

CROSSTALK

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of the
RESURRECTION

WWW.LCRMARION.ORG

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 8 | AUGUST 2025

*"As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way! "*

"Down in the River to Pray" (also known as "Down to the River to Pray," "Down in the Valley to Pray," "The Good Old Way," and "Come, Let Us All Go Down") is a traditional American song variously described as a Christian folk hymn, an African-American spiritual, an Appalachian song, and a gospel song. The exact origin of the song is unknown. Research suggests that it was composed by an African-American slave. The earliest known version of the song, titled "The Good Old Way," was published in 'Slave Songs of the United States' in 1867. (Wikipedia, *Down to the River to Pray*, accessed July 24, 2025)

Of course, the song made a great resurgence when it was featured in the movie, "Oh Brother, Where art Thou." But its allure is in the simplicity of calling us back. Back to our baptism, back to where we were claimed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Back to a study of scripture and back to the promise of life eternal with our Lord. There is also a humbleness to this simple song. An acknowledgment that I need help, that I need the Lord to 'show me the way.'

For here is a truth of spiritual life, it is often fraught with dangers, missed signs, wrong turns and distractions from the journey. Now we could despair in such difficulties - or being forewarned about them we can heed the call to stop, remember who and whose we are, ground ourselves in the word and the promise and move forward in confidence that the Lord will show us the way. That's in some ways the mission of the church and what we are about here at LCR.

As summer comes to an end, as the world seems more complicated than ever, it might be a good time for us to heed this simple song: Come down to the river to pray, study about that good old way. And who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord, show me the way!

Peace! Pastor Jeff

~ City of Marion Pavement Patching Project 2025 ~

Our 29th Ave. driveways have been blocked in July, but everybody has been getting into the driveway smoothly through the 35th St. entrance.

Work on this big project seems to be progressing steadily
so we're hoping that it will wrap up in August.

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https://tinyurl.com/
LCRYoutube

 **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 receive **email alerts** from LCR about worship and other news.

Click on the 'Visitor Info Request' tab our homepage to sign up - https://www.lcrmarion.org/new_visitor.html

Alternately, you can contact us at the church office and we will sign you up:

319.377.4689 or [office\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:office(at)lcrmarion.org).

Text Notifications - Worship services and other events are subject to change due to a variety of 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 on our website -

<https://share.hsforms.com/181uDRkYnTRyGMmuwl3ZiDQ44ay4>

Praising the Lord in Tough Times

Acts 16 details the story of Paul and Silas being stripped, beaten, thrown into prison, and shackled for casting a demon out of a fortune-telling slave. Rather than mourning their predicament, Paul and Silas sing hymns to the Lord from their cell. Around midnight, an earthquake occurs, breaking Paul and Silas' chains and throwing open the prison doors.

I've always admired this story, and the power of praising God in dire circumstances.

A few years back I contracted Covid, and remember feeling completely wiped out one morning. Instead of returning to bed, I put on some praise music, started singing loudly and began moving around the room. After about 20 minutes, I felt energized and ready for the day. I repeated this for the next several days, and before long, I was healed.

Likewise, in 2020, there were several mornings I felt a bit blue. On those occasions, I decided to take a walk and sing 'This is the day the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it.' After singing that song five or six times, I began to believe it. The power of praise changed the atmosphere and brightened the remainder of my day.

God, who is our creator and provider, is worthy of praise in all circumstances. In my own experience, praising the Lord always provides benefits. I encourage you to take some time today to praise the Lord! - Ralph Kendrick, 10:30 worship



We had a joyous 2025 Summer Picnic in July!
Sarah, Marlys, Lareen, and Gloria (not pictured)
won awards for their classic Lutheran Potluck dishes



MINISTRY

Canned Meat Drive

The Churches of Marion Food Pantry has been experiencing very high usage this summer, serving 300-400+ people per week. Households are able to choose one protein item for every person, so we distribute several hundred units of meat each week, along with vegetarian protein items. The Pantry would appreciate your help in keeping our shelves stocked with a variety of protein foods. Canned chicken and tuna are always appreciated, but other choices such as Spam, ham, beef, salmon, hash, and sardines are a welcome change. We will be collecting cans in the Gathering Space during August. Thank you for your support of the Churches of Marion Food Pantry!



LCR Raised Bed Garden

Harvest help is needed at our community garden each Tuesday morning at 7:45 am. If you can spare 15-20 minutes each week, come and enjoy the morning while picking vegetables to donate to the Churches of Marion Food Pantry, benefitting people in our own community! Also, if your home garden is over-producing, you can bring your extra vegetables to us at the community garden on Tuesday mornings, to be included in our totals. Questions? Call Ann Godar at 319.677.4304 or Larry Edwards.

Feeding Lunches to Youth

F.L.Y. feeds hundreds of students in Marion weekly from early June **through August 22nd**. You can sign up to help pack the lunches at Marion Methodist Church or to pick up, deliver, and distribute the lunches to one of our sites.

Sign up to volunteer at this link:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/901580700045/false#/invitation>

Marion Cares Backpack Program



During the month of July, 50+ Resurrection members and friends signed up to shop for and fill backpacks for students in our local schools. Many more donated money so additional backpacks could be assembled. Thank you so much for your generosity toward this crucial ministry for Marion students!

Texas Flood Relief

A note from Lutheran World Relief:

Thanks to your incredible support year round - and **your quilters and kit-makers** - LWR Quilts and Personal Care Kits were pre-positioned in Texas, so within 12 hours of the flash flooding, they were in the hands of those who needed them most. Thank you!



Personal Care Kit assembly in April

July & August Mission Envelopes

...will benefit the **Churches of Marion Food Pantry**. CMFP is a group of eleven area churches organized to meet the emergency food needs of local families. Participating churches supply funds, food, and distribution volunteers. The Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 and operates from the Mission House of First Presbyterian Church (8th Ave & 12th St in Marion).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @ LCR

VBS '25 - PET SQUAD



Thank you to all our volunteers
for making VBS such a wonderful
experience for our students!

SAVE THE DATE.....

Sunday School will start
on September 14th
Wednesday Night Live will
start on September 17th

DID YOU KNOW.....

The last 5 years have shown a steady increase in the number of kids enrolled in our Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live programs? PRAISE GOD! We are so thankful to have welcomed so many new kids and families.

HOWEVER, the volunteers that have been so faithful through our growth need some support! **Would you** consider becoming a Sunday School teacher? You do not have to have kids in the program, and we have plenty of substitutes available for those busy weekends! Please email Jessi at [childrens\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:childrens(at)lcrmarion.org) to find out more about how to help!



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Luther's Catechisms

Sunday Morning Adult Study in
9:40 - 10:30 am in the conference room

Join Pastor Jeff and we'll examine Luther's Small and Large Catechisms to gain an appreciation for the fundamentals of the Lutheran approach to Christian doctrine.



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.



Resurrection Small Groups - Daytime and Evening opportunities

Rebecca Mary Martha Circle - Our women's group will resume on **September 3rd**.

Email Lareen: clgull57(at)yahoo.com

Donna Dennis - mixed group; **2nd & 4th Thursdays at 6:30 pm**; meets at the church

Email Donna: donnakdennis88(at)gmail.com

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

Email Dan: dtegtmeier(at)iowanorthern.com

Mary Kay Pinckney - Our women's group will resume in September; mkpink6(at)gmail.com

JAM Study Group - women's group; our group will begin again on **September 8th**.

Email Linda: lhayward495(at)yahoo.com

At our last meeting the group selected a new book to study: **Christianity's Family Tree - What Other Christians Believe and Why** by Adam Hamilton. This study is 136 pages, divided into 7 chapters. You can order the book through Amazon - new for \$12.39, used for \$1.38 to \$6.90, or Kindle for \$9.99. Contact Linda for the Amazon link.

Prayers that each of you are all enjoying these lovely summer days. We have been blessed thus far with rain at just the right times! Looking forward to gathering again in September.

Pastor Jeff's One-Minute Devotionals - You can view these brief, thought-provoking videos online, **at any time** - <https://tinyurl.com/PrJeffDevotional>

Gatherings @ LCR - No Gatherings on August 8th - Join us on August 22nd!

'Gatherings' is a place and time to hear and share stories, and connect with others in our community. It is a place where you can feel safe to say what you really think or feel without being judged or rejected. Gatherings meet on **2nd & 4th Fridays from noon to 1:00 pm**; topics to be announced. Everyone is welcome and beverages & snacks are offered. Feel free to contact our organizer Tom with any questions: lillevig(at)outlook.com

Help with Day Camp Service Project - Birthday Kits

Our service project for Day Camp this year will be to make birthday kits for the food pantry. These kits help families in need celebrate their children's birthdays. You can help with this project by bringing a box of cake mix and/or a tub of frosting to church **on or before Wednesday, August 6!**



FELLOWSHIP

LCR Golfers

Pastor Nate and other golf fanatics at LCR had a great first group outing in June. Our next gathering is **Monday, August 25th at 7:00 pm in Tiffin.**

Details will appear in bulletins and online.



Car Cruise-In

August Cruise-In will be on **Thursday the 14th at 5:00 pm.** Bring your coolest classic wheels, or just come and admire other people's rides. Pizza, pop, and chips are available for a donation.

LCR Book Club

Summer is in full swing, hope you are making time to read! We'll meet on **Tuesday, August 12th at 6:30;** please bring your borrowed book back that night.

Our August reading is "Razorblade Tears" by S.A. Cosby. *The last thing Ike Randolph expects to hear is that his son Isiah has been murdered, along with Isiah's white husband, Derek. Ike had never fully accepted Isiah's life-style, but is devastated by his loss. Derek's father, Buddy Lee, had a similar relationship with his son, but he can't rest until he knows who killed them.*

Contact Mary to get on our email list; new people are very welcome! jonmaryhajek(at)gmail.com

Cribbage Group

Join us on **2nd & 4th Fridays at 1:15 pm** for a few games of cribbage. We are happy to 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 & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 pm** in the art room. This group is open to adults painting in a variety of mediums - acrylic, watercolor, oils, etc. If you have questions, or if you haven't painted before, please contact Evelyn: ebeck(at)imonmail.com



Sunday In the Park

We look forward to hanging out with you at Pinicon Ridge Park on **Sunday, August 17 at noon.** We'll set up at the Flying Squirrel Shelter. Pack a picnic lunch or dinner and come whenever you want. We'll have outdoor games to play or you can rent a kayak/canoe or bring your bike to hit the trails. The shelter has picnic tables and restrooms, and there is an inclusive playground nearby. All ages are welcome to enjoy the great outdoors with us!

Neighborhood Nights

The funnest neighborhood party in Marion is here at LCR! Invite all your friends on **Saturday, August 23rd at 5:00 pm** for a free dinner, excellent live music, and bounce houses and yard games.

Volunteers are welcome, too; check weekly bulletins and emails for sign-up info.

Wood Carvers & Knitters

Carvers and knitters/crocheters meet weekly at the church on **Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm.** Bring your latest projects to work on. Woodcarvers meet in the red room and knitters/crocheters in the church lounge. If you've never tried yarncraft or carving before, now is the time to learn! Feel free to jump in any Thursday you can, we'll show you how it's done.

carving - john1400(at)q.com

knitting - PamKacena(at)yahoo.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!

volunteerLCR(at)lcrmarion.org

Looking Ahead...



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle & High School Sunday Fellowship

9:40-10:25 am in the fellowship hall

Middle and High Schoolers have been gathering **between worship services on Sunday** to share in a time of fellowship. Together we play games, talk about life, and make treats. You are invited and welcome to join us during any of our Sunday morning get-togethers.



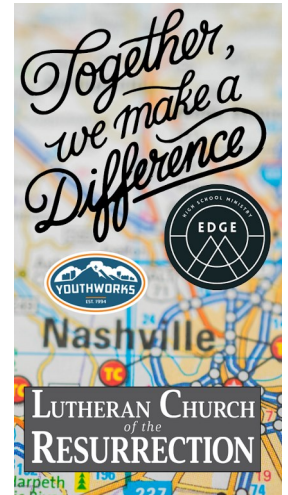
We're serving in Nashville TN, and sleeping at Memorial Lutheran Church. Thanks to God for our van and all your support & prayers!



EDGE YOUTH

High schoolers from any local school or church are invited to get involved in EDGE High School Ministry. You can sign up (QR code) to receive information about our upcoming events, including our Wednesday night programming, resuming in September. Feel free to contact Hannah with questions.

[youth\(at\)lcrmarion.org](mailto:youth(at)lcrmarion.org)



PRAYERS

Those hospitalized recently: Bernadean Spilde

Those experiencing illness or surgery:

(LCR members) Harriet Van Gilder, Bob Erlandson, Madelyn Olson, Jenna Butz, Pam Miller, Bill Thompson, Betty & Gary Young, Betty Bendixen, Mary Possehl, Everett Lehrman, Eloise Heppler

(family and friends) Eloise Blaha & family, Darrell Ketelsen, Mary Farmer, Tim Pefferman, Tim Zrudsky, Shawn Proksa, Andrew Howe

Those living in care facilities:

Larry Wogahn (The Views), Marge Dryden (Terrace Glen)

Those who mourn:

Joan Dutton on the death of her cousin, Diane Petersen
Tom St John on the death of his brother, Jim St John
Dorothy Rinderknecht and family on the death of her husband, Duane, past member of LCR

Those who celebrate: Jon & Mary Hajek on the life-saving surgery for their brother-in-law, Seth

Those in military service: Wyatt Ochs, Taylor Johnson

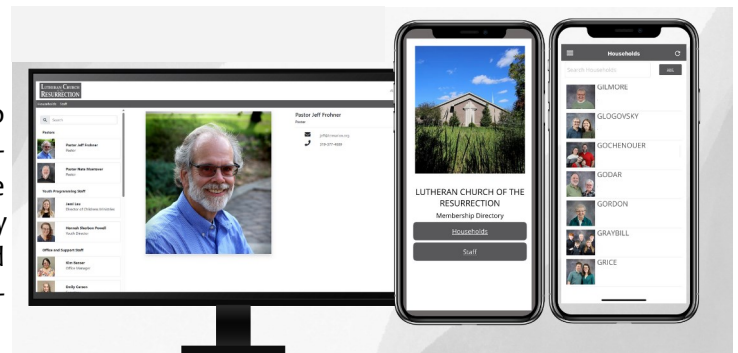
Please let the office know about prayer needs or when you wish to have a name removed.

The names of friends and family who are dealing with illness will be listed for 2 months.

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.

LCR Church Directory

Those who have had their photo taken or submitted a photo for the directory should have received an email with instructions for accessing the online directory and the phone app. The online directory and phone app will be constantly updated - you are always welcome to send in a new photo and update your contact information. Contact Cari with any questions: [Communications\(at\)LCRMarion.org](mailto:Communications(at)LCRMarion.org).



REMINDER - Please respect the privacy of our church family members. The church directory should never be used for marketing or solicitation. Never share your personal login credentials. Thank You!



STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report for June 2025

	<u>June</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
Receipts	\$ 90,741	\$554,140	\$489,286
Expenditures	\$ 79,444	\$443,500	\$391,149
<u>Cash Balances</u>	<u>06/30/25</u>		<u>06/30/24</u>
General Fund	\$268,390		\$176,873
Property Reserve	\$ 80,868		\$ 75,780
Savings	\$264,238		\$252,829

Thank you for your faithful gifts in support of our budget.

Digital Giving

* **Simply Giving** - Join 82 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.

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



Miss Michelle & Miss Noelle

At **Wee Wisdom Preschool**, we believe that every child is unique and will grow at his or her own pace. As teachers, we spend time nurturing children's strengths and encouraging them to reach new heights. Our focus is on the educational, social, physical, and spiritual development of our students. We create thematic units and multi-sensory activities to boost emergent math and reading readiness skills. We provide opportunities for students to develop their motor skills and improve physical coordination through music, dance, and group games. We utilize classroom jobs and helper days to model responsibility and empathy.

Wee Wisdom is currently accepting new enrollments for 3-5 year-olds.

<https://www.lcrmarion.org/wee-wisdom-preschool/about-wee-wisdom.html>

CHURCH COUNCIL

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

The Council met on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.
June Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved.

Treasurer: Giving held steady in June.
Our quarterly insurance payment and Neighborhood Nights outlays were the major expenses in June.

Pastor Jeff: *Insurance Policy Update to accommodate our use of bounce houses - Make sure to continue following posted capacity regulations and adult supervision.*
Rally Sunday: Worship On the Wapsi will be at 10:30 am on Sunday, September 7th at the Wapsi Bluff Shelter.

Outreach: Did not meet in July. Thanks to all who helped with LCR's annual summer picnic!

Property: Parking lot sealing will be finished soon.

Wee Wisdom: Received a \$1,250 grant.
Received \$700 through Hy-Vee's receipt program.

Old Business: *Long Range Planning Updates - LRP committee plans to bring their recommendations before the council in October.*

New Business: *There will be no August council meeting.*

Next meeting: *Tuesday, September 16, 2025*
Agenda items should be submitted by 9/8/25.
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)

CANNED MEAT DRIVE



Every week, the
pantry gives away
300-400+
cans of meat.



COLLECTING AT LCR DURING AUGUST

Help Day Camp
students make
BIRTHDAY
kits
for the
Food Pantry!

Donate boxes of cake mix
and/or tubs of frosting!
Bring to church on or before
Wednesday, August 6!



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NEIGHBORHOOD Nights
FREE FOOD! **FREE FUN!**
JUNE 28 | JULY 26 | AUGUST 23
JOIN US FOR A FREE MEAL, BOUNCE HOUSE FUN, GAMES AND MUSIC STARTING AT 5 PM

Sunday In the Park
Flying Squirrel Shelter at Pinicon Ridge Park
Central City
Starting at Noon; Come As You Can
June 22, July 20 and
August 17

CONTACT US!

office hours:

**Monday - Friday,
9 am - 4 pm**

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email: office@lcrmarion.org

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Pastor Nate Montover - PastorNate@lcrmarion.org
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HS Ministry: Hannah Sh. Powell - youth@lcrmarion.org
Contemp. Worship: Ralph Kendrick - worship@lcrmarion.org
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