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August 2021

*"Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward." Exodus 14.15*

I've always marveled a bit at the scripture above. This verse comes from the story known as the Exodus - the leaving of Egypt and moving toward what is called the Promised Land. The people are being pursued by Pharaoh's chariots and they have come to what is either the Red Sea or the Sea of Reeds (scholars debate which body of water they approach). The people find themselves in the proverbial position of being stuck between a rock and a hard place or, in this case, between war chariots and a body of water. What should they do?

Here's where I get intrigued by the passage, you would think the command would be to lift up a prayer! Shout out to the Lord! Congregate, assemble a feasibility task group and then call for a vote as to what we should do. But, here God says to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? ...GO FORWARD!" (emphasis added.) There are certainly moments in life where caution is called for and where discretion is the better part of valor; and yet there are also those moments when we simply need to go forward.

This is true for us in our personal lives and for congregations. I sometimes counsel folks with the simple task of making the next good/healthy decision. What I mean by that is sometimes the issues in front of us seem so overwhelming that we find ourselves paralyzed by the sheer magnitude of what needs to happen. In such a case we can't always solve the problem; but we can make the next healthy/good decision. And that, in my experience, when followed by more of the same, can begin a new and positive forecast for the future.

The same is true for congregations. There are times when we simply need to move forward: To make the next good/healthy decisions that allow us to see a future that is unfolding; not just staring longingly at the past. I believe LCR is at just such a point in our life together. How shall we move forward? What opportunities has God given us to embrace? What things do we need to leave behind? Sometimes our piety can get in the way of our obedience. Maybe that's why God told Moses, "enough already, go forward in faith."

*Peace! - Pastor Jeff*

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# Worship

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

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

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

*casual evening gathering with its own message,  
music from a range of worship styles*

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

**In-Person Worship** - No reservations required.

**Livestream Worship** - Links available on our website ([lcrmarion.org](http://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](mailto: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>

**LCR Covid Gathering Policy** - The wearing of masks at LCR is now optional for those who are fully vaccinated against the Covid 19 virus. Those who are not fully vaccinated should still wear their masks. Participants in our children's programs (children and adults) are asked to continue to wear masks. These policies will be amended as conditions warrant. The council sincerely thanks everyone who has helped us to keep each other safe during the pandemic.

## Camper Sunday! August 8th

Did you know that we have a large group of young people going to Camp this year and also working on staff? We have invited them to come to worship on August 8th and share a little bit of that "EWALU/Camp Spirit!" Let's welcome all our young people with smiles and appreciation for all that they bring to our life together at LCR! And thank you to our Camp Staff from LCR - Delaney Akiens, Nora Read, Hal Versteegh.

## We Are Excited!



We have crossed the goal line in contributions to the new Allen Organ. In fact, we've touched the goal posts with even more donations! Anyone still wishing to contribute is certainly welcome to do so, as we are not sure if there will be any further expenses at the time of the installation, like interfacing with the sound system, etc. We hope to cover any added expenses without trying to find money in existing church funds. Extra money we receive could also be used to update our collection of organ music. We are scheduled to install the organ early October.

The response we've had from members of LCR has been outstanding! The Organ Committee wants to thank everyone who has contributed thus far to make this new organ possible. Your contribution may have been in the form of money, words of support, or by checking the electrical systems or building a new organ dolly. All of these gifts are making the purchase of our new organ a reality. WE THANK YOU! - *Organ Committee*



# Ministry

## July & August Mission Envelopes

....are going to the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, which offers food staples consistently, and frozen goods and fresh produce & milk when they are available. Located behind First Presbyterian Church in downtown Marion, the Pantry is open Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm, and currently serves 900 people a month. The pantry also makes deliveries to people in Marion who are not able to attend distribution. If you have questions about the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, contact Cari@LCRMarion.org.

## LCR Water Pantry

Moms, dads, little ones, and skaters from Butterfield Park are super grateful for the water bottles in Resurrection's Little Free Water Pantry. If you see a good price on 8 oz (or 16) bottles, please consider buying a package to donate to the church. You can drop them off any weekday, or when you're here for worship. Thank you for serving our neighborhood families!

## Tech Booth Volunteers

We have an ongoing need for volunteers for Sunday morning and Wednesday night worship services. If you would like to learn how to run the slides, soundboard, or camera, send a message to Cari@LCRMarion.org. Individuals or groups of two or three are welcome for this task. As you are trained we can pair you with other volunteers as needed.

## Musical Job Opportunities

Resurrection is currently seeking:

- Contemporary Worship Leader
- Choir Director
- Organist/Pianist

If you know of someone who would be a great fit for our congregation, please pass along the link below, and help us get the word out!

<https://lcrmarion.org/job-opportunities.html>

## Marion Cares Backpacks

Thank you for adopting Linn-Mar / Marion students through Marion Cares this year and shopping for their school supplies.



Thanks also to those who gave money for backpacks & supplies.

If you haven't already brought your filled backpack to the church office, you can bring it with you to worship on Sunday, August 1, and we'll get it to Marion Cares.

**Be sure to write the student #** on a piece of paper and put it in the front pocket of the backpack. *This step is crucial as it is the only way we will be able to match your backpack up with your student at the distribution event.*

You may also drop your filled backpack off at the Marion Cares office on August 3rd or 5th, between 8 am and 6 pm. Their office is at 1298 - 7th Ave (Carnegie building). You can enter through the east side door.

## FLY Juice Box Drive



A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Feeding Lunches to Youth juice box drive on July 18th. We collected approximately 4,500 juice boxes, and monetary donations of \$380. We are so grateful for your generosity! The FLY program is currently serving 450 lunches/week and runs through August 20th. Volunteers are still welcome on our LCR Mondays; you can sign up at <https://signup.com/go/KNANZWw>.

*above: in addition to all the juice donated by LCR members, a gentleman from Noelridge Christian brought in 18 packages of juice!*



## Director of Children's Ministry: Hooray for Jessi!!

We are pleased to announce that Jessi Lau, who has been serving as a Co-Director of Children's Ministry, will now be serving LCR as our "Director of Children's Ministry." Jessi will bring her passion, love of the Lord and creativity to Sunday School, Wednesday Nights, VBS, and much, much more! Give her a shout out...and better yet, contact her and see where it is that you can help share the love of Jesus with our children here at LCR!

*Congratulations, Jessi, on your expanded role here at LCR.*



## Vacation Bible School

*One week in July, kids at Resurrection became Knights on a Quest to acquire the Shields of Truth, Justice, Peace, & Faith so they could put on the armor of God and be strong in the Lord! Many thanks to all our amazing volunteers and to those who donated.*





# Adult Faith Development

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## Wednesday Scripture Study

There is no better way to prepare for worship than to be in conversation with the scriptures. Your thoughts and insights help enlighten Pastor Jeff's weekly sermons and prepare you to get more out of worship. Pastor Jeff will be away from the office part of the month of August, so we'll meet on Wednesday, August 4 only, still at 11:00 am in the fellowship hall. We'll resume our weekly gatherings on Wednesday, September 1.

## Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

Check out these brief, thought-provoking videos online.  
You can access them at - <https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

# Community Groups @ LCR

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Because God has blessed us with this beautiful facility, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has always been honored to host a number of local community groups that share our goal of enriching our neighbors' lives.

## Cedar Valley Car Cruise-In

This summer, LCR is hosting an informal group of car enthusiasts on the second Thursday of each month. On August 12, you are invited to come and admire others' cars or bring your own classic vehicle to show off! Simple foods & beverages are available as well. The "Cruise-In" starts at 5:30 pm. Central parking lot is for those showing their cars; all others may park on the periphery. Invite your family and friends.



## Dementia Caregivers Support Group

A program of the Alzheimer's Association of East Central Iowa, this group provides emotional, educational, and social support for caregivers through meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

AA is a fellowship of men and women who share their experiences, strength, and hope with each other, so they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. They meet each Sunday at 6:30 pm.

## Marion Alliance for Racial Equity

M.A.R.E. exists to bring to light the realities and experiences of people of color in Marion. The group held a Unity Rally on July 17th, which included speakers from LCR, Brianna Clymer and Aaron Schutte.



# Stephen Ministry

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Stephen Ministry is active at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. We have a team of 10 active ministers. At this time we are serving 7 care receivers. We are offering a training class this fall (begins 10/4) for Stephen Ministry and invite everyone in the congregation to prayerfully consider joining with us in this ministry.

**Here is what our Stephen Ministers have to say about our ministry:**

Taking The Stephen Ministry training was a positive learning experience for me. This course taught me many different ways to care for others in various life situations. Some of the important take-aways for me were using active listening skills and showing empathy rather than sympathy. These two vital tools have gone far in my personal relationships with my family, co-workers, and friends. Empathic listening lets those I interact with know I care deeply for them and support them. Time and again we were reminded of God's love for us, Jesus' examples of caring and listening during his ministry, and that, above all, while we may be caregivers, God is the cure-giver. - Rachel

After taking this class I have really learned to listen to people and have more patience. - Kathy

Stephen Ministry has given me so much. The opportunity to give back to my community and my church has been very fulfilling. Learning to understand others' struggles or suffering helps me understand and cope with my own better. The people I've worked with are wonderful and they've allowed me to be a part of their lives, to help where I can. Stephen Ministry is one of the highlights for my time at LCR. - Symon

Stephen Ministry has helped guide me in discussions with care receivers and family. It is a wonderful resource and the group is very supportive in helping assist in our caregiving experience. - Julie

Stephen Ministry training provided an extended opportunity for a small group of us to come together to focus on a common cause. There were some new friends and some old friends and we all bonded together as we learned, interacted, and supported one another. I especially liked being able to experience both the caregiver and care receiver sides during our role-playing scenarios. - Tom L.

Everyone has a story to tell regarding their life. Incidents that happened far in the past can still affect who we are today. Being able to sit and verbalize our sadness or fear with a compassionate, non-judgmental listener can help with the healing. - Susan

The lessons and fellowship in Stephen Ministry have brought me closer to God and helped me to reflect on ways I can help others in difficult times. I have learned skills to listen and communicate better with family, friends, and care receivers, to provide comfort and support when needed. The support of the other Stephen Ministers and leaders has been invaluable. - Becky

You will find information on how to apply for this training opportunity (by 8/31) on the LCR website under Stephen Ministry -

<https://lcrmarion.org/care-ministry.html>

*Peace - Mary and Scott*

# Fellowship

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## Neighborhood Nights

Join us the evening of Saturday, August 28 as we bring the community together with a FREE event including hot dogs & chips, yard games, and a movie on the north lawn. This month we are also offering FOOD TRUCKS for those who would like to purchase a more exotic dinner. *All ages are welcome, so invite your friends.*

## Cedar Valley Car Cruise-In

On Thursday, August 12, you are invited to come and admire others' cars or bring your own classic vehicle to show off! Simple foods & beverages are available as well. The "Cruise-In" starts at 5:30 pm.

## LCR Book Club

We'll get together Tuesday, August 17 at 6:30 pm (3rd Tuesday). Our book this month will be "Whistling Past the Graveyard" by Susan Cran-dall. It will be available in the church office soon. Contact [sherrillamorrison@gmail.com](mailto:sherrillamorrison@gmail.com) to get on our email list; all are welcome!

## Cribbage Group

Cribbage meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday from 1:15-3:15 to enjoy card-playing fellowship. Everyone is welcome, including non-members and those who have never played before. There is no fee to participate, just come and have some fun!

## Wood Carvers

Our talented wood carvers meet each Thursday evening at 6:30 in the Art Room. If you want to learn a really satisfying handicraft, join us some evening and we'll get you started. Experienced carvers are welcome to bring their current project

## Thrivent Night at the Ballpark

Thrivent Financial invites area faith communities to join us as the Cedar Rapids Kernals take on the Quad Cities River Bandits and we honor our local Special Olympians. The game is on Tuesday, August. 3, at 6:35 pm; tickets are \$10 each. See next page for information on ordering your tickets.

# Confirmation

*Greetings to Confirmation parents and students!*

I am preparing for an exciting year of Confirmation at LCR.

Confirmation classes will begin with a Parent/Student gathering on **Wednesday September 8**. We will gather at 7:15 pm, following our Wednesday evening worship service.

We will continue offering a family-friendly Confirmation program for 7th and 8th graders, and our desire is to provide a program that helps members develop their understanding of the faith in a joyous and meaningful way. We have reduced many of the requirements for Confirmation; however, we remain committed to offering sessions and instruction that will prove to be meaningful and engaging. Our focus will be instruction (attendance at Wednesday evening gatherings), engaging in an active worship life, and serving the world as a reflection of the love of Christ. I am truly excited for the coming year, and I hope you are as well!

As I am still somewhat new here I am relying on email lists compiled by others. I have sent an introductory email to those folks who are on those lists. If you have not heard from me, please let me know. I currently use my personal email ([nmontover@gmail.com](mailto:nmontover@gmail.com)) and the Confirmation email address ([lcr.confirmation@gmail.com](mailto:lcr.confirmation@gmail.com)). Or you can text or call me on my phone: 563-320-3995.

I am also excited that two of my sons will be confirmed with the 8th grade Confirmation group this year at LCR. We will be celebrating Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation on **Sunday, October 31**. Because of the complications of gathering during the pandemic, we have made every arrangement necessary so that our Confirmation class can enjoy the celebration of the affirmation of their baptism without fear or worry over requirements that would have been impossible to finish due to the restrictions of the past year. To my knowledge I have been in communication with all those who are ready to be confirmed. If, for any reason, you have not been included in those conversations, that is 'my bad' and I would welcome conversation with you so that your child can be included in our celebration.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in the faith development of your kids. It is an honor and a privilege!!

- Pastor Nate

# Farewells



We had a great day on July 25th sharing memories with our dear friends, Jill Hansen and Aaron Schutte. Aaron led the band for one last time, and everybody enjoyed lots of CAKE! Very best wishes to them both in their new endeavors.



## Thrivent ticket info...

- Purchasing by Phone: call 319-896-7560. Mention that you are with Thrivent to receive the discounted price.
- Purchasing Online: use the link below before midnight on the 2nd. Select the special Thrivent sections of 113, 114, or 115 when ordering your tickets.

<https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2Buy.asp?EventID=317772&promocode=thrivent>



# Prayers

Prayers  
are  
requested  
for...



## **Those hospitalized in July:**

Tom Peterman, Ryan Corrigan

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

*(Resurrection members)* Linda Erlandson, Sherrill Morrison, Judi Conrad, Janice Berridge, Julie Brandt, Paul Bendixen, Marilyn Carstens, Eugene Henry, Deanna Harding, Bernadean Spilde

*(family and friends)* Betty Hannagan, Ryan Beck, Karol Meese, niece Meagan, John Kindvall, Steve Durspek, Teresa McLaughlin

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

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

## **Those in military service:**

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

**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.*

## **Those who celebrate:**

- Diane & John Aarni on their 40th wedding anniversary, on 6/27
- Jen & Mike Reeve on the birth of a daughter, Lola Leigh Reeve, on 7/14
- Mary & Bill Durspek on their son Steve's successful lung transplant, on 7/19

## **Those who mourn:**

- Curt Duwe on the death of his brother, Duwane Duwe, of Gutenberg IA, on 7/16
- Sally Reck and family on the death of her husband, Steve, on 7/18
- Karen Madsen and family on the celebration of Glen's life, on 7/20
- Heather Feigenbaum and family on the death of her mother, Margaret McClure, on 7/25
- The family of Steve Durspek's organ donor

## **Online & E-mail Prayer Lists**

If you are willing to serve our community through prayer, go to [http://lcrmarion.org/prayer\\_team/](http://lcrmarion.org/prayer_team/) and type in this password: LCRPrays.

OR you may join our email list by sending your email address to: [office@lcrmarion.org](mailto:office@lcrmarion.org)

***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.*

## **Memorial Service for Sara Fishel**

Sara Fishel passed away on December 6, 2020. Her memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 14 from 4-7 pm at the home of Jim Bouslog: 4613 Indian Creek Road, Marion. Supper will be served. Feel free to park on the grass. Sara's obituary: <https://www.murdochfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Sara-Fishel/#!/Obituary>



# Stewardship

## Treasurer's Report for June 2021

	<u>June</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$58,898	\$373,707	\$352,566
General Fund Expenses	\$58,076	\$339,403	\$314,570

<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>06/30/21</u>	<u>06/30/20</u>
General Fund	\$134,897	\$115,536
Clearing Accounts	\$195,307	\$ 58,260
Property Reserve	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building Residual	\$ 19,213	\$ 40,412

LCR's General Fund now includes money for regular building maintenance and annual inspections. 'Property Reserve' & 'Building Residual' are separate funds.

***We so appreciate your faithful partnership!***

# Church Council

The Council met on Tuesday, July 20th, 2021. Secretary's & Treasurer's reports were approved. The General Fund balance was \$134,896 at the end of June.

**Pastor Jeff:** In need of an organist/pianist, choir director, technical arts lead, and contemporary worship leader; internal transition of responsibilities of Children's Ministry due to position vacancy. Plans for Rally Sunday activities underway. Pr. Jeff will be gone from August 6-28 (continuing education & vacation).

**Pastor Nate:** Last session of Stand In Unity book study is July 21; prayerful consideration how to continue this great connectivity and activity.

**Treasurer:** Income exceeded expenses for month of June. Proceeding with organ purchase.

**Stewardship:** June monthly giving to General Fund was \$56,253. Significant gifts to Organ, Memorial and Building clearing accounts also noted.

## General Fund Summary

Thank you for your generous gifts in support of our 2021 LCR budget. Giving is at 107% of pledges to date.

## Digital Giving

**Simply Giving** - Join 77 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.

\* **Venmo** (new!) @LCRMarion

**Property:** Fifty percent payment for HVAC repair (to order parts) occurred. Planning for new organ installation.

**Governance:** Policies and Procedures and Organizational Chart review underway.

**Outreach:** BINGO on hold for remainder of summer; continue support of Hospitality Table; July Car "Cruise-In" raised about \$200; volunteer needs continue for various activities; Car Show scheduled for July 31.

**Old/New Business:** Committee will be formed to review/edit Time & Talent. Good response to new COVID protocols.

### Next Meeting:

**Tuesday, August 17th, 2021 via Zoom**

Agenda items should be submitted by 8/6/21.

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)*



Dennis & Eloise -  
"Most Patriotically Dressed"



<< VBS 2021



VBS kids are STRONG in the Lord!



8/28 - Food Truck Night & movie



**CONTACT US!**

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