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2025

2025 Confirmands



Left to right: Pastor Laura, Cashton Simonovic, Wyatt Vachalik, Alexis Kupper, Kaya Prah, Kyler Godson, Brynlee Adelsen, Cameron Palmgren, and Pastor Mark

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, seven of our beloved youth affirmed their faith in their Rite of Confirmation Service. It was a joyous day...filled with much love and abundant blessings!

For both Pastor Mark and myself, it has been an absolute privilege to journey alongside these beautiful and beloved children of God! Each of them are filled with wonder and questions and absolute delight!

As part of their confirmation journey, we ask each of our confirmands to choose a Bible verse that is meaningful to them and to also write a faith statement. We have found this to be a wonderful way for our confirmands to think about and reflect on their own faith and to let others know how they've deepened their faith throughout these past years. What follows are each of their chosen confirmation verses, along with their faith statements...ENJOY!

Brynlee Annora Adelsen

You did not choose me, but I chose you. John 15:16

“As I prepare for confirmation, I’ve taken time to reflect on what my faith means to me and how I’ve experienced God in my life. One of the places I feel closest to God is at church, especially during worship. The music always speaks to me in a way that words sometimes can’t. The music helps me feel connected to God and reminds me that I’m never alone.

Church has also been a place where I’ve always felt like I belong. From a young age, I’ve experienced a strong sense of family and community there. Whether it’s during Sunday school, youth group, or just being greeted with a smile on Sunday mornings, I know I’m surrounded by people who care about me and support me in my faith journey.

Through confirmation, I’ve learned more about what it means to follow Jesus. I’ve come to understand that faith is not just something we talk about, but something we live out every day—in how we love others, serve our community, and trust God even when life is uncertain.

I’m thankful for the people who have helped guide me in my faith, and I’m excited to continue growing in my relationship with God. I know my journey is just beginning, and I trust that God will be with me every step of the way.”

Kyler Grant Godson

We love because God first loved us. 1 John 4:19

“I believe God and Jesus are something or someone who is always going to be with you no matter what. This connects to the idea that I believe that one of God’s biggest blessings that he gave us is the connection that we all have established with each other. I know that Christianity and especially Holy Communion wouldn’t be the same if we were separated. But by being connected, every time I come to church, whether it’s an ordinary Sunday or Christmas or Easter, I feel like I am part of a family.”

Alexis Juel Kupper

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

“I believe we were all created in God's image. To love like God, to care like God, to be faithful like God, and to be strong like God. I have learned so much about our wondrous God and his son Jesus. How Jesus was given as a gift to the world and how God worked day and night to make a perfect world. I am proud to say I am a child of God.”

Cameron James Palmgren

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

“I believe God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are my strength and guide. They guide me on the path of righteousness and help me learn right from wrong. If I was asked, “Who is God?” I would say God is someone who would never leave you, who will protect you, who will strengthen you, who will answer your prayers, who will provide for you and will always love you. During my faith journey my family, Pastor Mark, Pastor Laura, Kate and Lisa have been very influential, teaching me about God. To me, being a child of God means putting my faith into the Lord and walking along side him. I think being a Christian helps me understand others, being more loving towards people, and teaches me to want to make a positive difference in the world. When I receive communion, I am reminded of Christ’s sacrifice for our sins. This is important peaceful place with no war, no hunger, no homelessness, and no pain. Prayer is important because it helps me find inner peace. I feel my faith has deeper when I read the Bible. The Bible teaches me about God and his stories. To continue to grow in my faith, I will continue to go to church, read the Bible, and walk along side God. In the future I can continue to love others, find peace with others, and find peace within myself.”

Kaya Grace Prah

Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass and we fly away. Psalm 90:10

“Oftentimes when I struggle with my faith, I think of how life would be without God. Sometimes I feel it would be more freeing, not being controlled by a higher power and not having to present myself in the image of God. It fills me with anxiety and a want to be perfect in the eyes of God so much that it can be consuming, but at the same time, not having a reason for being makes me feel entirely lost. It really is a scary thing to think about, having only around 70 years of being able to love, learn, and feel. It almost makes life seem pointless, if we are all to face the same end, then are any of the experiences we go through in life truly valuable? But this verse perfectly encapsulates what I feel when my faith is weary, when I am struggling and see little to no way out. Because then, I think about the moments in which I have truly felt free, and relief comes just as swiftly as the last three words of this psalm; “We fly away”. I remember Jesus is not a looming cloud of control, he is a pair of shoes and a set directions. The reality is, a life without God is one of servitude, not a life with him. The fear I have instilled in myself that if I am not perfect in all I do then God will reject me is so strong, that sometimes I lose sight of who He really is. That fear inside me is hard to overcome, but the hope God brings will always prevail. Nothing is stronger than his love, or more freeing than his forgiveness. To me, this scripture means that everyone has a purpose in this planet, and though we may stress and go through earthly troubles, God is there helping us along the way, and is eventually at the end of everyone’s story. That is why I chose this verses to represent what God means to me, and though it is different to each individual, I believe it to be universal that he feels immense amounts of love for every individual unconditionally.”

Cashton Reed Simonovic

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26

“Being a Christian is more than practicing my faith. It is a way of life. Being a Christian teaches us that everyday we have to help those less fortunate than us. Everyday we have to be kind to all, and try to make the world a more peaceful place. We have to live by the teachings of Jesus and we have to live by the teachings of the Bible and God.”

Wyatt Matthew Vachalik

And remember, I am with you til the end of the age. Matthew 28:20

“As I prepare for confirmation, I want to share what I believe and what my faith means to me.

I believe in God the Father, who created the world and everything in it. He made me, loves me, and watches over me every day. Even when I go through hard times, I know He is still with me and will never give up on me.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son. I believe that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross for my sins, and rose again. Because of what he did, I am saved, not because of anything I’ve done, but because of God’s grace. This is something I don’t have to earn, I just get it through faith.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who lives in me and helps me grow. The Holy Spirit strengthens me when I feel weak, helps me understand God’s Word, and reminds me that I belong to God.

I’m thankful for my church family and all the people who have supported me and helped me grow in faith. I especially want to thank my grandmother and my sisters. They have been there for me, encouraged me, and helped guide me on my faith journey. Their love and example have made a big difference in my life.

Now that I’m getting confirmed. I want to keep following Jesus, trusting in God, and living out my faith. I know I won’t be perfect, but I believe God will always forgive me, guide me, and walk with me.”



The Children's Chalice

Holy Communion Lutheran Church July, 2025



HAPPY BAPTISM BIRTHDAY to Vincent Ricchio

who was baptized during the month of July.



We have this HOPE as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

Hebrews 6:19

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

June 29, July 13, August 17

Activities will begin with the children's sermon each Sunday and end with a family meal at 11:30am.

Please consider bringing a friend!

NOISY OFFERING for Sunday School Year 2024/2025

Thank you for your "change" that helped support the efforts of our Sunday School children to make a positive "change" in our church, community and world.

With the collections we were able to purchase a large supply of warm socks (\$760.56) for the Hospitality Center, make a donation (\$398.12) to our HCLC Food Pantry and contribute to Lutheran World Relief for victims of the California Wildfires (\$519.22). Also, through the ELCA Good Gifts program we were able to purchase 8 fruit tree seedlings (\$80.00) and a Family Farm (\$715.00) that includes a cow, goats, pigs, chicks and honeybees. This gift helps to fund work being done in projects and programs supported by funds from ELCA World Hunger.



NOISY OFFERING

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. 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 July the pantry is asking for donations of jelly, 18 oz. peanut butter, 1 lb. egg noodles, pancake mix, syrup, 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

This month's Diaper Depot delivery is sponsored by an anonymous donor. The Diaper Depot is a non-profit in Kenosha that collects diaper donations and shares them with area diaper ministries for \$30/month. Thank you all for your ongoing support!



Our July distribution dates are July 9th from 11 AM – 1 PM and July 23rd from 4 PM – 6 PM. 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 withtime. any questions or if you would like to volunteer.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Have you been thinking about becoming a member of the Holy Communion church family? If so, save the date for a gathering after worship on Sunday, July 27th. Lunch will be served, stories will be shared, your questions can be answered. A reception of new members is planned for August 10th at the church picnic. Please let the office or the pastors know if you plan to attend so we can plan for lunch.. If you can't be there on July 27th let the pastors will meet with you at another time.

Ketchup Club

The Ketchup Club has moved to the first Tuesday of the month to allow more people to attend! In July the Ketchup Club will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 1st at Aries Café, 4713 Douglas Avenue. 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!



Save the Date! Church Picnic August 10th!



Please mark your calendars for Aug 10th, and plan to join us for our church picnic on August 10th at Pritchard Park, Wiczorek Pavilion, 2800 Ohio St. (same venue as last year.) The outdoor service will be at 9:30, followed by food, fun and fellowship. We'll receive new members that morning too! And of course we will have Pastor Laura's brother David's famous Pulled Pork! Watch for more details as we draw closer to the event!

Third Tuesday Bible Study

In July our study group will discuss the second chapter of Acts. William Barclay refers to the book as The Acts of the Apostles. And this chapter certainly sets the stage for the remarkable impact of the witness of the early disciples. It begins with the day of Pentecost when tongues, "like tongues of fire," settled on each of them and "they began to speak in other tongues" (Acts 2:4). On this day, "the disciples" had an experience of the power of the Spirit flooding their beings such as they had never experienced before" (page 23).

The message the disciples would proclaim was that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecy (page 25). On page 28 Peter tells the Jews, "in Jesus, God arrived in person on the scene of human history." Barclay says it this way: "Acts stresses the resurrection as the final proof that Jesus was indeed God's chosen one" (page 30). Then Peter tells them to repent and be baptized so their sins can be forgiven (Acts 2:38). "And on that day there were added to them about 3000 people" (Acts 2:41). "Daily the Lord added to them those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). People were hungry to hear about a loving God who came to save them.

Barclay describes the early church as learning, praying, and worshipping together. Let us meet together to learn and pray and grow in our faith. July 15th meet at Julie Burton's home, 136 Steeplechase Drive, from 10:00 to 11:30 to discuss the second chapter of Luke. Bring whatever translations of the Bible you have to enrich our discussion.

For our book club meeting on July 9, we will be discussing Of Love and Treason by Jamie Ogle.

It's Rome, AD 270. In the wake of the marriage ban, rumors swirl that there is one man brave enough to perform wedding ceremonies. He is a public notarius and leader of an underground church. Valentine believes that the edict is unjust and risks his life for the sake of his convictions. As his fame grows, so do fears for his safety.



Iris believes that regaining her sight will ease the mounting troubles she faces at home. Her last hope rests in searching out Valentine, but the danger of associating with the people labeled a threat to the empire is great. When a staggering betrayal occurs, Valentine, Iris, and everyone they love must wrestle with trusting a God who can restore sight.

We will be meeting at Julie Burton's home at 10-11:30. Please call Julie at 262-639-5914, to get directions and let her know that you will be attending.

On August 13, we plan on discussing The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

July Birthday Club

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



Men's Group

All men are invited to join Pastor Mark in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 11th. 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!

Finance Update

May 2025 Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$33,534.55

Expense: \$51,718.05

Net Income: \$(18,183.50)

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$264,718.16

Expense: \$251,962.64

Net Income: \$12,755.52

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.



July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed Food Pantry Closed	5
6 <i>Blue Book</i> 9:30 Worship	7 10:00 Worship & Music Team Retreat 12:30 Food Pantry	8 1:00 Quilters	9 10:00 Book Club 11:00 - 1:00 Diaper Ministry	10 10:00 Birthday Club	11 9:00 Men's Group 12:30 Food Pantry	12
13 <i>We Are Called</i> 9:30 Worship	14 12:30 Food Pantry	15 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	16	17	18 12:30 Food Pantry	19
20 <i>O the Joy</i> 9:30 Worship	21 12:30 Food Pantry	22 1:00 Quilters	23	24	25 12:30 Food Pantry	26
27 <i>Setting 8</i> 9:30 Worship 10:45 New Member Gathering	28 12:30 Food Pantry	29	30	31		

July 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.

	July 6 9:30 a.m.	July 13 9:30 a.m.	July 20 9:30 a.m.	July 27 9:30 a.m.
Greeter	Cindy Myhre Thomas Mentch	Grace Deibert	Christine Monreal	Sally Neitzel
Lector	Roger Degerman	Marianne Jensen	Laura Jansen	Roger Degerman
Communion Assistants	Roger Degerman Thomas Mentch	Amy Larsen	Thomas Mentch	
AV Technicians	Kathy Berg	Kylee Albright Sawyer Krenzke	Barb Salvo Asia Doidge	Todd Jansen
Coffee Fellowship	Rose Adamski		Christine Monreal	
Councilperson In Charge	Laurie Knudson	Joleen Carlson	Rose Adamski	
Ushers	Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, Gary Wood			
Altar Guild	Grace Deibert, Susan DiPasquale Peterson, Katie Peterson, Lynn Sinclair			

July Altar Flowers

July 6th - In honor of Kate Potter Barrow given by Andrew, Jenny, Cameron & Jameson Palmgren.

July 13th - in honor of Greg & Kathy Berg given by Andrew, Jenny, Cameron & Jameson Palmgren.

July 20th - In honor of Lisa Lequia given by Andrew, Jenny, Cameron & Jameson Palmgren.

July 27th - In loving memory of Tom Rolfson given by Cathie Rolfson and Lynn & Chris Litzau.

The Chalice July, 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.

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