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**2026**



*As we step into this new year,  
 may the Lord’s light guide your path,*

*His peace fill your heart,  
 and His joy overflow in your life.*

*May each day draw you closer to His presence,  
 strengthen your faith, and deepen your love for others.*

*Let us walk together in unity, hope, and gratitude—trusting that  
 God’s plans for us are good, His mercies are new every morning,  
 and His grace will sustain us through every season.*

*The pastors and staff wish each of you and your beloved families a*

*Blessed and Joy-filled New Year!*



A big, big thank you to everyone who came to help us decorate the sanctuary on December 6th and made everything so beautiful for the Advent and Christmas season. We are so grateful to:

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Patrick BeBow      | Val Conner      |
| Dave Krueger       | Andrew Palmgren |
| Cindy Myhre        | Kathy Berg      |
| Elaine Lewis       | Polly Timmerman |
| Barb Pedersen      | Dwight Pedersen |
| Gary Wood          | Jo Nissen       |
| Kate Potter Barrow | Pastor Mark     |
| Pastor Laura       |                 |

Many thanks to all who provided food and monetary assistance to the pantry in December and to Lisa Lequia and our Sunday School families who participated in the reverse Advent calendar. A very special thank you to our volunteers who are do so much to keep the pantry running!

For January the pantry is asking for donations of side dishes, bar soap, toilet paper, 10 oz. cans of tomato soup, and 15 oz. cans of mixed fruit. **Right now our peanut butter supply is very low and we are badly in need of 16 oz. jars of peanut butter!**

We can also use clean, lightly used plastic shopping bags, large brown paper bags, 2026 calendars, cookbooks, greeting cards, and pens and pencils. Thank you for all you do for the pantry. We could not continue this ministry without your help!



### Diaper Ministry

The January Diaper Depot delivery is sponsored by an anonymous donor. Thank you!

Distribution dates in January are the 14 th from 11AM – 1PM and the 28 th from 4 – 6PM.

Our ministry is actively growing! Please consider supporting the diaper ministry with a donation or as a volunteer. Contact Kylee Albright [kygregg@mac.com](mailto:kygregg@mac.com) or Amy Larsen [amylarsen2406@att.net](mailto:amylarsen2406@att.net).



### Coats and Blankets For the Hospitality Center

Do you have gently used blankets or warm adult coats you no longer need? We are collecting them to bring to the Hospitality Center, where they will be given away during our cold winter months. The Hospitality Center offers meals, a clothing closet, a warm gathering spot on cold days, laundry, and serves many other needs of some of the most vulnerable people in our city. Items can be dropped off in the narthex or the church office.

### Looking for A Volunteer to Keep the Pew Racks Filled

We are looking for someone who could help keep the pew envelopes, visitor cards, pens, and pantry envelopes filled and tidied a few times a year. We would like to be sure they are well stocked before Christmas and Easter, and sometimes need to be straightened up every few month.

If you think this is something you would like to try, please call Heidi in the office, 262-632-8802, or email [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com).



# The Children's Chalice

Holy Communion Lutheran Church January, 2026



**HAPPY BAPTISM BIRTHDAY** to the following children  
who were baptized during the month of January:  
Alice Barootian Jaxon Doidge Luke Ricchio

The children had a great time at SANTA'S NIGHT OUT! The night began with pizza and other treats. Then the kids got comfy on sleeping bags, pillows and beanbag chairs while watching the movie *The Grinch*. After the movie, Patrick BeBow read *The Night Before Jesus* and led the annual "silly" gift exchange. Hopefully, parents were able to get some errands and Christmas shopping done!

Thank you to everyone that brought cookies for the celebration in the lounge after our Christmas program LOOK FOR THE LIGHT. We had a great variety of delicious treats!  
May the light of Jesus shine in all of your lives this coming year...



SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 4<sup>th</sup> . SEE YOU THEN!!!



**2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders** All of our 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to come and join the pastors for some snacks, Bible Time and Games on **Sunday, January 11th. We will gather together following Sunday School and meet til Noon.** We're looking forward to seeing you all!!!

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Graders** All of our 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join the pastors for a Sunday evening of fun, faith and food time! **We're going to meet January 25th from 5:00-6:30PM...and we'll begin in the kitchen where we'll all help prepare a meal to enjoy!** We're looking forward to seeing you all, and come hungry!!!

**Confirmation Class** All of our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join the pastors for a time to journey deeper into their own faith. We'll travel through the main stories of the Bible and ask, "What does God want us to hear in these words...what does God want us to learn and what is God calling us to do as followers of Christ?" We will dig deeper into what it means to be a Christian, what makes us Lutheran and what it means for us to live out our faith in our daily lives. We will gather on **Sunday, January 18th following worship and meet til Noon.** Snacks will be provided.

Looking forward to seeing you all!!!

### Ketchup Club

Please plan to join us on January 6th at 11:30 for lunch at Chit Chaat, These lunches are casual get-togethers and a wonderful way to “catch up” with old friends and make some new ones. If you know you will be there, please email [pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com), or [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com), or call 262-632-8802. This helps us reserve the correct size table. If you suddenly find yourself free that day we will happily make room for you, so please come and join the fun!



### Men's Group

**MEN'S  
GROUP**

All men are invited to join Pastor Mark in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 9th. 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. All are welcome!

### January Birthday Club

Were you born in January? If you were, please join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura in the lounge on Thursday, January 8th at 10:00 to enjoy a special birthday song, a yummy birthday donut and celebrate with us! Hope to see you there!



Happy New Year! For our first book of 2026, we will be discussing My Friends by Fredrik Backman.

The first book selection of 2026 is My Friends by Fredrik Backman. Our meeting will be on January 14 at 10 - 11:30. We meet at Julie Burton's home, 136 Steeplechase Drive.

Louisa is captivated by a painting of a long pier with three tiny figures sitting at the end of it. She is determined to find out the story behind the three enigmatic figures. The painting was done two decades before, a group of teenagers was finding refuge from their home life. These lost souls find in each other a reason to get up every morning, a reason to dream, and a reason to love. Out of that summer arose the painting. She embarks on a surprise-filled cross-country journey. Backman's signature charm, humor, and attention to the poignant details of everyday life are on full display in this funny, moving novel.

You are welcomed to join us. Please call Julie and let her know if you are coming. She can be reached at 262-639-5914 or email [jaburton5914@gmail.com](mailto:jaburton5914@gmail.com).

Our read for February is The House is on Fire by Rachel Beanland.

### Third Tuesday Bible Study

THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY on January 20th will be a ZOOM meeting. From 10:00 to 11:30 Julie Burton will lead a discussion of the Book of Acts 7:54 to Acts 9:1-9 on pages 70 to 82. Stephen has just witnessed to the Jewish high priests that they worship the temple instead of worshipping God. Then they proceed to stone Stephen! Acts Chapter 8 tells about the persecution of the Church in Jerusalem and the stunning attack on early Christians by Saul. As a result of this persecution, Acts 8:5-13 Christians were "scattered abroad....telling the message of the good news" Acts 8:5 (page 73). Also in Samaria, Simon was practicing magic but was amazed at the signs and power he saw in Philip (page 76). Then "Christ Comes To An Ethiopian" (page 78). This official of the queen was reading the prophet Isaiah when Philip came to him and told him about Jesus (Acts 8:26-40). Chapter 9:1-9 "Surrender" begins with Saul who was capturing and murdering Christians on his way to the synagogues in Damascus. " Suddenly a light from heaven flashed round about him' and a voice said, "Saul, why do you persecute me?" (page 80). And Saul was no longer able to see (page 81). As Saul continued to travel through Galilee, he went into Damascus a changed man (page 82). What a beginning to the Christian church!

A zoom meeting on January 20th beginning at 10:00 discussing Acts 7:54 to Acts 9:9.

The beautiful poinsettia plants in our in church this Christmas were purchased in memory of:



Vernon Riekema, given by his wife Carol Riekema  
Dawn Barootian, given by her family  
Florence & Viggo Svendsen, given by their family  
William Beckett Sr., given by the family  
Josephine Beckett, given by the family  
Domingo Chavez, given by the Chavez family  
Cornelius and Mariane Vander Brug, given by Jill Vander Brug  
Ray, Jeltje, Peter, and Corine Lynn Vander Brug, given by Jill Vander Brug  
Achille and Harriet Grenier, Eleanor and Jeffrey Bostetter, given by Jill Vander Brug  
Dolly Johnson, given by William Johnson  
Reverend George and Adeline Overdier, given by the Overdier children and grandchildren  
Sarah and Tom Lajiness given by Evelyn and Mark Lajiness  
Edna and Kenneth Sorenson and Ione and Ben Holmquist, given by Linda and Wayne Holmquist  
Her daughter Michelle (Davis) Kellner, given with love by Cheryl Davis  
Her parents Jerry & Arlene Howe, given with love by Cheryl Davis  
Her sister, Sandie Krogh, given with love by Cheryl Davis  
Andy and Connie Palmgren and Bill and Dorothy Smalancke, given by the kids  
Dick and Effie Reitsma, given with love by their family  
Bob and Jan Gall and David and Beverly Berg, given by Greg and Kathy Berg  
Mr. and Mrs Travers Nowak, given by Greg and Beverly Nowak  
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Posch, given by Greg and Beverly Nowak  
Her sister, JoAnn Schwartz, given by Lynn Sinclair  
All of their loved ones, given by the Sinclair family  
Lynne E. Holm, given by Leland E. Holm  
George Nissen, given by Jo Nissen  
Tim Cagle, given by Jo Nissen  
Ron Eckhardt, given by Jo Nissen  
Harvey & Jeanette Jensen, given by Linda Jensen  
Diana Jensen Norman, given by Linda Jensen

And in honor of:

Her HCLC kids, given by Kate Potter Barrow  
Elaine Lewis, who quietly and graciously helps make HCLC tick, given by Kate Potter Barrow  
The talented musicians of Holy Communion, given by Greg Berg  
Her family, given by Barbara Maier  
Her grandma, K.K., and Lacrechia, given by Debra Kress

The beautiful poinsettia plants in our sanctuary were purchased in memory of:

## Shopping With Scrip

There are Scrip cards available for purchase every Sunday. What are Scrip cards? They are gift cards that we purchase for a reduced price. Then, you purchase the cards at face value and get to spend the full value, and the church gets to keep the difference. It is an easy way to help support the church while you make your everyday purchases. There are cards for grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, department stores, and online retailers and more! You can get a list of retailers at the scrip table.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com), or 262-632-8802.

### Giving With Tithely

Many of our members have decided giving through [tithely.ly](https://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.



### 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.



## TRANSLATE GOD'S WORD

The Bible we use is translated into English from other languages.  
"Translate" the verse below using the code.

CODE			
A= ■	E= △	L= □	R= †
B= ×	G= ●	M= /	S= ■
D= ‹‹	H= ‹	N= †	SH= ☀
	I= ▲	O= ○	T= ♪
	K= ‖	P= □	TH= ♥

Y

W F

W

W



U


*Proverbs 3:13*

Answer: Happy is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding.

# Puzzle!

In the New Testament, followers of Christ are called by many names. Use the hints to fill in the blanks. Need help? Check an NIV Bible for the missing letters.

D \_\_\_\_\_ s    
(Acts 6:7)

C \_\_\_\_\_ n P \_\_\_\_\_ e   
(1 Peter 2:9)

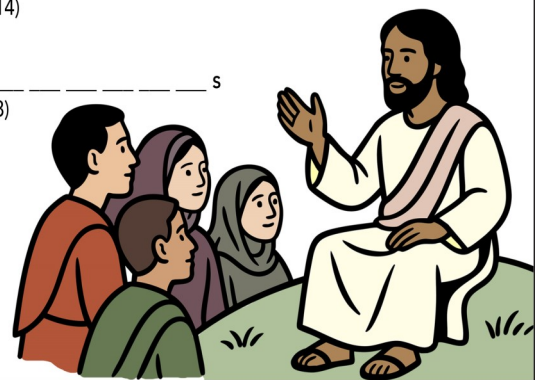
S \_\_\_\_\_ s of C \_\_\_\_\_ t  
(1 Corinthians 4:1)

C \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 11: 26)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s and S \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 5:14)

W \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 1:8)



Answers: Disciples; Chosen People; Servants of Christ; Christians; Brothers and Sisters; Believers; Witnesses

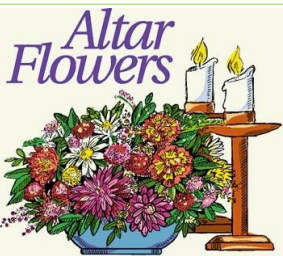
### Ponderings at the end of a day — or year

Dutch Catholic priest and theologian Henri Nouwen found it useful to reflect on several questions at the end of the day: "Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing?" Pondering such questions may prove valuable at the end of a year as well: "How did I contribute to peace in the world this past year? Did I bring smiles to others' faces? Did I offer words of healing?" Nouwen continued, and we can too: "Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love?"

Many of us set New Year's resolutions for self-improvement, asking, "What are my goals? How can I better myself, my weight, my work-life balance, my habits?" But Nouwen said of his self-inquiry: "These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and [in] the life to come." His resolution was to share God's love with others. With God's help, it can be ours as well, for each new day and each new year.

# January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>4 We Are Called</b> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School	<b>5</b> 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>6</b> 11:30 Ketchup Club	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 Birthday Club	<b>9</b> 9:00 Men's Group 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Setting 10</b> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School	<b>12</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>13</b> 1:00 Quilters	<b>14</b> 10:00 Book Club 11-1 Diaper Ministry	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>17</b>
<b>18 O the Joy</b> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School	<b>19 MLK Jr. Day</b> Office Closed 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>20</b> 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Setting 3</b> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School	<b>26</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Food Pantr	<b>27</b> 1:00 Quilters	<b>28</b> 4-6 Diaper Ministry	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 12:30 Food Pantry	<b>31</b>



### 2026 Altar Flowers

It is time to start signing up for 2026 Altar Flowers. We have room for two vases each week and the cost of each vase is \$28.00. You may sign up for as many dates as you wish. Fill out the form below with your payment and note what you wanted printed about who the flowers are in memory or honor of and who they are from. Extra forms are on the tables in the back of the sanctuary and in the church office. Please list alternate dates in case your preferred date is filled. If your preferred date is filled the office will let you know which date your flowers will be in church.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of vases ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Date \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Dates \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my flowers \_\_\_\_\_ Please give the flowers to a shut-in \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Date \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Dates \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my flowers \_\_\_\_\_ Please give the flowers to a shut-in \_\_\_\_\_

### The Meaning of Epiphany

Epiphany, which comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, means “an appearance” or “a revealing.” Centuries ago, the church set aside January 6, the 12th day after Christmas, to mark the revealing of Jesus as Christ to the wise men, who were Gentiles. Jesus’ first followers were Jewish, so the revelation of the divine Christ to the non-Jewish magi reminds us that Jesus came to earth to save the whole world.

Symbols of Epiphany include light, a star, a crown (or three crowns) and a globe or stylized portrayal of the world. The color of Epiphany is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity.

On the church calendar, the Epiphany season lasts until Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.



**January 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.

	<b>January 4 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>January 11 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>January 18 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>January 25 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Kay Krause Gary Wee</b>	<b>Sally Neitzel</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Linda Godson</b>	<b>Roger Degerman</b>	<b>Marianne Jensen</b>	<b>Sheri Krenzke</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Linda Godson Gary Wee</b>	<b>Roger Degerman Joleen Carlson</b>	<b>Amy Larsen</b>	
<b>AV Technicians</b>	<b>Kylee Albright Sawyer Krenzke</b>	<b>Todd Jansen</b>	<b>Barb Salvo Asia Doidge</b>	<b>Lynn Helmke</b>
<b>Coffee Fellowship</b>	<b>Rose Adamski</b>	<b>Carrie Jansen</b>	<b>Sally Neitzel</b>	
<b>Councilperson In Charge</b>	<b>Dave Knudson</b>	<b>Joleen Carlson</b>	<b>Rebecca Mason</b>	
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, Gary Wood</b>			
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lori Neu, Lindsay Newton, Joni Reske</b>			

**January Altar Flowers**

January 4 -  
 January 11 - In memory of Tom Lajiness, given by Evelyn and Mark Lajiness  
 January 17 -  
 January 25 -

# The Chalice **January, 2026**

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**

Pastor Mark Doidge .....pastormark.hclc@gmail.com  
 Pastor Laura Fladten .....pastorlaura.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  
 Office Phone.....262-632-8802  
 Fax.....262-637-5622

Website: [www.hopeonahill.org](http://www.hopeonahill.org)