

CROSSTALK

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION

WWW.LCRMARION.ORG

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 8 | AUGUST 2024

“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” John 6.9

Jesus looked out over the crowd who had gathered and asked, somewhat rhetorically, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” Philip, one of the twelve, goes beyond Jesus’ question of “where” and instead wants to suggest that even if the “where” presented itself they certainly wouldn’t have the means to buy enough: “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” It is then that Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother who is also one of the twelve, I think rather tongue in cheek says our verse from above: “Well there’s a kid over here with a lunch pail, some loaves, a couple fish... yep, that’s not going to do it!” (I paraphrase).

Welcome to Kingdom Economics 101! This famous story of the feeding of the 5,000 is included in all four Gospels; but only here in John do we get the details about the boy with the loaves and fish. I think John includes this detail for some very important reasons.

First: Never, ever underestimate what God can do with the gifts that you have to offer. If I were going to a financial institution in order to secure a line of credit or some necessary funds they may very well want some collateral to ‘guarantee’ the loan. A house, an adequate job, perhaps a long history of good credit - all reasonable. In the Kingdom of God all that is required is “Faith.” Faith that God will be at work. Faith that we can make a difference/impact in the world. Faith that I am not alone but that others by the call of the Spirit will come along side.

Second: No gift is ever too small or insignificant. I can’t stress this enough. Of course big gifts are exciting and a blessing! Amen! Feel free to make big gifts whenever you can. But NEVER EVER demean what you have to offer the world. Be it skill set, time, or resources - it is the selfless act of providing for others that is important - not the volume of what is given. In the story of the feeding of the 5,000 just a bit of bread and fish was able to accomplish the unimaginable!

Third: Don’t be surprised if you are given an unannounced opportunity to bless the world. I can’t imagine that little boy went out that day - let’s assume his mom or dad packed his lunch - thinking that he would be the means by which Jesus would perform one of his greatest miracles. And yet his willingness to think beyond himself will never be forgotten. Sometime this week you’ll probably get interrupted with an opportunity to participate in Kingdom Economics - be on the look out for such occasions and you might be surprised just how often they present themselves.



I wonder how God might use our loaves and fish? Peace! *Pastor Jeff Frohner*

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<https://tinyurl.com/LCRYouTube>

X x.com/lutheran_of

WORSHIP

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

Sunday 8:30 am - Traditional Worship | Sunday 10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

Wednesday service: casual evening gathering with its own message + music from a range of worship styles

Wednesday 6:00 pm - Evening 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 through our homepage and sign up where it says “Engage” or “Connect.” Alternately, you can contact us at the church office and we will sign you up: 319.377.4689 or office(at)lcrmarion.org.

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/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwl3ZiDQ44ay4>

Community Financial Need Update

The Churches of Marion Food Pantry Board thanks our member churches for their generous support of The Churches of Marion Food Pantry. In addition to prayers, food donations, and financial support, volunteers from church families and the community donate thousands of hours to the pantry every year. The support we receive in all these areas is critical for the pantry's ability to continue to help our neighbors in need.

In the last year, we have faced an increase in pantry utilization (nearly 4,000 household distributions) and an increase in cost to obtain food. Our reserve funding has been nearly exhausted. Donations of any amount are deeply appreciated and make a difference.

Every week, the pantry receives food donations brought in by churches and individuals, and also acquires low- or no-cost food from HACAP. In order to provide each household a box containing a variety of nutritious food, the pantry also purchases food each week for distribution.

At our current level of spending, which we have tightened significantly in the last year, it will cost the pantry:

- ~ \$90,000 to purchase food for one year for our neighbors in need
- ~ \$7,500 per month
- ~ \$1,700 each week
- ~ \$22.75 per household per visit

Everyone's contributions make a difference. In order to encourage financial involvement, we would like to offer special recognition for weekly or monthly sponsorships, given by churches, church groups, businesses, families or individuals, through a sign at the pantry and a post of gratitude on Facebook.

We are thankful to be able to put nearly all of our financial resources toward the purchase of food. We are a 100% volunteer organization, and our space is generously hosted by First Presbyterian Church.

We are grateful for all the ways our sponsor churches and individuals in our community provide for our neighbors in need. Gifts may be mailed to Churches of Marion Food Pantry, 864 - 12th St, Marion, Iowa 52302.

Blessings, *The Churches of Marion Food Pantry Board*



MINISTRY

LCR Community Garden

We need **help with the harvest on Tuesday mornings** at 7:30 am. If you can spare 20-30 minutes of your time to help with harvesting and weighing of the vegetables, it would be very appreciated. We have harvested over 100 pounds so far this season! Also, if your home gardens are producing more that you can eat, **bring the extras** to the garden on Tuesday mornings by 8:00 am, and we will include it in our selection for the Churches of Marion Food Pantry. *Thank you from Ann & Steve Godar and the rest of the LCR Garden Team.*

Feeding Lunches to Youth (FLY)

...provided over 24,000 meals to students in need during 2023. Volunteers are needed to assemble the lunches or to deliver them to our sites. Volunteers can sign up for **any day of the week**. The online sign-up is at the link below, and it runs through *Friday, August 16th*:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/11723891900104/false#/invitation>

If you would like help signing up,
[contact the church office](#)

Marion Cares Backpack Program



These are just a few of the MANY filled backpacks that are coming in for our local students. Thank you to our backpack shoppers and to those who have donated money so we could fill even more backpacks.

FLY Juice Box/Sandwich Bag Drive

We received so many juice boxes and sandwich bags for this summer's FLY program - thank you! You also donated **\$360** for us to purchase additional materials for the FLY lunches. *Great job, Resurrection givers*

Neighborhood Nights Volunteers

We need YOUR help to make our **August 24th** Neighborhood Night awesome! We need people to:

- * **make & bring desserts** * **help set up & tear down**
- * **grill food** * **serve food** * **supervise bounce houses**

You can sign up online through our website or call the office for more info. *Thanks for helping!*

Neighborhood Nights donations

This summer we're asking for donations of pop and/or ground beef for our NN event on **August 24th**. You can drop your donations off at the church office. *Thanks for your generosity!*

Water Bottle Ministry

Help us keep the youngsters that play at Butterfield Park hydrated this summer by donating a package of water bottles for our outdoor Water Pantry. You can leave packages in the church entryway any time.

Sheets Needed

Our Comforting Hands Quilters always need donations of clean, good-condition sheets. If you have access to any, please drop them at the church office. Thank you for supporting our ministry!

Thanks for your generosity!

Community Health Free Clinic - **\$1,365**
from your May & June mission envelopes
Lutheran Disaster Response - **\$1,755**
for Midwest tornado relief
Lutheran Disaster Response - **\$224**
You can still donate for Ukraine relief.

July & August Mission Envelopes

... will go to the **Churches of Marion Food Pantry**. The pantry is run by a group of churches organized to meet the emergency food needs of area families through funds, food, and distribution volunteers. The pantry is open Tuesday & Thursday afternoons from 1:00 - 3:00 pm and operates from the Mission House of First Presbyterian in Marion.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR



We had so much fun at VBS in July! Thank you to all the volunteers and youth helpers that made our jungle exploration safe and fun!



Any questions? Reach out to Jessi: [jessi\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:jessi(at)lcrmarion.org) or by calling the church office.

COMING SOON...

OPEN ART STUDIO
Tuesdays
July 30 and August 27
6:00 - 7:30 pm
FOR STUDENTS!!!
Third grade students and younger should be accompanied by an adult

We have lots of great art supplies in the Red Room – leftover projects from Sunday School units, VBS crafts and other various creative endeavors over the last few years. Bring the family and come make a mess! You can use supplies we have and come up with your own project, or work on something from home if you have something you're already excited about! Students going into 3rd grade and younger need to be accompanied by an adult!

WE
NEED
YOU!



LCR DAY CAMP VOLUNTEERS
August 5-8
Can you help with registration, check-out,
be an adult or youth helper, or bring lunch for counselors?
Please sign up at LCRMarion.org!

Day Camp only works if we have lots of adults on hands to support our campers! We have a staff of leaders coming from Riverside Bible Camp, but we have lots of other roles to fill helping with check-in, snacks, lunch, and supervising games, crafts, bible studies and other rotations!

ADULT DISCIPLESHP

The Gospel of Mark



Bible Study
Sundays at 9:40
Conference Room

<< Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Our regular adult bible study meets weekly on **Sunday mornings at 9:40 am** in the conference room. Our current study is on the Gospel of Mark, presented by Pastor Nate.

Pastors 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 the pastors' weekly sermons and prepare you to get more out of worship. We meet **each Wednesday at 11:00 am** in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals

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

Resurrection Small Groups - both Daytime and Evening Opportunities

Mary Kay Pinckney - women's group; **one Sunday evening each month**; meets at leader's NE CR home;

Email Mary Kay: [mkpink6\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mkpink6@gmail.com) (will resume in September)

JAM Study Group - women's group; **second Monday each month at 1:00 pm**; meets in the conference room

Email Linda: [lhayward495\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:lhayward495@yahoo.com) (will resume in September)

Dan Tegtmeier - mixed group; **first Monday evening of the month**; meets at group members' homes

Email Dan: [dtegtmeier\(at\)iowanorthern.com](mailto:dtegtmeier@iowanorthern.com)

Loaves, Fishes, & Faith - women's group; **weekly on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm**; meets in the church lounge

Email Mary Jo: [maryjo.carlson3775\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:maryjo.carlson3775@gmail.com) (Mary Jo) "Women of the Bible" by J.S. Syswerda

Donna Dennis - mixed group; **Thursday, August 8th and 22nd at 6:30 pm**; meets at the church

Email Donna: [donnakdennis88\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:donnakdennis88@gmail.com)

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - women's group; **will resume on Wednesday, September 4th**

Email Harriet: [keyboreder1\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:keyboreder1@gmail.com) (on hiatus this summer)

Gatherings @ LCR ...will resume in September.



The VBS kids had so much fun and learned A LOT about God



Even the adult helpers were getting WILD for God!

GOOD NEWS!

Stay tuned... Piano Appeal - Thank you!



Here's a big thank you to everyone who has made the appeal to purchase a Steinway piano for LCR a reality. Your generosity and vision - whether in donations or verbal support - have allowed us to move our delivery date up to Rally Day - September 8th! If you would like to contribute to this historic undertaking - there is still time as we'll close the campaign on August 11th and every gift is important and will be used to bring our new piano home to LCR. A big thank you to Bette Raus who has secured this appeal with a legacy gift, and to the late Jerry and Barb Schierholz, whose generosity provided the starting gift that allowed us to move forward and spurred on a spirit of generosity from others. Our Steinway piano will come with a custom cover, upon which you will find the motto associated with J.S. Bach and the Lutheran Reformation and its music - "Soli Deo Gloria" (Glory to God Alone)!



Living Servant of Jesus!

Lutheran World Federation - Introducing Leon Novak, Bishop of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovenia (*from an interview published June 21, 2024*)

"When you have experienced something like that yourself, you can understand the situation in another country much better; you have experienced yourself how helpless you are in a war and how precious it is to have friends, brothers, and sisters who do not forget you in times of need and who do not leave you alone. Through the support from our parishes and our small-scale diaconal ministries in Slovenia (we only have a staff of three), I can take relief goods to Ukraine. I now have come here for the fifth time.

We organize these aid deliveries in consultation with the German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ukraine; that means we collect articles that are needed: generators, winter clothing, wheelchairs, and crutches, which we then take to a hospital or hospital beds for home care of the elderly and infirm.

We collect items in the parishes and often receive help from the German Protestant agency Gustav-Adolf-Werk and other organizations abroad. I then pick up all the relief goods and drive them in a small van. That way, I can still pass customs in the car lane. So, I get through quickly and bring the aid to Odesa, Kharkiv, or elsewhere."

When asked why he does this personally, "I wouldn't like people to get the impression that the bishop sits safely in his office and lets other people drive into a war zone. By showing that you have not forgotten about them, if you come personally, meet them, and say, "We care about you; that's why I'm here!" that creates relationships and trust. In an emergency, this is the most important thing."



Bishop Leon Novak making a delivery in Ukraine.

PHOTO GALLERY



^ We've been having wonderful fellowship events this summer, ^
from Neighborhood Nights and Car Cruises to our Annual Summer Picnic.
Many thanks to all who have donated and volunteered to make these happen!



more VBS
photos!



FELLOWSHIP



Tell all your friends & neighbors - TONS of fun for kids, families, and anybody! Enjoy a free dinner, plus desserts, bouncy houses, yard games, and a live band. **July date is Saturday the 24th, starting at 5 pm.**

Friday Is Game Day @ LCR

Cribbage - August 9 & 23 at 1:15 pm

Train Dominoes - August 2 & 16 at 1:00 pm

We can teach you if you've never played before. Non-members are always welcome.

Painting Group

Love to paint? Want to learn? Join us on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of each month at 6:30 pm** in the art room. This group is open to adults painting in all different mediums - acrylic, watercolor, oils, etc. If you have questions, or if you haven't painted before, please contact Evelyn: [ebeck\(at\)imonmail.com](mailto:ebeck(at)imonmail.com)

Walking Group

We walk **each Thursday at 10:00 am** at Lowe Park or Lindale Mall. Make sure to get on our email list so you'll know where to meet us! [marcia\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:marcia(at)lcrmarion.org)

Knitting & Crochet Group

We meet weekly on **Thursdays at 6:30 pm** in the church lounge. If you've never knitted or crocheted before, we will show you how! We have yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks to share. Contact Pam if you have any questions:

319-360-5165 or [pamkacena\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:pamkacena(at)yahoo.com)

Book Club

We'll get together on **Tuesday, August 13th at 6:30 pm**. Our book this month is "Mexican Gothic," by Silvia Moreno-Garcia. After receiving a frantic letter from her newlywed cousin, a glamorous 1950s debutante travels to a house in the distant Mexican countryside to unearth its treacherous secrets. You can sign out a print copy in the church office or find an online version. We will also discuss "The Henna Artist," our July book. Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome. [jonmaryhajek\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com)

Car Cruise-In

Meet us in the church parking lot on **Thursday, August 8th at 5:00 pm**. Bring your favorite set of wheels, or just come and admire the great rides. Pizza and pop are available for a donation. *This is a great event to invite friends and neighbors to!*

Wood Carvers

We gather at the church weekly on **Thursdays at 6:30 pm**. If you haven't done any carving before, we are happy to get you started. All are welcome! Contact John Marion if you have any questions:

319-363-6680 or [john1400\(at\)q.com](mailto:john1400(at)q.com)



Looking Ahead...

Mark your calendars now to be at LCR for **Rally Day on September 8th**. We'll have Sunday School Open House, inflatable slide & bounce house, face painting, festive worship, premier of our new piano, and a pot-luck brunch between worship services. Come and See!

ONLINE SAFETY

An Important Note About Scammers

In July, some congregation members received a fraudulent email message from someone posing as me, asking for help. While this particular instance used email, we know that scammers also use text messages, and sometimes, even an imposter telephone call.

Having someone trying to take advantage of people using my name is deeply distressing.

We urge you to please stay vigilant and know these facts:

- 1) No staff member at LCR will ever reach out to you via a personalized text, email, or phone call to ask you to spend your money on gift cards, send money for an "emergency" or "confidential" situation via credit card, PayPal, Venmo, direct deposit, etc.
- 2) You should never answer questions that will compromise personal/sensitive identification information.
- 3) We will never have a request that is so confidential or urgent that you don't have time to verify by calling the church office or speaking with us in person.
- 4) Be aware of phrases such as "I'm busy and I need your help," or "this is a confidential situation," or "I'd like to surprise someone in need/church staff/etc."

If you receive a message like this, please contact the church office and let us know so we can follow up.

We want all of you to be safe. Please reach out to us for verification before responding to anything suspicious.

Thank you - Pastor Jeff



If students or parents want to reserve a spot, contact Katie Kascel - [katie\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:katie(at)lcrmarion.org).



Some of our July helpers!



We had fantastic weather for our road trip to Lost Island Waterpark



PRAYERS

Those hospitalized recently:

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Bonnie Conrad, Larry Pierce, Michael Rosz, Tom McGovern, Judi Conrad, Linda Erlandson, Deanna Harding, Gene Henry, Eloise Heppler, Arlene Lang, Gary Young, Harry Walton

(family and friends) David Christiansen, Jolene Schulte, Jack Shields, Amy Thompson, Kimberly Richardson, Mavis Frey, Chuck Borsheim, Shirley Bocock, Merlin Moser, Betty Johnson, Mu Ruo

Those living in care facilities:

Bernadean Spilde (Garnett Place)
Bill Thompson (Emery Place)
Larry Wogahn (The Views)
Paul Bendixen (Hall-Mar Village)
Marge Dryden, Marilyn Carstens (Terrace Glen)

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 contact the church office.

Those who mourn:

- Family and friends of Barbara Bunting on her recent death
- Darlene McGovern and family on the death of her sister-in-law, Marge Richardson
- Diane Martinson and family on the death of her mother, Zita Harms

Those who celebrate:

- Families of Lily DeBower, Juliette Meisheid, and Adeline Kastel on their recent baptisms
- Ryan Corrigan and family, as he returns home from the hospital at last

Those in military service:

Todd Kopperud, Wyatt Ochs, Taylor Johnson, Steven Anderson, Jake Anderson

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.



2024 Vacation Bible School

Dementia Caregivers Support Group

... which has been meeting at LCR, is ending with our July meetings. We started the support group in 2011 and have met with many caregivers since then. They have been caring for people in early stages of dementia, and late stages, and all stages in between. They have been women and men, LCR members and non-members, spouses, children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. We have had sessions with one caregiver and with (our record!) 17 caregivers. We want to sincerely thank LCR for generously providing meeting space through these years. You have enabled those who were finding their way through a challenging situation to support each other by sharing experiences and frustrations. And we thank those who have attended and supported other caregivers in many ways.

Since 2011, many more support services have become available, including the Family Caregiver Center of Mercy at 319.221.8866. We encourage anyone interested to contact them.

- Carole Butz and Marlys Claussen

STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for June 2024

	<u>June</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$ 74,404	\$489,286	\$416,367
General Fund Expenses	\$ 70,583	\$391,149	\$369,965
Cash Balances	06/30/24		06/30/23
General Fund	\$349,629		\$231,126
Clearing Accounts	\$ 80,073		\$ 73,344
Property Reserve	\$ 75,780		\$ 65,780

General Fund Summary

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our 2024 budget!
Giving at the end of June was at 104.5% of pledges.



*** to see more photos of our LCR activities *
<https://www.lcrmarion.org/blog.html>**



Digital Giving

Simply Giving - Join 80 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 in the gathering space.

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

* **Give+ Text** - Find out how it works on the 'Giving' page of our website.

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, July 16, 2024.
June Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Treasurer: General Fund giving came in ahead of budget for June. Tech support and new computer equipment were higher expenses for June.

Pastor Jeff: Rally Day coming up Sunday, September 8th. July 27th is Neighborhood Nights and LCR Car Show. Grateful for piano donations that have come in so far.

Outreach: No July meeting. Thanks to all who helped with the picnic.

Property: Wee Wisdom flooring will be installed week of the 15th. Someone will be in to look at AC leak in gathering space. Looking into costs of replacing sanctuary lights with LED.

Social Concerns: Backpack Drive is continuing into July. Mission of Hope is looking for good-condition used clothing for their clothing closet. LCR looking to host event for Churches of Marion Food Pantry in September.

Wee Wisdom: Fence has been repaired and mulch will be replaced.

Old Business: New bookkeeper hire - Esther started officially last week after training.

New Business: *Living Legacy* - to present at August council meeting. *Building Use Form* - Revised form has been posted for council to review.

Next meeting: August 20, 2024
Agenda items should be submitted by 8/12/24.
Copies of council minutes and treasurers' reports are available in the church office binder.

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the RESURRECTION
3500 - 29TH AVENUE
MARION IA 52302
(address service requested)

2024 VBS kids >>



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Save the Date!



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
LCRMarion.org

SUMMER CAMP @ LCR

2024 Day Camp - August 5-8; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Day Camp is for those entering 1st - 6th grade for Fall 2024
Registration Open Now - Scan the QR Code for more info
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection - 3500 29th Ave, Marion
LCRMarion.org | (319) 377-4689

NEIGHBORHOOD Nights

FREE FOOD! **FREE FUN!**

JUNE 29 | JULY 27 | AUGUST 24

JOIN US FOR A FREE MEAL, BOUNCE HOUSE FUN, GAMES AND LIVE MUSIC STARTING AT 5 PM

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: Kailee Thomae - kailee@lcrmarion.org
Bookkeeper: Esther Platt - esther@lcrmarion.org
Secretary: Emily Carson - office@lcrmarion.org
Custodians: Dave Cosgrove

