



A Month for Lovers!

"Let love be genuine...." Romans 12.9a

As I was preparing to write this article for the February Cross Talk, I teased that it wouldn't take long, after all in February all you need to do is talk about love! On the 14th we'll celebrate romantic love as valentines are sent and chocolate hearts and flowers profess our adoration of the beloved. And while you'll find some love poetry in the Bible (check out Song of Solomon if you want to blush a bit) most of the time in the Church we are talking about Agape, or Godly love that is given for its own sake. And here's the thing; love, Godly love, Christian love, well it's not easy!

I kept a copy of the following article by Nancy Bartels, in "Living Lutheran, March 2012." It talks about the difficulty of love. She writes:

"LOVE IS HARD. John 3:16. It's a Bible verse much beloved for many reasons. Its message is full of comfort. It's the elevator pitch for Christianity - the heart of the faith in one sentence. And everyone likes being told they're loved, especially when the lover is the Lord of the universe.

But it's a tough message too. Look what God's love cost: his only begotten Son.

Love is hard and costly. And that's the kicker. We can't just go about our lives in the warm glow of knowing that we are beloved children of God. God's love demands a response - and it isn't always about soft, fuzzy feelings and valentines and violins.

"God so loved the world," the verse begins. Not just us. Not just God's chosen people. Not just Lutherans or Americans or people we like - loveable people. God loves the whole world - and not just the people in it, but the entire creation.

Real love on this earth demands that a parent become sleep-deprived to nurse a sick child back to health or work two jobs to keep food on the table. It calls a spouse to give loving care to a partner suffering from dementia. It calls firefighters or soldiers to risk their lives to save others. It calls volunteers to spend long hours in soup kitchens housed in "bad" neighborhoods to feed some of the least among us."

And yet is there anything greater than love? Let's work together at LCR to make sure that the love of God in Christ is at the center of all we do. Here's to all the lovers out there - which of course is each and every one of us!

Peace! Pastor Jeff <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2012/03/love-hard/>

Inside this Issue

Adult Faith	3, 5
Children's Ministry .	4
Confirmation	9
Council News	11
EDGE Youth	9
Fellowship	8
Ministry	3, 8
Prayers	10
Stewardship	3, 11
Worship	2

Follow Us On Social Media:

facebook

facebook.com/
ResurrectionMarion/

twitter

twitter.com/lutheran_of

Instagram

instagram.com/
resurrectionmarion/

YouTube

https://tinyurl.com/
LCRYoutube

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

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

Links are available on our website and social media sites for **Livestream Worship**.

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>

The Season of Lent - Spring Up, O Well!

Perhaps the most misunderstood season of the church year Lent. Often times seen as a time to be somber and downcast, it actually means “Spring” and is a time for Christian growth and dare we say Joy! This year Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd. We have a few surprises this year so mark your calendars and plan to join us each Wednesday in March (and partly into April) as we find joy in this season of growth.

- Soup Suppers! Where you will be invited to share your favorite soup
- Worship for all generations
- Special breakouts for our children and youth
- Intentional “Space” for adults to enjoy some down time or connect with others
- Premium Coffee and snacks!

Be on the lookout for more information to follow;

but plan on being with us on Wednesdays in March!

The Lutheran World Federation - 77 Million strong in 99 Countries!

Did you know that LCR is a part of the Lutheran World Federation? The LWF is a global communion of 148 churches in the Lutheran tradition, representing over 77 million Christians in 99 countries.

Together we strive to put our faith into action within and beyond the communion, and seek God’s Word and Spirit to guide us. This action takes a variety of forms from theological reflection and dialogue with other churches and faiths, to deepening relationships, sharing about our faith, serving those in need, and advocating for a more just, peaceful, and reconciled world.

During our LCR trip to the Holy Land in 2023 we’ll visit Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem which is a ministry of the LWF. Here is a link to a delightful collection of hymns that were prepared by different Lutheran church around the world to celebrate the Advent season -

<https://www.lutheranworld.org/advent-hymns#2021>

Ministry

Personal Care Kits for Willis Dady Shelter

In January, we collected items for care kits. On Sunday, February 6th we'll assemble the kits between 9:30-11:30 am. Everyone can take part!



If you would like to make a monetary donation, we will use the funds to purchase final items necessary to fill out the kits. You can bring cash or check to the church office, labeled "January Service Project," or donate online at <https://lcrmarion.org/giving.html>. Click on the yellow "donate" button and select "January Service Project." You can also Venmo a donation to Resurrection Lutheran (@LCRMarion).

Time & Talent 2022

This month we'll be rolling out our updated Time and Talent catalog for you to browse through. Be thinking how you might want to serve in the year ahead.



Jan/Feb Mission Envelopes

...are going to FLY (Feeding Lunches to Youth), a Marion volunteer partnership that serves the kids of our community each summer and during school breaks through nutritious sack lunches.



Adult Faith

Biblical Potpourri

Sunday Mornings and Wednesday Evenings

Pastor Jeff is offering a "Biblical Potpourri" as he takes us on a journey through scripture, looking at one verse/theme in each of the 66 books of the Bible! This is a great way to begin to understand the Bible as a whole and dive in to some of those lesser-known parts of scripture. Come for every session, or just drop in as you are able - there's always a place for you. We're meeting at 9:45 am on Sundays and 7:00 pm on Wednesdays, both in the conference room.

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 we are social distancing in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Stewardship

LCR Living Legacy Fund

formerly known as the LCR Trust Fund

The purpose of the Living Legacy Fund is to enhance the work of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection by providing ministry, education, and stewardship opportunities for the church that are in addition and apart from the general operation of the church. Learn more at our new Living Legacy webpage:

lcrmarion.org/giving/livinglegacy.html

Brochures are available on the gathering space kiosk, as well as information about Charitable Giving Through Your IRA - Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). You can download both information pieces from the website. Please contact us with any questions!



SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES

FEBRUARY:

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 6
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 13
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 20
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 27

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE DATES

FEBRUARY:

2 - REGULAR WNL - 2
9 - REGULAR WNL - 9
16 - VALENTINES PARTY - 16
23 - REGULAR WNL - 23



Both Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live students spent a few weeks in January talking about the Lord's Prayer and what it means to have a relationship with God through prayer. Both groups of students have had some thoughtful reflections on prayer and had a few awesome ideas of things we can be praying for! Be sure to check out our big poster in the education wing with some of their prayer requests.



UPCOMING EVENTS!

February 6th:

Preschool and Kindergarten students are invited to come sing in worship at the 10:30 service. They will be singing a song they have been learning in class on Sunday mornings. Let Jessi know if you want a copy of the lyrics!

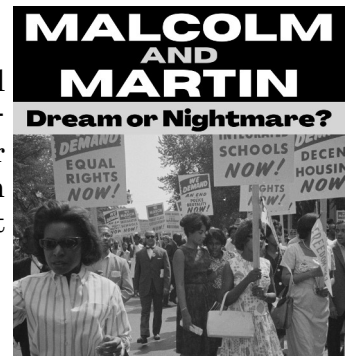
Family Craft Event at 11:30. We had so much fun with our advent boards, we are doing another quick family craft! Since our students have been learning about prayer, this is a great time to come in and make a prayer jar as a family!



Adult Faith Development

Pastor Nate Presentation - February 20 at 11:45 am

"Malcolm and Martin: Dream or Nightmare? Two Approaches to the Civil Rights Struggle in America." The struggle for civil rights in America has never been as simple as we would like to believe. At the height of the struggle for civil rights, two opposing visions about the American Dream emerged from the Black community. We will examine those visions and explore the impact of that struggle on our contemporary conversations about civil rights.



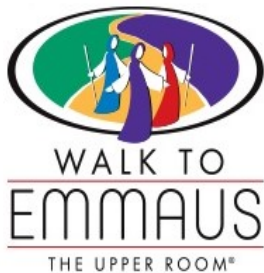
The Chosen Season 2 - Starts February 27 at 4:00 pm here at LCR



This past fall we encouraged folks to gather together or watch on their own, "The Chosen." Starting in February we'll come together for Season 2! The Chosen is the first crowd-funded multi-season series about the life of Jesus. Each episode is about an hour long. Just like last fall, you can come to the "watch party" at church on Sundays or view it online at home. After each showing at church we'll offer a little study and conversation about what we've seen. The study guide will also be on our website with a link to the video.

'Walk to Emmaus' Spiritual Retreat

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was speaking to us along the road....?"



We all know the Bible story about the Walk to Emmaus, but maybe you've never heard of the "Walk to Emmaus" spiritual retreat. It is a 72-hour journey where you will travel with new friends from a variety of denominations while you get to know Jesus better. There is laughter, and tears, and singing, and, of course, food. Separate weekends are provided for men and women and there is also a version called Chrysalis for young people in high school. Men's and Women's retreats are typically held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in Solon and the Chrysalis weekend will be at Nazareth ELCA Church in Cedar Falls.

The links below can provide you with much more information. The first link includes a very informative video about Emmaus. Sponsorship is required so if you are interested or if you have additional questions, feel free to contact Tom Lillevig or Donna Dennis through the church office.

<http://emmaus.upperroom.org/>

<https://www.cedarrapidsemmaus.com/>



Gatherings (formerly Lifetree Café)



...meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. For those who are not familiar with Gatherings, it is not a Bible study or book group. Rather, we introduce a pertinent topic, provide some basic information, and then have both large and small group discussions. We have coffee ready and provide some pre-packaged snacks for those who want them. Please join us February 11th and 25th.

LCR recommends masks but does not require them.

Stephen Ministry

Our congregation has a group of people skilled in caring for those facing challenges in their lives. These people, called Stephen Ministers, have undergone extensive training to develop and nurture their caring skills. After being commissioned, they began their caring ministries in our congregation and community. Now our Stephen Ministers are working with people who are experiencing many different kinds of crises and stress in their lives.

Who might receive care from a Stephen Minister? Care receivers may be hospitalized, grieving the death of a loved one, separated or divorced, homebound, unemployed, adjusting to the birth of a child or experiencing difficulties.

Each of us has times when we are lonely, grieving, hurt, or in need of care. Our Stephen Ministers offer Christ-like care and comfort to those in need.

Think about your life and the lives of the people around you. Are you going through a time of crisis or challenge? Do you know someone who is suffering from grief or loneliness? Is one of your friends struggling to find meaning in life after he or she has retired or after all the children have gone? Could you or someone you know benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister?

If you have questions about the work of the Stephen Ministers, feel free to call the office and ask to speak with a Stephen Leader or talk with one of our Stephen Ministers. Please consider whether you know of someone who needs their care.

And I ask you to remember our Stephen Ministers in your prayers. - *Mary Hajek*

P.E.P. 55+ Group - **RESCHEDULED**



Our Clue Teams event in January was postponed due to the weather. Our new date for mystery-solving is Sunday, April 3rd at 3:00 pm. Join us for an afternoon of fun and surprises!

Fellowship

Train Dominoes

We'll play this fun game on 1st and 3rd Fridays at 1:15 pm. Train Dominoes is easy to learn and it will get you out of the house during our gloomy winter days. Non-members are always welcome!

Cribbage Group

Cribbage players meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays each month from 1:15-3:15 pm for card-playing fellowship. There is no fee to participate, just come and have some fun!

PEP 55+ Group - "There's an APP for That"

GPS – it's everywhere. Even in the Gazette comic strip last week when Frazz and his buddy consider if Robert Frost had GPS, which road would he not have taken! Join us on Sunday, February 13th, at 3:00 pm, when Bob Erlandson will let us in on stories from the early days of GPS at Collins, as he experienced it.

Everyone is invited to bring a favorite APPetizer for all to enjoy with a delicious non-alcoholic Pina Colada punch. Recipes will be collected and printed for each of you. Come join us!

LCR Book Club

We'll get together Tuesday, February 15th at 6:30 pm. Our book this month is "*Sharp Objects*" by Gillian Flynn. You can pick up a copy of the book in the church office. Contact sherrillamorri-son@gmail.com to get on our email list; all are welcome!

Candy Bar Bingo

Enjoy family fun on Sunday, February 27th from 1:00-2:30 pm. There will be free popcorn for everyone, and pop available for purchase. See you there :-)

Wood Carvers

Our talented wood carvers meet each Thursday evening at 6:00 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 work on their current projects.

Confirmation

I'm excited for our upcoming Lenten journey. Ash Wednesday is March 2 and this year our congregation will be gathering from 5:15 - 6:00 pm each Wednesday during Lent for soup suppers. We will gather for worship from 6:00 - 6:45 and our intention is to provide a family-friendly environment and an opportunity for our church family to support you in your worship and fellowship life!

Following the worship service, our café will be transformed into the most hip and rad place to be in Marion! (OK, maybe it will just be awesome, but we are certainly aiming for hip and rad). We would love for the adults in our congregation to have a place to rest and enjoy church fellowship in whatever way you need. If you want some peace and quiet and all the Starbucks coffee you can drink - come enjoy yourself with free Wi-Fi and a quiet place to surf the web. If you would like a chance to meet and gather with friends, or simply meet folks from the congregation, you can do that as well. If you'd like to challenge our barista to make designs in your coffee, we can't promise anything but our best effort, but you can do that, too!

During the Wednesdays in Lent, our **7th graders will meet at 7:00** in the fellowship hall, and our **8th graders will meet at 7:30** in the YAC with the EDGE group. When our program ends at 8:00 pm you will look back on an evening of food, worship, fellowship, and youth programs that will strengthen your relationship with God and your congregation.

- *Peace, Nate*

Pastor Nate's contact info:
Lcr.confirmation@gmail.com
nmontover@gmail.com

563-320-3995 (call or text any time)

As always....if you feel that the weather conditions are not safe for your circumstances, please feel free to make the best decision for your family!



We are starting a new teaching series this semester. We asked students what **THEY** wanted to learn about, and now we're diving in! All high school students are welcome each Wednesday night for large group teaching + group discussion, with dinner provided!

EDGE is open to students in 9th thru 12th grade from any school or church. We meet each Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Feel free to join us any time! Our director is Katie Kascel; you can reach her with questions at katie@lcrmarion.org.

<https://www.instagram.com/edgeatlcr/?hl=en>
<https://vimeo.com/lcrprogramming>



Create a Prayer Jar

February 6th @ 11:30 am

Families and individuals of all ages are invited to create your own prayer jar for use at home. Treats will be served and all supplies are provided.

Prayers

Prayers
are
requested
for...



Those hospitalized in January...

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(*LCR members*) Wally Lechtenberg, Sherrill Morrison, Barbara Bunting, Judi Conrad, Kay Mase, Marlene Pasker, Don Schantz, Julie Brandt, Paul Bendixen, Marilyn Carstens, Gene Henry, Deanna Harding

(*family and friends*) Katie Blaha, Diane Peters, Tracy (Schantz), Ken Springer, Larry Hicks, Roxy Ray, Makenna Gull, Dee (Morrissey), Randy Ridenour, Lucille Lund, Dick Dircks, Betty Hannagan, Amy Thompson, Avona Lehmann

Those living in care facilities:

Lee Schoon, Vera Olson (The Views); Larry Wogahn (Bickford Cottage); Barb Schierholz (Silver Oak); Bernadean Spilde (Garnett Place); Bill Thompson (Emery Place)

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:

- Sue & Jim Anderson - their nephew Jeff Kindwall is doing well after cancer treatment

Those who mourn:

- Family & friends of Lorraine Mohr, who passed away on 1/6
- Karen Peyton and Julie Siebels on the death of their father, Nile Brown, on 12/24
- Arlene & Don Schantz on their death of their friend, Dot Pospischil, on 1/14
- Linda & Tracy Hayward on the death of their daughter-in-law's mother, Sylvia

Please pray for nurses, doctors, and staff of local medical facilities due to the increase of Covid-19 infections.

Online & E-mail Prayer Lists

If you are willing to serve our community through prayer, go to 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



Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them - <https://special.usps.com/testkits>

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.*

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 December 2021

	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$59,854	\$691,492	\$659,212
General Fund Expenses	\$77,797	\$666,180	\$658,194
Cash Balances	12/31/2021		12/31/2020
General Fund	\$124,691		\$101,802
Clearing Accounts	\$ 68,691		\$102,747
Property Reserve	\$ 30,000	Building	\$ 44,601
Building Residual	\$ 20,780		

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your generous gifts in support of our 2021 LCR budget. Giving was at 102.4% of pledges at the end of December.

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 gathering space kiosk.

* **PayPal** - Click DONATE button on our website for online giving.

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

* **Venmo** - Smartphone app for sharing money @LCRMarion

HOLY LAND TRIP - February 4-21, 2023

You are invited to come to the Holy Land and the Kingdom of Jordan with Pastor Jeff and others from LCR in February of 2023. We'll walk in the footsteps of Jesus, sail on the Sea of Galilee, visit the Shepherd's fields in Bethlehem, walk the way of the crucifixion, visit the Mount of Olives, float on the Dead Sea, visit Petra in Jordan and Mt Nebo where Moses died, and much more! If you are interested, pick up an information folder in the church office. Trip includes air transport from Chicago, minimum of two meals a day, all tips, and fees. *Initial deposit will be due February 11, 2022.*

Church Council

The Council met on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. The December Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Pastor Jeff: Working with the Synod office on "Call" documents. Lenten plans underway. Custodian position made permanent and filled.

Pastor Nate: Christmas services were very good; special thanks to the staff for their support. Working on future plans with With Faith members. Also focusing on Adult Education programming.

Treasurer: The year ended with a \$25K surplus which exceeded expectations. More giving went to our Mission Partners. Growing the Building Reserve fund.

Governance: no meeting

Property: no meeting

Stewardship: 2022 Campaign pledges received from 195 giving units; which is 11 more than the 2021 campaign.

Outreach: BINGO held on January 16 and scheduled for February 27.

Old/New Business: Annual Meeting scheduled for January 30, 2022. Contemporary Worship Leader position remains open. Council Retreat planned for February 12, 2022.

Next Meeting: Virtual on February 15, 2022.
Agenda items should be submitted by Feb. 10, 2022. Copies of council minutes and treasurer's reports available in the church office binder.

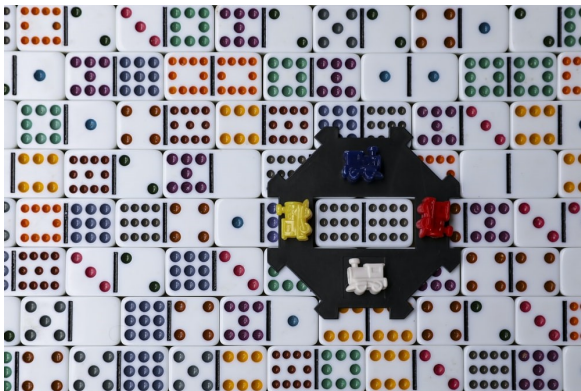
LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the RESURRECTION
3500 - 29TH AVENUE
MARION IA 52302

(Address Service Requested)

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Marion, Iowa
Permit #11



Friday, Feb. 11th & 25th
Don't go stir crazy this winter!
Come to LCR and take
part in our **Gatherings**.
Fascinating topics,
lively discussion, and
new perspectives.



*Feeling cooped
up this winter?*

Come to the
church at
1:15 on Fridays

*1st & 3rd Friday:
Train Dominoes*

*2nd & 4th Friday:
Cribbage*



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

Pastor Jeff Frohner - jeff@lcrmarion.org
Pastor Nate Montover - nate@lcrmarion.org
Children's Ministry: Jessi Lau - jessi@lcrmarion.org
Youth Ministry: Katie Kascel - katie@lcrmarion.org
Volunteers: Marcia Edwards - marcia@lcrmarion.org
Communications: Cari Redondo - cari@lcrmarion.org
Office Manager: Evelyn Beck - evelyn@lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org
Custodians: Dave Cosgrove, Jim Snyder



facebook



Instagram

twitter

YouTube