

NEWSLETTER

NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SEPTEMBER 2026

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FROM THE PASTOR

I make many mistakes. So much so that there are many sleepless nights remembering those mistakes. Yet, I understand I am not the only person in God's kingdom that makes mistakes.

But I also admit that I do judge others for their mistakes, which adds to the sleepless nights. And for which I am so sorry. I decided I needed to see what scripture had to say about mistakes.

Scripture uses terms like patience, obedience, and loving your neighbor to describe how to treat people who make mistakes or have flaws. The following is a verse on how to have tolerance as a child of God and not to judge others.

Ephesians 4:2: "Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love."

I found an explanation of key words in this verse that I found helpful in living with my imperfection. Humble: not thinking you are better than others. Gentle: having power under control. Patient: waiting and staying calm for a long time. Bearing with one another: putting up with each other's mistakes or faults.

FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED

This is only one piece of scripture that can give us guidance in living in community and not seeing others mistakes but to instead see gifts that God had given each of us.

May I offer you a quote that will help each of us to help us live with our mistakes as well as other's mistakes...

We all mess up, learn to forgive. Good people sometimes make bad decisions. They mess up and they let others down. But that doesn't make them bad people. We all make mistakes. We are not perfect but we are all perfectly loved by God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Blessings.

Pastor Marcia

it's **OKAY**
to make
MISTAKES!



Mistakes
Are The
Stepping Stones
To Learning!

NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 16, 2026

The Nazareth Council Meeting was called to order at 11:23 by President Mark Lewis following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Vince Tomlinson, John Egeland, Dave Lewis, Arlyss Peterson, Joyce Allen, Pastor Marcia, and Church Administrator Eileen Lewis. Minutes from the July 26 meeting were approved as read by Eileen Lewis.

FINANCE REPORT: We're still in the green, but no thanks to the disbursements this month. Deposits consisted of \$4,626 in offering, along with \$1,125 in donations/gifts. \$374 came in for the Weekend with the King, along with \$10 from the silent auction and \$98 toward the summer meal program, totaling \$6,233.00 However, \$1600 was needed to haul water-logged furniture out of the flooded basement, and \$2,600 to repair the furnaces. The Evening with the King didn't bring in much revenue but cost \$800 to the entertainer, and \$100 facility rental. In all, disbursements came to \$11,581.46, bringing the opening balance of \$28,070.01 down to the closing balance of \$22,721.55.

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Savings has a balance of \$1,633.12; Capital Improvements balance is \$1,210.94; Mission Investment: \$20,163.22; Missions closed with \$1,056.98. SCRIP opened with a balance of \$2,779.68. \$909.59 was added, \$875 was disbursed, leaving a balance of \$2,814.27.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Despite the printer not working, Pastor Marcia has been busy writing letters, making posters, hymn selections, and sadly, Janet's funeral preparations, and she thanks all who submitted their hymn requests. Eileen suggested that maybe a different song or two be sung for communion besides "Let Us Break Bread Together." She also has a few ideas to sing instead of "Sanctuary" that she found on FaceBook's Praise and Harmony page, one being "Holy Spirit You are Welcome Here." Arlyss would also enjoy the traditional Doxology wherever appropriate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY: All the basement doors have been removed except the one on the bathroom. There was a little water in the basement in the kitchen and furnace room thanks to several straight days of rain, but we're still trying to determine if the water was from rain or from humidifiers. Eileen suggested getting tubes filled with particles that absorb moisture, and Vince thought it would be good to use them around the perimeter of the church as well as in the basement. Discussion then given about replacing the sump pumps. Arlyss motioned to look into getting a sump pump with a battery backup, Eileen seconded. Mark will call Matthew White Plumbing to see what they say since they replaced the last sump pump. Eileen also recommended an app from Church Mutual that notifies church personnel in the event of flooding, power outages, etc. She will need to confirm that our insurance will take care of this. John then mentioned that the fuse for the altar lights was blown, which has never happened before. Since we haven't heard yet about Nathan's electrician, Arlyss suggested Jeremy Williamson in Nevada, and she will check with him to see if he is available for an estimate.

The next order of business involved the stove. Vince priced three at Habitat in Ames. The least expensive was similar to the one we had that was \$175, and another for \$200. The downside to this model is it has the same oven door lock that got stuck, which we would like to avoid. The nicest model was \$250 but has a glass top. Mark stated he would just like to use a hot plate that could be taken home after use, but Eileen is worried about safety issues.

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED



Arlyss had an idea that we should check on scratch and dents at big box stores, and Eileen mentioned there is a Scratch and Dent store on Guthrie, which Joyce will check out.

CHRISTIAN ED: Pastor Marcia will begin Sunday School on September 13, and has letters to send to our church families to let them know about the class, as well as families she has gotten to know through the summer meal program. This will be done as soon as the printer works. The class will be each Sunday from 9:15 – 9:45. Will continue with children's messages during church service, and hopes to recruit church members to share their favorite Bible stories. Confirmation will begin on Wednesday, September 9, and so far the confirmands are Aubrey Grauerholz and Audrey Leiber. The first class will proceed to the library after meeting at the church, and will help teach diamond art. Class will be every Wednesday for now.

STEWARDSHIP: Still in the green, but lost ground last month.

INREACH / OUTREACH: The Ballard Summer meal program is no longer able to utilize the middle school as requested by the Ballard school district administration. The last day to pack meals will be Tuesday for the six days left before school starts, and will be done at Trinity Methodist Church in Huxley. Anyone available on Monday night is requested to gather at Trinity to chop veggies and bag up nonperishables, with the remainder done Tuesday morning. Those who would normally distribute food bags on Friday will collect the bags and ice packs from families to pack away for next year, which hopefully will be back at the school next summer.

MUSIC AND WORSHIP: Pastor is working on hymns for the rest of the year, and we'll be returning to our regular worship setting beginning September 6. Sheila has some suggestions for communion hymns.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS: Pastor Marcia is still working on a date for the Healing Service. She would like to have the Methodist pastors involved but hasn't heard back from them yet. In the meantime, the TrinityUnited Methodist and Palestine Lutheran churches will be doing a grief share service at the Huxley Library on Thursday evenings from September 3 through December 3. They will be discussing various events that trigger grief and how to deal with them.

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

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The next order of business was the Drive Thru dinner, which will be September 20. Menu includes pork loin, baked beans, pasta salad, cole slaw, rolls, and desserts. No drinks will be included. Arlyss pointed out that HyVee has pork loin on sale for \$1.77/pound, and today is the last day of the sale. So, Joyce, Arlyss, and Eileen will shop for pork loin.

The last order of business was regarding Janet Thorson's funeral service on August 19, and we will be furnishing desserts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 by President Mark Lewis and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Joyce Allen, Council Secretary.

MUSIC BOOKLET

We are going to be making a booklet of songs that we sing in church that are not in the worship book. These booklets will remain in the Pews so that we don't have to print out inserts for the bulletins. If there are any songs that you would like to include in the booklet please let Pastor Marcia and Eileen know so that we can find the music and add it to the booklet.

Here is a list of some of the songs that are being considered.

All Good Gifts, Mary Did You Know, May I Introduce You To a Friend, Amazing Grace My Chains are Gone, Beautiful, Beautiful, More Like You, My Peace, Bind Us Together, Angels We Have Heard on High, My Tribute, Christmas Hallelujah Oh Holy Night, One Bread One Body, Do Lord, Do you hear What I hear, Our Father Who Art in Heaven, Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord, Down to the River to Pray.

There are so many others too. so any input that you have is greatly appreciated.

REMINDER

School will be back in session starting August 24th. Watch out for kids waslking to school, riding scooters and bikes, and for the new drivers. Escpecially watch for the ones who are trying not to be late to school or are in a hurry to leave school.

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Answer to puzzle: For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. 1 Peter 3:18a NIV

# *Richard Ness Memorial Drive Thru Dinner*



October 20, 2026  
5 - 7 pm

517 Vine St,  
Cambridge IA

\$10.00 for Pork Loin, Baked  
Beans, Coleslaw and dessert

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP

The scriptures and the prayer of the day are found in the LBW starting on page 18 the Propers. We are currently in year A, and you would look for the Sunday Date. The first Sunday of September is September 6<sup>th</sup>, so look for the entry

### **Sunday, September 4-10,**

A

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40 (35)

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

### **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### **Sunday Sept 13– Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13 (8)

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

### **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### **Sunday Sept 20 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Psalms 145:1-8 (8)

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.



# MUSIC AND WORSHIP

## **Sunday Sept 27 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalms 25:1-9 (6)

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

### **Prayer of the Day**

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

## **Music for September**

### **September 6, 2026**

Call to Worship: Sanctuary (on back page of ELW)

Opening Hymn: What a Friend We Have In Jesus #742

Hymn of the Day: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #631

Communion Hymn: Freely, Freely (insert)

Hymn: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow #884

### **September 13, 2026**

Call to Worship: Sanctuary (on back page of ELW)

Opening Hymn: This Little Light of Mine #677

Hymn of the Day: Have No Fear, Little Flock #764

Communion Hymn: As the Grains of Wheat #465

Hymn: They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love (insert)

### **September 20, 2026**

Call to Worship: Sanctuary (on back page of ELW)

Opening Hymn: Rise Up, O Saints of God #669

Hymn of the Day: Just As I Am, without One Plea #592

Communion Hymn: One Bread, One Body #496

Hymn: God Be With You Till We Meet Again #538

### **September 27, 2026**

Call to Worship: Sanctuary (on back page of ELW)

Opening Hymn: This Little Light of Mine #677

Hymn of the Day: Softly and Tenderly #608 \*Family Favorite (Joyce)

Communion Hymn: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying #752

Hymn: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ #674

## GRIEF SHARE CLASSES

GriefShare is a 13-week Christian course that helps persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one of any age or circumstance whether recently or some years ago. Pastors Eric Klimpel and Bobb Barrick and another leader, Kris, will be facilitating the course which includes a study manual, video segments from noted authors, counselors, pastors and regular people sharing their personal stories and helpful insights from their grief journeys, as well as plenty of time for personal sharing and prayer.

The class will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8pm starting September 3rd and running through December 3rd (no meeting on Thanksgiving of course). Meeting place is at the Huxley Public Library in the Three Cs Building.

You can register for the class on line [www.griefshare.org/findagroup/search](http://www.griefshare.org/findagroup/search). The class is listed under Palestine Lutheran Church in Huxley zip is 50124. Cost of the very user-friendly Study Manual is \$25. Class will be limited to about 12 persons. Bring a friend. Tell somebody who could benefit from this class.

Personal note from Pastor Bobb: I lost my spouse of 36 years to Alzheimers not quite 4 years ago. It took me a couple of years before I took the class and it was very helpful--the first class I could barely share why I was there. Grief is a journey. It's not something we 'get over' but something that shapes who we become and opens our eyes and hearts to the needs of others around us. GriefShare has helped me tremendously.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will resume on September 13<sup>th</sup>. we have a fun kickoff event planned. Please invite your children and grandchildren to join us so they can participate in all the fun.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Instructions:**

Cross out all words that may be considered a sin or something that would be wrong in God's eyes.

(NOTE: Do not cross out the words "sins" and "unrighteous")

|             |                |             |            |              |            |              |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| BITTERNESS  | FOR            | QUARRELSOME | WICKEDNESS | JEALOUSY     | GOSSIP     | CHRIST       |
| HATE        | UNFAITHFULNESS | FILTHY TALK | DIED       | LYING        | IMMORALITY | LAZINESS     |
| FOR         | ARGUING        | SINS        | SLANDER    | COVETING     | IDOLATRY   | SLANDER      |
| MURDER      | ONCE           | KILLING     | BLASPHEMY  | ADULTRY      | FOR        | SELFISHNESS  |
| STEALING    | SLANDER        | RAGE        | STINGY     | ALL,         | GREED      | THE          |
| RIGHTEOUS   | ENVY           | ARROGANCE   | FOR        | PRIDE        | GLUTTONY   | QUARRELSOME  |
| FOOLISHNESS | THE            | COMPLAINING | LUST       | UNRIGHTEOUS, | IMPURITY   | STEALING     |
| TO          | GAMBLING       | BRING       | RACISM     | WICKEDNESS   | YOU        | WORRY        |
| UNKINDNESS  | PRIDE          | TO          | IDOLATRY   | GOD          | ANGER      | DISOBEDIENCE |

The answer to this puzzle is on another page in the newsletter.



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | P | W | O | H | E | L | T | E | R | F | E |
| U | E | R | D | S | M | I | G | H | T | Y | A |
| R | U | E | O | E | U | C | S | E | R | E | F |
| A | C | S | A | T | D | F | O | R | T | G | U |
| D | A | H | E | F | E | A | T | H | E | R | S |
| L | N | R | G | S | L | C | E | L | S | T | H |
| E | G | O | U | H | I | D | T | I | S | H | A |
| I | E | T | F | I | V | E | R | O | V | E | D |
| H | L | C | E | L | E | D | V | A | R | R | O |
| S | S | E | R | T | R | O | F | E | U | S | W |
| M | I | G | H | F | E | A | N | G | E | G | S |
| P | R | O | T | Y | R | E | T | L | E | H | S |

**Word Bank**

Mighty  
 Fortress  
 Protector  
 Refuge  
 Shield  
 Guard  
 Rescue  
 Shadow  
 Shelter  
 Feather  
 Angels  
 Deliverer