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**Introducing a New Ministry:
Undie Sunday — Kick-Off August 9th**

Holy Communion is launching a brand-new outreach effort this year: **Undie Sunday**, beginning **Sunday, August 9**. This new ministry grows out of our congregation's long-held commitment to share Christ's love through caring for our neighbors with dignity and compassion.

We'll be collecting all sizes of new underwear, t-shirts and socks for children, teens, and adults in our community. These basics...often overlooked but always needed...provide comfort, confidence, and a tangible reminder of God's love made practical.

On Kick-Off Sunday, we'll bless the first donations during worship and celebrate the start of this new ministry...and collection baskets will then be placed in the narthex.

Thank you for helping us launch Undie Sunday with generosity and joy as we begin this new chapter of service together.



The **2027 ELCA Youth Gathering** is on the horizon and Holy Communion is excited to walk with our young people as they prepare for this extraordinary milestone in their faith journey. Every three years, thousands of Lutheran teens from across the country (and some international as well) come together for several days of worship, service, learning, and joyful community. The Gathering is one of the most vibrant expressions of the wider church...full of energy, diversity, and the unmistakable sense that God is at work in and through young people.

In July 2027, our youth will join this powerful movement. They'll experience large-group worship that fills stadiums, service projects that make a real impact in the host city, and small-group conversations that help them explore their identity, their faith, and their calling. For many, the Gathering becomes a defining moment...one that strengthens their relationship with God, deepens friendships, and opens their eyes to the breadth of the ELCA.

To begin preparing, families with students who will be going into **grades 8–12** are invited to attend an **Informational Meeting** on **either July 19th or July 26th** (**following worship in the youth/education room**). We'll share details about the event, travel plans, fundraising opportunities, and the ways our group will build community in the year ahead. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend with their students.

As we look toward 2027, we give thanks for the young people of our congregation and the ways God is already shaping their gifts. The Gathering invites them to see themselves as part of something bigger...a church that is alive, hopeful, and ready to serve!

If you have any questions, please see or contact Pastor Laura pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com

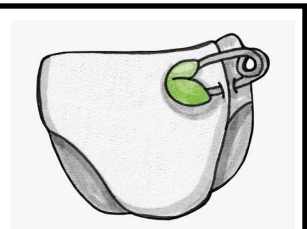
Diaper Ministry

Thanks to Joleen and Jim Carlson who sponsor this month's Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Joe Cuccio.

Do you have any children's books or clothing at home which are not needed anymore? Please consider donating them to our ministry.

July distribution dates are July 8th from 11AM – 1PM and July 22nd from 4-6 PM.

Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.





The Children's Chalice

Holy Communion Lutheran Church July 2026



HAPPY BAPTISM BIRTHDAY to Vincent Ricchio

who was baptized during the month of July.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

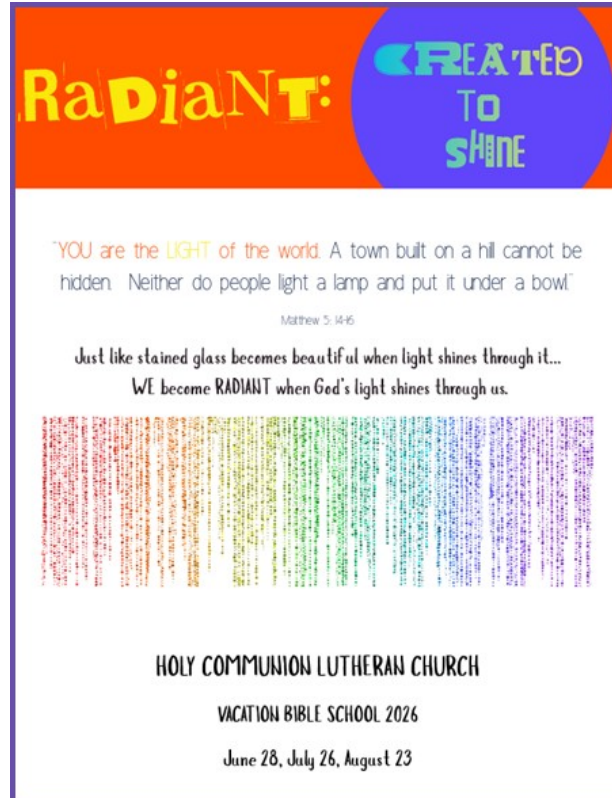
If you missed the first VBS Sunday, you are still welcome to join us for one or both of the two remaining VBS Sundays on July 26th and August 23rd.

The children will begin in church and will be dismissed after the children's sermon.

We will continue in the Youth Room, lounge and OUTSIDE and participate in a Bible story lesson, crafts, games, treats...

AND THEN...Our time will end with a family lunch.

Please plan to return to pick up your child(ren) at **11:30** and eat with us!



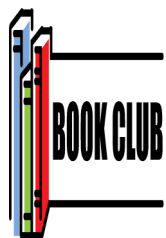
Please consider bringing a friend! Here is the [LINK](#) for registration!



During the month of July the food pantry is asking for donations of canned pasta, pork & beans, tomato soup, instant potatoes, 215 oz. cans of mixed fruit, and 15 oz. cans of peaches. The pantry can always use clean, lightly used plastic bags and brown paper shopping bags to put the groceries in,

If you have any children's Bibles or Bible storybooks, adult inspirational books, cookbooks, greeting cards or pens and pencils that you no longer need our clients would be happy to get them.

We give thanks to all who contribute to or volunteer at the pantry. This ministry would not be possible without your



At our July meeting, the book club will be discussing The Man Who Died Twice (A Thursday Murder Club Mystery) by Richard Osman.

As the peace and quiet of the Coopers Chase, a posh retirement village, is returning to normal, an unexpected visitor arrives looking for help. He has been accused of stealing diamonds worth millions. Then a body is found. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ron, and Ibrahim now find themselves up against a ruthless murderer. Can the friends catch the killer before the killer catches them? The killer wouldn't bat an eyelid at knocking off four septuagenarians. This book is the second in a series of Thursday

Murder Club Mysteries.

We will be meeting July 8th at 10:00-11:30 at Julie Burton's home, 136 Steeplechase Drive. All are welcomed to join us in a fun discussion.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Dear HCLC members

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Those words don't begin to express how grateful we are for the meals we received for the past two months. What a blessing! What a godsend! The meal program is another example of the wonderful programs HCLC provides.

Don't be afraid to ask for help (I know I was, but people are so kind and gracious!) Don't be afraid to offer to provide a meal either. I am a terrible cook, but I could do carryout!

Thanks again for all the wonderful meals! See you in church soon!

Barb Salvo



THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

July 21st the study of Acts will continue at the home of Julie Burton, 136 Steeplechase Drive, from 10:00 to 11:30. The study will focus on Acts 15:22-35 to 16:16-24 on pages 136 to 146. The Jewish council in Jerusalem were persuaded to include Gentiles in the missionary outreach led by Paul and Barnabas. John Mark joins Barnabas to witness in Cyprus. And Paul chose Silas to go to Syria and Cilicia for a three-year journey into Europe. Here, Paul meets Timothy and values him as his "beloved son." Paul struggles with ill health and enlists the support of Luke, a professional doctor.

Now the missionary group goes into the Roman city of Philippi where Lydia, a wealthy seller of purple, became a Christian and welcomed them to stay in her house. For many days a young girl followed them and called out to others about them until Paul cured her of her madness. This got Paul and Silas arrested and put in stocks. Being missionaries brought some successes but also some anguish. How would we handle such persecution?





Men's Group

All men are invited to meet on Friday, July 10th in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. for conversation and coffee. Contact Pastor Mark, pastormark.hclc@gmail.com with any questions.

July Birthday Club

Do you celebrate your birthday in July? If so, join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura in the lounge on Thursday, July 9th at 10:00 to enjoy a special birthday song, a yummy birthday donut and celebrate others with June birthdays! Hope to see you there!



Ketchup Club



Plan to join us for lunch at 11:30 on Tuesday, July 7th at The Chartroom, 209 Dodge St. The group enjoyed their meal there so much in June they decided to return in July! These relaxed, casual lunches are a nice way to catch up with old friends and make some new ones! If you know you will be there, contact Pastor Laura, pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com, or the office, office.hclc@gmail.com so we can get the right size table. If you suddenly find yourself free, please come join us and we'll happily make room for another chair at the table

Part-time Custodial Job Opening

We are in need of a new sexton (custodian). If you know of someone who is retired or semi-retired or who wants a part-time job, please contact the office. The sexton has responsibilities of managing and maintaining the property including: general cleaning, lawn maintenance, snow removal, troubleshooting facility problems as they arise, taking out garbage, vacuuming/mopping, and other simple maintenance of the church and parish house. The applicant should have basic handyman skills and be available on Sunday mornings during the winter to do sidewalks if there is snow.

Hours are generally 20-24 every 2 weeks. There are no benefits with this position.

Applicants may contact the office at 262-632-8802 or office.hclc@gmail.com



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.

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. A link on our website, www.hopeonahill.org 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, keri.hclc@gmail.com.

Quilting Group

The HCLC quilters meet on the second and fourth Tuesday each month at 1:00 p.m. to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. LWR sends the quilts all over the world to help warm and comfort people who have lost their homes, been affected by war or natural disaster. They can use donations of full, queen or king size flat sheets to use as backing for the quilts. They can also use financial contributions to help pay for quilt batting. Please contact Linda Holmquist, 262-633-0032 or Evelyn Lajiness, 262-634-0527 if you have any questions

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. Look for the lavender prayer request cards coming soon to the pews, lounge, and welcome center. You can write your prayer request on the card and put it in the offering plate, give it to an usher, or bring it to the office.

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!

Finance Update

May Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$ 36,226.82

Expense: \$ 54,937.02

Net Income: \$(18,710.20)

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$257,921.58

Expense: \$272,768.52

Income: \$ (14,846.94)

LOUNGE MURAL: Tree of Members

In our lounge, a large tree mural has been painted on the east wall connecting to the sanctuary. We hope to fill this tree with leaves of our Holy Communion family - current and past members. Help us fill the tree by making a \$10 donation per leaf. The leaves will be placed on the tree blowing towards the sanctuary where we all worship together.

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. Matthew 18:20

LOUNGE MURAL: Tree of Members

I would like ____ leaves at \$10 each for a total of \$____.

Member(s)/family name to be placed on the leaf (please print):

Your Name: _____

Phone/Email _____

Please make checks payable to HCLC and note "Lounge Tree Mural" in the memo line. Return this form to the church office or place it in the offering plate with your check.

America at 250: Holding gratitude and humility

June 23, 2026

Dear church,

As we look toward the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, many of us will celebrate with fireworks, parades and barbecues. Independence Day often brings us together with family and friends. Yet there is more that connects us than our communal celebrations. We are also connected through a common vision.

Signed in 1776, the Declaration of Independence proclaims a vision of equality for all people. While there were other nations pushing for equality at the time, the declaration was and is a monumental document in the way it names the aspiration so boldly. As we observe and celebrate the 250th anniversary of that signing, we also affirm the vision of freedom and equality it casts. We can be grateful.

And with contrition and humility, we acknowledge all the ways we have failed to embody that vision. As members of this church, we are called to “pray, participate in, and advocate for civic life in the United States that reflects God’s activity and call, which seek both the well-being of all people and a creation marked by justice and peace” (ELCA social statement *Faith and Civic Life*, p. 89).

As Lutherans, we know the importance of naming realities for what they are. As citizens, we confess the ways we have not yet realized the vision of the Declaration of Independence and, more importantly, as Christians we confess the ways we have participated in or been complicit in failures to live into the vision God provides. This vision is rooted in creation and redemption. God crafts each person in God’s own image and sends Jesus Christ to redeem us, setting us free to follow Christ’s new commandment to love one another.

The history of the United States is complex, and all too often we have fallen short of our stated values. Indigenous peoples across this land have been forced to cede their ancestral homes and pushed to reservations. Women and men have been prevented from voting because of their sex and race and spat on and jailed when they demanded their rights. Japanese American families were interned during World War II. Queer and transgender people’s lives are obstructed by federal and state orders.

There is a photograph of Elizabeth Eckford, one of the nine Black teenagers who integrated Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., in 1957. Books under her arm, she faces forward as angry white people crowd behind her. She was just trying to go to school.

Holding both the failures and the vision in our hearts and minds, I invite us to ask ourselves, “What does it mean to celebrate a promise that is real and yet still unfolding? What does it mean to be a people who always live in ‘the already but not yet’”?

This is a central question for us not only as we mark the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence but also in our daily lives as people of faith. The prophets repeatedly remind us of the vision God casts for all of creation, and they call us to account when, as God’s own people, we fall short.

(continued on page 8)

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When we fall short, we remember we are rooted in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We think, speak and live out faith through God’s future. God’s future is resurrection. As a church, we are turned not only to the past but to the future God is making possible right now through us as we love and serve others.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe that God calls us to:

- Remember our connection to each other through baptism, as Scripture teaches us: “We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another” (Romans 12:5).
- Name sin for what it really is and to repent of it, as the Augsburg Confession and the catechisms remind us.
- Serve the common good in society as “earthly measures toward God’s intention” (*Faith and Civic Life*, p. 11).

As we celebrate 250 years of the Declaration of Independence, we can hold gratitude and humility, possibilities and shortcomings. We continue to live in the already and the not-yet.

And we hold fast to the most important promise of all: the presence of God with us, the power of the resurrection of Christ, the accompaniment of the Holy Spirit and the ever-unfolding grace of God.

We celebrate this occasion neither as a perfect nation nor as a perfect church but as a people held in God’s grace and called into community in service to all neighbors and for the sake of the world God so loves.

In Christ,



The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Altar Flowers

There are still open dates for altar flowers! No one is signed up for July 12th, or 19th, August 16th, 23rd, and 30th, October 25th, November 15th, and 29th! Each vase costs \$28.00 and there is room for two vases each week. You can also send this information to the office or put it into the offering plate on Sunday morning.

Your name _____ Number of vases ordered _____

Given in memory/honor of _____

Given by _____

Preferred dates _____ I will pick up _____ Give to a shut-in _____

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Office closed 12:30 Food Pantry	4
5 9:30 Worship	6 12:30 Food Pantry	7 11:30 Ketchup Club @ The Chartoom	8 10:00 Book Club 11 - 1 Diaper Ministry	9 10:00 Birthday Club	10 9:00 Men's Group 12:30 Food Pantry	11
12 9:30 Worship	13 12:30 Food Pantry	14 1:00 Quilters	15	16	17 12:30 Food Pantry	18
19 9:30 Worship	20 12:30 Food Pantry	21 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	22 4 - 6 Diaper Ministry	23	24 12:30 Food Pantry	25
26 9:30 Worship and Vacation Bible School	27 12:30 Food Pantry	28 9:30 Worship	29	30	31 12:30 Food Pantry Sara Neubauer Funeral	

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 5 9:30 a.m.	July 12 9:30 a.m.	July 19 9:30 a.m.	July 26 9:30 a.m.
Greeter		Grace Deibert	Lori Neu	Lynn Helmke
Lector	Linda Godson	Roger Degerman	Joleen Carlson	
Communion Assistants	Linda Godson	Roger Degerman Joleen Carlson		
AV Technicians	Barb Salvo/ Lynn Helmke	Lynn Helmke/ Todd Jansen	Kylee Albright	Alison Ferrentino
Coffee Fellowship		Sally Neitzel Jo Anne Reeves	Carrie Jansen	Rose Adamski
Councilperson In Charge	Gary Wood	Rose Adamski	Steve Barootian	David Knudson
Ushers	Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, and Gary Wood			
Altar Guild	Grace Deibert, Sue DiPasquale Peterson, Katie Peterson, and Lynn Sinclair			

July Altar Flowers

July 5 - In memory of Joe Cuccio, Jr. given with love by Jim & Joleen Carlson and Kevin & Joan Watson

July 12 - available - call the office to order

July 19 - available - call the office to order

July 26 - In memory of Cornelius & Mariane Vander Brug, given with love by Jill Vander Brug

The Chalice July, 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 Doidgepastormark.hclc@gmail.com
 Pastor Laura Fladtenpastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com
 Lisa Lequia, Children's Ministry Director.....sundayschool.hclc@gmail.com
 Keri Pappalardo, Financial Administrator.....keri.hclc@gmail.com
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