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August
2025

**Summer Newsletter Article from our
Greater Milwaukee Bishop, Paul Erickson**



“Kathy, I’m lost”, I said, though I knew she was sleeping
I’m empty and aching and I don’t know why
Counting the cars on the New Jersey Turnpike
They’ve all come to look for America”
- Paul Simon, 1968

I realize that I’m dating myself by opening this reflection with a quote from the song “America” by Simon and Garfunkel, but I heard this song referenced over the Fourth of July weekend, and it seems particularly appropriate for this time in our common life. For me, it expresses the notion that America is not so much a place or a reality, but an idea, or even an ideal. Our holiday celebrations included many references to “the land of the free and the home of the brave,” and we are currently embroiled in a national debate about whether the fullness of the “American Dream” is available to all, regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship status, etc. The gap between the promise of America and the painful reality we currently experience is likely to leave many, if not most of us, disillusioned, empty and aching.

Much the same could also be said of the state of the Church. Christians of all ages have recognized that there is a significant gulf between the reign of justice, love, and mercy described in Scripture and the painful and broken realities of our church and our world. We are called to live in this tension between the dusty and the divine, the pain and the promise. We need to acknowledge that we will never close this gap, that we will never experience the fullness of either of these ideals, the American Dream or the Reign of God, and that no political party or movement and no religious leader or ecclesiastical reform will ever be able to fulfill the deepest longings of our hearts and our communities.

So, what are we to do? While some religious traditions have found comfort in turning away from the pain and suffering of this world as we patiently wait for God’s promised reign to be fulfilled, I believe we are called to simply roll up our sleeves and engage in the hard and holy work of closing the gap between where we are and where we believe God wants us to go. We will not always agree on what that work looks like, and we may often wonder if we are making any progress at all, but the Holy Spirit will give us what we need to keep moving forward.
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I find comfort and strength in these words of Martin Luther, “This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.”

Keep moving, dear church,

Bishop Paul Erickson



The Children's Chalice

Holy Communion Lutheran Church August, 2025



HAPPY BAPTISM BIRTHDAY to the following children
who were baptized during the month of August:

Alaya Buhler Asia Doidge Sawyer Krenzke Luke Lequia

Our Christmas program, *Look for the Light*, needs you!

Our beloved live nativity Christmas program, *Look for the Light*, needs intergenerational participants if it's going to take place on **Sunday, December 14th, 2025**. People of all ages, talents, and skills are welcome to join our children and youth as we share the story of Jesus' birth in word, song, and animal wrangling. Multiple group rehearsals will take place at various times to accommodate people's busy schedules, and if you can't make any of the scheduled rehearsals, Kate will meet with anybody at any time who would like to participate. If singing, adults who join should plan to attend a minimum of 2 rehearsals. If reading or wrangling animals only, one meeting with Kate should suffice. We hope many of you decide to don a costume and join us in this beloved HCLC tradition.



Because a decision about whether or not the program proceeds needs to be made by October 1, please contact Kate throughout August and September to let her know if you will be joining us. Without your participation, the program will be canceled.

Please note: As always, youth participants will receive priority as readers and soloists.

Texting or emailing Kate is best: 262.498.7593 kpotterbarrow@gmail.com



Men's Group

All men are invited to join Pastor Mark in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August . The group meets once a month for fellowship and friendly discussion and they would be happy to have more men join them. If you have any questions you can contact Pastor Mark at pastormark.hclc@gmail.com. All are welcome!



Worship in the Park and Church Picnic

Sunday, August 10th

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m.

**Pritchard Park, 2800 Ohio St.
Wieczorek Pavillion (same as last year)**

Watch for the signs directing you to the picnic area.

We will provide:

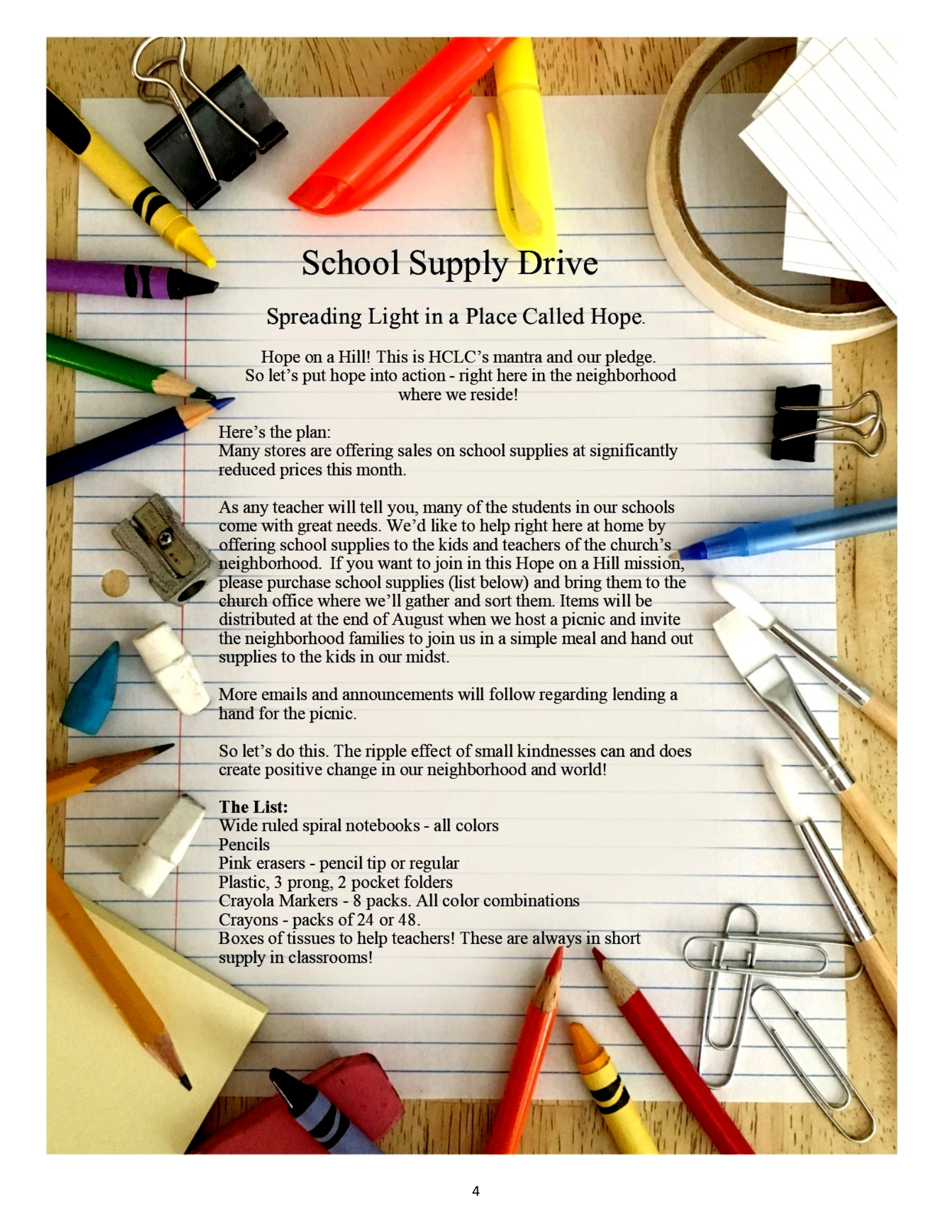
**Pulled pork, hot dogs, and buns
Plates, cups, napkins, plasticware
Water and lemonade
Ice and coolers will be on hand**

You bring:

**Last name A-L Salads or side dishes
Last name M-Z - desserts
Lawn Chairs and beverages**

**We'll have activities and games for kids. Kids, bring your friends!
Rain or shine we'll gather and rejoice.**

See you at the park!



School Supply Drive

Spreading Light in a Place Called Hope.

Hope on a Hill! This is HCLC's mantra and our pledge.
So let's put hope into action - right here in the neighborhood
where we reside!

Here's the plan:

Many stores are offering sales on school supplies at significantly reduced prices this month.

As any teacher will tell you, many of the students in our schools come with great needs. We'd like to help right here at home by offering school supplies to the kids and teachers of the church's neighborhood. If you want to join in this Hope on a Hill mission, please purchase school supplies (list below) and bring them to the church office where we'll gather and sort them. Items will be distributed at the end of August when we host a picnic and invite the neighborhood families to join us in a simple meal and hand out supplies to the kids in our midst.

More emails and announcements will follow regarding lending a hand for the picnic.

So let's do this. The ripple effect of small kindnesses can and does create positive change in our neighborhood and world!

The List:

Wide ruled spiral notebooks - all colors

Pencils

Pink erasers - pencil tip or regular

Plastic, 3 prong, 2 pocket folders

Crayola Markers - 8 packs. All color combinations

Crayons - packs of 24 or 48.

Boxes of tissues to help teachers! These are always in short supply in classrooms!



Food Pantry

The number of clients our pantry has been serving is increasing while the amount of food we receive from Racine County Food Bank and the government has been much smaller than in the past. This means we have had to purchase much more food. Sharon totaled the cost of the items the pantry purchases for a family of four and it added up to \$ 33.31, and more for a larger family. In June the pantry served 360 households, with 1069 individuals. With numbers like these we are quickly going through the money in the pantry account. We need your help! Please consider picking up a few extra items when you shop for your family or make a financial contribution to the pantry.

For August the pantry is asking for donations of spaghetti sauce, 1 lb. pkgs. of spaghetti, tuna, tomato soup, and instant potatoes.

We also collect pens and pencils, cookbooks, and greeting cards to share with our clients. Thanks to everyone who contributes to the pantry and to our wonderful, dedicated volunteers. We could not do this without you!

Diaper Ministry

Sincere thanks to Marianne Jensen who sponsors this month's Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Katherine Jensen and to the Funk family who sponsors in memory of Wayne & Jan Sotona. Thank you all for your ongoing support!



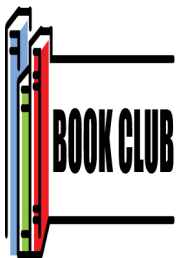
August distribution dates are Wednesday, the 13th from 11AM – 1PM and Wednesday, the 23rd from 4PM – 6PM. Please tell others about our ministry! If you have children's books at home you no longer need, please donate them to the Diaper Ministry. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with any questions or if you want to volunteer!

Ketchup Club

The Ketchup Club has moved to the first Tuesday of the month to allow more people to attend. In August the Ketchup Club will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 5th at Wells Brothers Restaurant, 2148 Mead St. These casual get-togethers are a wonderful way to “catch up” with old friends and make some new ones. If you know you will be there, please contact Pastor Laura, pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com, or the office, office.hclc@gmail.com, to help us reserve the right size table. If you suddenly find yourself free that day we will happily make room for you, so please come and join the fun!



Book Club news for August



The Book Club will be discussing The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray on Wednesday, August 13th at Julie Burton's home.

Belle de Costa Greene has been hired by J P Morgan to organize and preserve his collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built personal library. Belle becomes a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world. However, Belle has a secret, one she must protect at all costs. She was born Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate of equality. The story is about an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit. She must be careful to protect her white identity in the racist world in which she lives.

You can join our discussion at Julie's home from 10:00 -11:30. Please call her at 262-639-5914 to let her know that you plan to attend.

Our book for our September 10th meeting is James by Percival Everett.

Third Tuesday Bible Study

THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY will meet August 19th to discuss Acts 2:37 to 4:12 using the study guide by William Barclay. Pages 31 and 32 in Barclay tells us that God forgives us our sins but expects us to change our behavior. The Christian church is to provide a fellowship that empowers us to resist sin and to be right with God.

Peter and John go to the Temple on the Sabbath (page 36) where a lame man was begging for alms. They heal the man proclaiming that it was faith in Jesus that restored the man's health (page 37). The disciples profess how Old Testament scriptures foretold the coming of Jesus and 5000 believed them that day (page 41). But the priests and wealthy Sadducees got the Temple police to arrest them (page 42). Peter knew the danger he faced. Nevertheless, he healed the lame man and spoke to the people about Jesus fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy.

Meet at Julie Burton's home on August 19th from 10:00 to 11:30. The address is 136 Steeplechase Drive; phone is 262.639.5914. Bring Bibles and a love of learning.



Work On Our Windows Has Begun!

A crew from Willet Studios in Winona, Minnesota is here to work on our beautiful stained glass windows. As you can see in the pictures, they are removing the old, yellowed coverings from the windows. They will make any needed repairs before putting new, clear lexan polycarbonate covering up. You can see the difference from the outside in the photos on the left. In the interior photo you can see how much brighter the colors appear in the window on the left. It will be stunning when they are finished!

August Birthday Club

Were you born in August? If you were, please join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura in the lounge on Thursday, August 14th at 10:00 to enjoy a birthday donut and celebrate with others born in August. Come for a cup of coffee, a birthday song, conversation and some laughs. Hope to see you there!



Finance Update

June 2025 Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$41,386.30

Expense: \$48,136.84

Net Income: \$(6,750.54)

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$306,104.36

Expense: \$300,117.61

Net Income: \$5,986.85

Prayer Team

The HCLC Prayer Team wants to pray for you! Share your joys, sorrows and concerns and your brothers and sisters in Christ will hold you in prayer. There is power and blessing in praying for each other. Send your prayer requests to amylarsen2406@att.net.



If you would like to become part of the prayer team and receive the prayer request emails once or twice a week, please contact the office or Amy Larsen. And of course, you can always call or email the office to have a name added to the prayers on Sunday morning. For confidentiality reasons we only use first names for our prayers on Sunday mornings and in our prayer emails. **Prayer changes things!**

Hospital Visitation

Please remember to contact the church office if you or a family member is hospitalized, in a nursing home, or becomes home bound. **Due to HIPPA privacy laws, medical facilities cannot release information on their patients, so the church will not know you have been ill.** You can decide if you want to receive a visit or have your name on the prayer list read in church. If you wish, along with the visits we will add your/their name to the mailing list for the newsletters and the wonderful holiday cards from our Sunday School students. If you notice a friend or someone who usually sits near you in church is not attending for a stretch, we would like you to tell us that too, so we can check in with them. You can contact the church office at office.hclc@gmail.com, or 262-632-8802.

Scrip Cards For All Your Summer Plans

Scrip cards can be useful for all of your summer plans. There are grocery cards for your BBQ and picnic supplies, restaurant cards for the days it is just too hot to cook, cards for department and clothing stores for beach towels and swim suits, home improvement stores for all your backyard and garden DIY projects, and of course, gas cards for all your road trips. There are even scrip cards for hotels! Shopping with scrip is an easy way to support HCLC when you shop. HCLC purchases the cards for a discounted rate so we earn a percentage for every card you purchase. You pay the face value of the card and get to spend the full value of the card. There are lists of the participating retailers in the Welcome Center and on the tables at the back of the sanctuary. Stop at the scrip table Sunday morning or contact Kylee kygregg@mac.com, to learn more about the program and see what they have available!



Medical Equipment Lending Closet

Did you know we have a lending closet with medical equipment such as canes, walkers, shower chairs, etc for people to borrow? Often these items are needed only for a short time after an illness or surgery, and they can be costly to purchase. Right now we have crutches, canes, raised toilet seats, shower chairs, walkers, and a wheel chair and we just got a donations of a scale, a blood pressure cuff, and a small, two step wheelchair ramp. You can use the borrowed equipment for as long as it is needed. We only have one or two of some items, so availability does vary. If you, a family member, or friend needs an item, call the church office, 632-8802, and we will check to see if we have what you need available. If you have medical equipment you no longer need to use, please consider donating it to our lending closet. Donations can be brought to the church office during the week or to church on Sunday mornings.



August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>We Are Called</i> 9:30 Worship	4 10:00 Worship & Music Team 12:30 Food Pantry	5 11:30 Ketchup Club @ Wells Brothers	6	7	8 9:00 Men's Group 12:30 Food Pantry	9
10 <i>Worship in the Park</i> 9:30 Worship	11 12:30 Food Pantry	12 1:00 Quilters	13 10:00 Book Club 6:00 Finance Team	14 10:00 Birthday Club Ben Menzhuber Recital	15 12:30 Food Pantry	16
17 <i>Setting 3</i> 9:30 Worship	18 10:00 Bible Study Breakfast @ the Dish 12:30 Food Pantry	19 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	20	21	22 12:30 Food Pantry	23
24 <i>O the Joy</i> 9:30 Worship	25	26 1:00 Quilters	27	28	29 12:30 Food Pantry	30
31 <i>Setting 4</i> 9:30 Worship						

ELCA WEBSITE

The ELCA website, <https://www.elca.org/>, is a good resource for answers to questions you may have about the Evangelical Lutheran Church. There are messages from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, pages on ELCA teachings on faith, ELCA statements on a number of social issues, blogs, and more.

The Greater Milwaukee Synod website, <https://milwaueesynod.org/>, is another good resource for information.

You'll find stories on how local congregations are making an impact, the Life Together newsletter and more.

Giving With Tithely

Many of our members have decided giving through tithely.ly is a simple way to stay up to date with their pledges or to make special offerings. This QR code will take you to the Tithely web page where you can make a donation to HCLC with your credit card or bank account. You can choose a one-time donation or recurring donations, whether you pay by credit card or from your checking or savings account, and if your donation should go to the general fund, the food pantry, or another fund. If you need help, you can contact Keri in the office.



WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

- I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.
I am _____.
- I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.
I am _____.
- Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.
I am _____.
- My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.
I am _____.
- I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.
I am _____.
- I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.
I am _____.
- I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.
I am _____.
- My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.
I am _____.

Prophets are _____.

Answers: 1. Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.

Puzzle!

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events.

Use the code to find the name of the special days the Israelites observed.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

SEASON

HOLIDAY

1. End of Summer

New Year

I L H S S Z H S Z M Z S

2. Fall

Day of Atonement

B L N P R K K F I

3. Fall

Festival of Booths

H F P P L G S

4. Winter

Festival of Rededication

S Z M F P P Z S

5. Winter

Festival of Lots

K F I R N

6. Spring

Festival of Unleavened Bread

K Z H H L E V I

7. Spring

Feast of Weeks/Pentecost

H S Z E F L G

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah, 2. Yom Kippur, 3. Sukkoth, 4. Hanukkah, 5. Purim, 6. Passover, 7. Shavuot

August Volunteers

Thank you to the volunteers who help keep worship services running smoothly! If you would like to volunteer, please call the office, 262-632-8802, or talk to one of the pastors.

	August 3 9:30 a.m.	August 10 9:30 a.m.	August 17 9:30 a.m.	August 24 9:30 a.m.	August 31 9:30 a.m.
Greeter	Lynn Helmke	Picnic—none needed	Sally Neitzel	Christine Monreal	Kay Krayse
Lector	Linda Godson			Marianne Jensen	Roger Degerman
Communion Assistants	Lynn Helmke Christine Monreal	Roger Degerman	Amy Larsen		Christine Monreal
AV Technicians	Kylee Albright Sawyer Krenke	Picnic– none needed	Lynn Helmke	Barb Salvo Asia Doidge	Alison Ferrentino
Coffee Fellowship		Picnic– none needed			
Councilperson In Charge		Picnic– none needed	Laurie Knudson	Rose Adamski	Joleen Carlson

Ushers	Jim Buhler, Todd Jansen, Tim Krikau, Gary Wee, Dave Barlament
Altar Guild	Susan Barbee, Val Conner, Barb Salvo

August Altar Flowers

August 3 - In memory of Cornelius & Mariane Vander Brug given by Jill Vander Brug and
In memory of Ed & Mary Larsen given by Bob, Karen, and Amy Larsen

August 10 - Picnic - No flowers

August 17 - Given by Carl & Shelley Lussmyer in honor of their 52nd wedding anniversary and
In loving memory of their parents, Herb & Florence Weber and Bill & Elaine Lequia given by Gary & Denise Lequia

August 24-

August 31—In honor of Mya, Luke, & Jace's baptism birthdays and in memory of Mya's godmother, Jacque Nielsen,
given with love by Lisa Lequia.

The Chalice August, 2025

The Chalice is a publication of Holy Communion Lutheran Church, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Join us at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays for in-person or live-streamed worship services. Our live-stream can be found on the HCLC Facebook page and the videos remain online to view later. Please call or email the office if you, or someone you know, would like to be added to our email list to receive the weekly bulletin and hymns.

Contact Information

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 Pastor Laura Fladtenpastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com
 Lisa Lequia, Children's Ministry Director.....sundayschool.hclc@gmail.com
 Keri Pappalardo, Financial Administrator.....keri.hclc@gmail.com
 Heidi Komistra, Office Administrator.....office.hclc@gmail.com
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