunday morning services - same message, different music styles ~

**Sunday 8:30 am - Traditional Worship**

**Sunday 10:30 am - Contemporary Worship**

*Refresh your spirit! Join us Wednesday evenings for a casual gathering with its own message, celebrating music from a range of worship styles.*

**Wednesday 6:00 pm - Evening Worship**

Resurrection worship services are held:

**In-Person** - 65 seats now available at every service!

Reserve your spot on SignUpGenius (link on our website) or by calling the church office.

**Livestream** - Links available on our website (lcrmarion.org) and on our social media sites.

You can sign up for **email alerts** from LCR about worship and other news. Scroll to the bottom of our homepage and sign up under “E-Newsletter” or email us (office@lcrmarion.org) and we’ll sign you up.

**Text Notifications** - Worship services and other events are subject to change with circumstances.

If you would like text notifications of schedule changes / cancellations, call the church office (319.377.4689) and give us your name & cell number ~OR~ you can sign yourself up at - <https://share.hsforms.com/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwI3ZiDQ44ay4>

## **Mother’s Day Celebration - May 9**

Look for some special surprises this Mother’s day (May 9th) at LCR! A photo booth will be available to take your picture, the kids will offer a video gift to all, and there will be other recognitions as well. We’d love to see you and the whole family at worship! Join us as we lift up all the women in our lives and are grateful for each and every one of you.

## **Wear RED! Pentecost Sunday - May 23**

On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Holy Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost Sunday is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. One of the three great festivals of the church (Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost) we gather together in joy and celebration as we give witness to the Spirit’s continued work in our midst. The color of the day is red, so put on your red shirts, slacks, pantsuits, dresses, socks and shoes - help us celebrate this special day at worship!

## **Graduation Sunday - May 30**

Help us honor your High School, Trade School, College, and Military graduates on May 30th by sending us their name, school/program from which they are graduating, and a picture. We will offer a special blessing to all our graduates during worship. We hope that as many of your graduates as possible will join us as we lift them up in prayer.

## **A Happy Retirement to Ruth Armstrong!**

It is with grateful hearts and warmest wishes that we lift up Ruth Armstrong as she has decided to retire as our organist/pianist here at LCR. Sunday, May 30th will be Ruth’s last Sunday and we encourage you to offer your well wishes and gratitude personally to Ruth. *“Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!” Psalm 150*





# Ministry

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## LCR Spring Clean-Up Day

*"Working together divides the tasks and multiplies the success."*

It is that time of year to check over the LCR landscaping and clean up the different areas. Join us on Saturday, May 1 from 8:00 to 11:00 am. If you have only an hour to help, that is great, and if you have more time, that is wonderful! Remember to bring your gloves, gardening tools, drinks, and have a face mask available. Our prayer is that there will be as many hands to complete the spring clean-up as there were last fall.

If you haven't joined us in the past, be aware that there are several areas that need a caretaker. Please let us know if you would be willing to adopt an area for the growing season. You can work on the LCR landscape whenever you have time in your schedule. Many thanks to all of those who volunteer to serve the church in this way! (see map - <http://lcrmarion.org/mt-content/uploads/2021/04/landscapers-map.pdf>)

If you have any questions, contact one of the Landscape Team: Andy & Marilynn Carter ([andy.a.carter@gmail.com](mailto:andy.a.carter@gmail.com), [cartermk46@gmail.com](mailto:cartermk46@gmail.com)), Denny & Julie Gilds ([d.jgilds@gmail.com](mailto:d.jgilds@gmail.com)), and Linda Hayward ([lhayward495@yahoo.com](mailto:lhayward495@yahoo.com)).

## Organist/Pianist Position at LCR - Spread the word

Having received word of Ruth's retirement, the search is on to find a new partner in ministry that can lead us from the bench! Our ideal candidate will be an accomplished musician, lead worship, able to utilize notation software, accompany our choral groups, and have a joy and passion for the Lord! We have placed the announcement in the local paper, online, and announced to local guilds and colleges and universities. If you have any connections or have any prospective candidates, please contact the church office. A Position Description is available for anyone who is interested.

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## Help Plant Trees in Marion



Linn County Sustainability & Linn County Conservation are providing **free trees** to households that might not otherwise be able to access them. Barriers may include a financial barrier or not physically

being able to plant the tree. Volunteers may sign up to plant trees by phone - 319-892-5148 or online - <https://www.linncounty-ia.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?aid=2144>.

## May & June Mission Envelopes

....will go to Community Free Health Clinic, which provides free medical, dental, vision, and prescription services for those without access to, or the ability to pay for, healthcare in our community. CHFC never charges for its services and is not reimbursed by the government. The clinic is funded through the generosity of individuals and groups in our community.

## Feeding Lunches to Youth



FLY is expected to start this summer on 6/10. The program is planning to go back to having sponsor churches responsible for a day of the week, rather than an entire week. LCR will be responsible for providing volunteers on Mondays beginning June 14th. The FLY board anticipates delivering lunches to the following sites: Bowman Woods, Chapel Ridge, Eagle Ridge, Wilkins Elementary, Marion Village, Novak Elementary, Squaw Creek, Valley View, Vernon Middle School, and a new site - Lindale Manor. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to help prepare lunches and people to deliver and distribute the lunches. If you are interested in participating in the FLY program, please email [jill@lcrmarion.org](mailto:jill@lcrmarion.org) for more information, and watch for sign-ups! THANKS to all who support this important community feeding program.



## Sunday School in May

Sunday School is meeting in-person and online until May 16th. Check out the youth programming page on the [church website](#) for links and details. At the end of May we will switch over to an all new plan for fun summer opportunities!

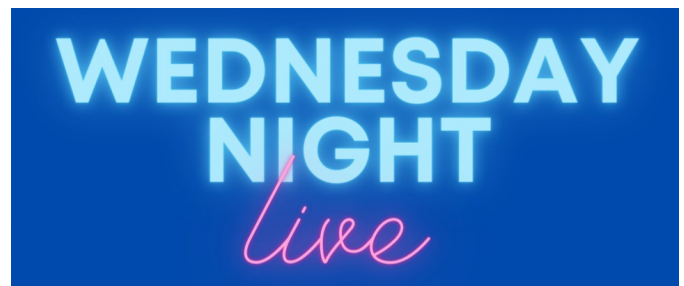
You can mail Sunday School coordinator [Jessi](#) with questions at any time.

## Sunday School in April



We spent a day talking about Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Our older kids took on the story while playing through a life-size game board with all the story details shared through the toss of dice!

The younger students played a little version of the game board as well, and got to make their own colorful roads to Emmaus.



WNL is now open to all 4th-6th grade students on Wednesday night at 6:00 pm. No reservations are needed. WNL will go through May 19th.

WNL students will be sorting food pantry items on May 5th if you would like to drop off donations on or before that date. Jill will be going to the store to get items with the 2019 Lenten meal money. The kids will sort and box the items into categories for the food pantry instead of our annual shopping trip. The more food the better!



The kids have been busy working on different projects including a multi-week Mother's Day craft project. They recently planted sunflower and zinnia seeds to take home and grow, too.





# Adult Faith & Outreach



## Peace Walk - See With New Eyes

Wellington Heights Neighborhood Engagement Program, a SET Grant-funded program led by Keyon Carter, Lead Pastor of Wellington Heights Community Church, invites you to join for a Peace Walk through the Wellington Heights Neighborhood on Sunday, May 23 at 3 pm, beginning at McKinley STEAM Academy. WHNEP invites all individuals from our community to join the Peace Walk to utilize their voice and solidarity to spread messages of peace. The goal of the Peace Walk is to recognize the positive things happening in our community, while also bringing light to the importance of spreading messages of peace to keep our streets safe.



## SE Iowa Synod Anti-Racism Network

The anti-racism network seeks to be an online space to share resources, ideas, and have discussions to enhance racial justice efforts throughout the Southeastern Iowa Synod. Whether you are full-time, part-time, a pastor, or volunteer, we welcome everyone who seeks to overcome racism in the communities in our synod. If you're on Facebook, join the group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ARSEIA>

**Racism** – a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice – **is sin**, a violation of God's intention for humanity.

## Stewardship Education Series

This spring we're offering a series of adult education opportunities held via Zoom. On Wednesday, May 5th & 12th, at 7:30 pm, we'll present one-hour sessions on **Christian environmental stewardship**. Topics include energy, water, and soil conservation.

If you are interested in joining in, please sign up at the link below so we'll have your email to use on the Zoom invite. Only one participant per household needs to register.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CA8AD2EA7FA7-lcradult>

## Wednesday Scripture Study

There is no better way to prepare for worship than to be in conversation with the scriptures. Your thoughts and insights will help enlighten Pastor Jeff's weekly sermons and prepare you to get more out of worship. We meet each Wednesday at 11:00 am. This is an in-person study at the church, so bring your mask and we will social distance.

## Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

Check out these brief, thought-provoking videos online. You can access them at -

<https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

## Help Fill Our Wish List!

Take part in Camp Chisomo by purchasing supplies for this summer. The camp will be STEM-



focused this year, so whether it is books, blocks, or supplemental education supplies, every item has been carefully selected by our staff and will play an important role in bringing dignity and hope to the children at Camp Chisomo. Take a look through the wish list and imagine what each book could do for a child's imagination!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3FJ6IUTZGQ3DB?ref=wl\\_fv\\_le](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3FJ6IUTZGQ3DB?ref=wl_fv_le)

# Stephen Ministry

## What Kind of Woman Would Receive the Care of a Stephen Minister?

- ♦ A woman like **Sarah** who faced a major change in life at an advanced age and needed someone to listen to both her joy and apprehension.
- ♦ A woman like **Hagar** who was abandoned along with her child and needed someone to offer her hope and remind her of God's presence.
- ♦ A woman like **Hannah** who struggled with her inability to bear a child and needed someone with whom to share her sadness and pain.
- ♦ A woman like **Naomi** who had lost her loved ones and needed someone to hear her sorrow and pain.
- ♦ A woman like **Ruth** who left everything that was familiar to her and needed someone to journey with her in her new life.
- ♦ A woman like **Esther** who was faced with a major decision and needed someone who could listen to her concerns and offer encouragement.
- ♦ A woman like **Mary of Nazareth** who lived with both the joys and struggles of having an exceptional child and needed someone to help her sort out the ponderings of her heart.
- ♦ A woman like **Martha** who was burdened by the demands of daily life and needed someone to help her regain sight of what was most important.
- ♦ A woman like **Mary Magdalene** who received healing from inner turmoil and needed someone to walk with her as she built a new life.
- ♦ A woman like **you**.

*If you like to know more about how a Stephen Minister could care for you, please contact Mary Hajek through the church office.*

# Fellowship

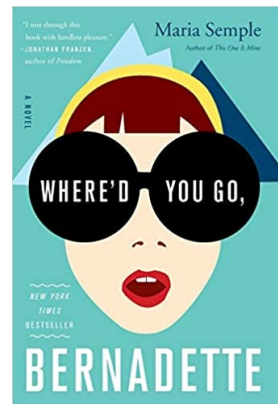
## Neighborhood Nights

Join us the evening of Saturday, May 29 as we bring the community together with a free event including yard games, food, and a movie on the north lawn. Watch our bulletins and social media for upcoming details and think what friends you will invite to this fun gathering!



## LCR Book Club

We'll get together Tuesday, May 18 at 6:30 pm (3rd Tuesday) and meet in the sanctuary. Our book this month will be "Where'd You Go, Bernadette" by Maria Semple, a



‘dramedy’ story of a 15 year old daughter who goes in search of her runaway mother. An email will be sent when the library tote is in the church office. *New people are always welcome in our group.* Contact [sherrillamorrison@gmail.com](mailto:sherrillamorrison@gmail.com) to get on our email list. Don't forget your masks!

## Candy Bar Bingo

Join us after worship on Sunday, May 16 for family-friendly Candy Bar Bingo. We'll meet from 1:00-2:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring your own lunch or snacks and get ready for friendly competition and laughter! There is no charge - we will be playing for fun and candy. Sign up in advance to save your seat - [lcrmarion.org](http://lcrmarion.org). >>>



I hope you are having a blessed spring. Thanks for all your flexibility and patience! As we come to what feels like a new chapter in the Covid story, I am amazed at how resilient and kind you have all been in dealing with the challenges of Confirmation this last year. I can't tell you how thankful I am to work with so many devoted and loving people.

Our 8th grade Confirmation program is now complete, so in May we'll be transitioning these students into EDGE, LCR's high school youth ministry. On the weeks that our 8th graders meet, we'll attend EDGE as a class. On the other weeks, when 7th graders are meeting, your 8th grade Confirmand is very welcome to attend EDGE also - just head to the YAC at 7:30 pm!

If you ever need me, please don't hesitate to call.  
- Pastor Nate 563.320.3995

Confirmation students gather in-person on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm**, alternating each week between 7th grade and 8th grade classes.

We also have **on-line Confirmation videos**, posted at <https://lcrmarion.org/ministries/youth-ministry/lcryouthminportal.html>



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## EDGE Youth

EDGE is finishing its last few weeks of large group gatherings! It's not too late to join in and help us finish out the semester

There are two great ways to participate in our youth ministry at this time:

- \* Find our in-person small group schedule on Instagram (@edgeatlcr)
- \* Teaching videos are available each week online at <https://vimeo.com/lcrprogramming>

Contact coordinator Katie Kascel for details - [katie@lcrmarion.org](mailto:katie@lcrmarion.org)

## Bible Camp Help Wanted



Riverside Bible Camp (north of Ames) is looking for awesome summer staff to join in the fun this summer. Students should be junior or senior year of high school through college-age. Link to the application is <https://www.riversidelbc.org/apply>, or you can send a message to [caitlin@riversidelbc.org](mailto:caitlin@riversidelbc.org).



# Prayers

Prayers  
are  
requested  
for...



## **Those hospitalized in February:**

Janice Berridge, Lochlan Lass

## **Those experiencing illness or surgery:**

*(Resurrection members)* Julie Brandt, Evelyn Beck, Ken Meisinger, Steve Reck, Clark Gull, Kären Wilson, Andy Carter, Harry Walton, Betty & Paul Bendixen, Marilyn Carstens, Pam Miller, Dan Tegtmeier, Lyle Bischof, Andy McRoberts, Deanna Harding, Eugene Henry, Bernadean Spilde, Arvis Hahn

*(family and friends)* Pastor Denny Wright, John Kindvall, Elmer Stein, Roger Vogel, Carl Richardson, Warren Stoner, John & sister Rebecca, Terry on Boyson Rd, brother Tom & Carole, Steve Durspek

## **Those living in care facilities:**

Lee Schoon, Vera Olson, Martin Winch (The Views); Larry Wogahn (Bickford Cottage); Barb Schierholz (Willow Gardens)

## **Those in military service:**

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

## **Those who celebrate...**

- Jordan & Lindsey Lass on the birth of a son, Lochlan James Lass, on 3/31.
- Steve & Karen Siefert on the birth of a granddaughter, Scarlett, on 2/24, in Ankeny. Parents are Hannah & Kyle Gorres.
- Rachel Sutton, on her husband Taylor's return home from his recent deployment.

## **Those who mourn:**

- Terry & Linda Kahler on the death of Terry's father, Lawrence Kahler, of Conrad IA on 3/29.
- John Gagnon and family on the death of his brother, Jacques Gagnon, of Springfield MO on 3/31.
- Larry Wogahn and family on the death of his mother, Lorene M. Wogahn Heimsoth, of Aurelia IA on 4/11.

## **Those in transition:**

- for peace among all people in our country.

## **Prayers for those serving on the frontline:**

Our hearts are with all those who are working hard hours in stressful environments to help others. If you are willing to serve them through prayer, go to [http://lcrmarion.org/prayer\\_team/](http://lcrmarion.org/prayer_team/) and type in this password - LCRPrays.

***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).

***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.*

We're going to run off a few updated church directories this summer, including phone numbers. These directories will only be available to active members of the church and will not be posted online. If there is any information you do not want shared with other members, please let us know:  
**[office@lcrmarion.org](mailto:office@lcrmarion.org)**



# Stewardship

## Treasurer's Report for March 2021

	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$54,792	\$184,718	\$187,839
General Fund Expenses	\$57,104	\$174,127	\$171,379

<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>03/31/21</u>	<u>03/31/20</u>
General Fund	\$112,541	\$ 48,487*
Clearing Accounts	\$ 65,871	\$ 63,532
Property Reserve*	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building Residual*	\$ 18,229	\$ 18,229

\*Our General Fund now has property included except for Property Reserve and Building Residual. Building general maintenance and annual building inspections became part of the General Fund Budget in the 2021 budget.

**Thank you, Resurrection givers!**

## General Fund Summary

After three months in 2021, General Fund Income is at 98% of the budget.

## 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** - On our website there is a DONATE button that you can click for online giving.

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

# Church Council

The Council met on Tuesday, April 20th. Secretary's & Treasurer's reports were approved. The General Fund balance was \$112,541 at the end of March.

Pastor Jeff: Organist position is now being posted; may have to employ a temporary pianist 'til job is filled. Wednesday worship now has a separate sermon each week, frequently given by Pr. Nate.

Pastor Nate: Some money will need to be added to Outreach budget for summer events.

Governance: Connected with insurance company and wrote a policy regarding liability. Building Use Request Form has been updated to include Covid restrictions. Need to define vision and roles & responsibilities.

Treasurer: Ran deficit in March but bank accounts are all good. Will need to keep a close eye on budget to anticipate future changes.

Stewardship: Planned facility upgrade jobs will be completed by end of April and expenses paid. Stewardship Charter presented to Council and approved. Spring classes were discussed.

Outreach: First bingo event went well, will be advertised on Facebook in May. Visitor give-away bags are coming together. Continued need for tech booth volunteers.

Property: Gathering space walls are painted and garage door replaced. Need to address leaky windows and mold in garage workshop. Pondering patio fence replacement. New benches will be built as an Eagle Scout project.

Old/New Business: Council members will attend Synod Assembly with pastors.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 18th, 2021  
Agenda items should be submitted by 5/10.  
Copies of Council minutes and Treasurer's reports are available in the church office binder.

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

*(Address Service Requested)*

Mission of Hope Lunch Team  
was finally able to get back in  
to the church kitchen to make  
sandwiches for visitors to the  
Mission's Free Meal program.



**NON-PROFIT  
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Permit #11**



**Gathering Space  
repainted!**

**CONTACT US!**

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Monday–Friday,  
9 am–4 pm  
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[www.lcrmarion.org](http://www.lcrmarion.org)

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Interim Pastor Nate Montover - [nate@lcrmarion.org](mailto:nate@lcrmarion.org)  
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Secretary: Emily Carson - [office@lcrmarion.org](mailto:office@lcrmarion.org)  
Custodians: Marsie Hemminger, Dave Cosgrove*



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