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2026

Listening for God

Does anyone listen anymore?

Either to each other...

to God...

or for God?

The question is not... whether the things that happen to us are chance things or God things... because of course... they are both all at once. There is no chance thing, through which God cannot speak... or act. Even the walk from your house to the garage - which you have done thousands of times... even when you help your neighbor or smile at the clerk. Even the moments when you cannot believe that there is a God who still speaks.

There is no moment so commonplace that God is not in it... sometimes hiddenly and sometimes openly... but always present, always loving, always healing...

so listen...

listen to God and listen for God.

At the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus says be not afraid... for I am with you to the ends of this age. God is with us on our journeys... God is with us in our work... God is with us in our homes... and God is with us in our fears and our joys. In fact, the Bible tells us over and over again, that God has been with us, ever since creation began...

so listen...

listen to God and listen for God...

because God is still speaking.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mark



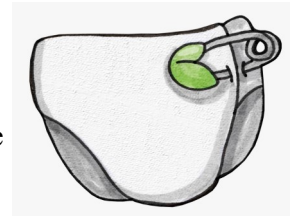
New Member Class will be held on Sunday, October 18th, 11:00AM – 12:30. (Installation and welcome of new members on Reformation Sunday, October 25th).

We welcome and invite all who are interested in becoming part of our church family here at Holy Communion Lutheran Church ☺. Goodies will be served, stories will be shared, and hopefully it will be a time of blessing for all. Please call Heidi in the church office (262-632-8802) or let Pastor Laura or Pastor Mark know you'll be joining us so that we can plan accordingly.

Thanks to Jim and Joleen Carlson for sponsoring the Diaper Depot delivery in September in honor and memory of family members.

If you see diapers on sale in sizes 4,5 or 6, please consider picking up a box for the Diaper Ministry! Also, if you have children's clothes or books that are no longer needed please donate and we will give them a new home!

Our September distribution dates are September 9th from 11AM – 1PM and September 23rd from 4 - 6PM. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.



Ketchup Club Tuesday, September 1st

All are welcome to join us for a delicious lunch at Kouzena 220, 220 6th St at 11:30 on Tuesday, September 1st. Our Ketchup Club lunches are a nice way to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. If you know you will be there, please let Pastor Laura or the office know, pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com or office.hclc@gmail.com so we can make a reservation. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please come join us and we will happily make room for you at the table.



Ushers and Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!

The worship committee is looking for new faces on two of our important teams, teams that keep our services vibrant and running seamlessly: Usher and Altar Guild. We are looking for both individuals or families who would like to participate. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Kate Potter-Barrow at church or via text at 262.498.7593 for more information or to let me know you'd like to join one of our teams. Thanks!

Craft Sale Fundraiser for Our Youth

To help the young people attend the 2027 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next year, we are going to have a craft sale after the worship service on Nov. 8, 2026.

Please donate your crafts of any kind. All proceeds will go to help defray the costs for the youth who will be attending.

Bring your table runners, napkins, hand or tote bags, wood items like signs and shelves, wreaths, ornaments and other holiday decorations, jewelry, greeting cards and other paper good, dolls or stuffed toys, ceramics... whatever you make!

Watch for more information in your bulletins and newsletters.

If you have questions, please contact Linda Godson, ltgyg1020@gmail.com





The Children's Chalice

Holy Communion Lutheran Church



September 2026

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

Bennett Hermanns
Jace Lequia

Reagan Riekema
Emily Sturino

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

"Radiant: Created to Shine"

We focused on...

**Just like stained glass becomes beautiful when light shines through it...
We become RADIANT when God's light shines through us.**

We explored Bible stories, played games, created crafts, enjoyed yummy treats and
had lunch with the families to end each session.

Thank you to all who helped make VBS possible this year!

A special thank you to Lynn Helmke and Laura Hermanns for the fun activity of having the kids
help decorate a peace pole that will be added to the HCLC garden when completed!

**"You are the LIGHT of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither
do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl."**

-Matthew 5: 14-16

Please join us on...SEPTEMBER 13th

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

Please bring your backpack!

*****You'll receive a special tag to attach to it.*****

and

THE FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children will begin in church and dismiss during the service for choir and class.

and

ICE CREAM IN THE LOUNGE AFTER THE SERVICE TO CELEBRATE!

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.



Youth Planning Teams to Begin...and We Need You ☺

Our beloved kids and youth bring so much life to our church...inspiring creativity, fabulous ideas, wonderful energy, incredible kindness, curiosity, and the kind of laughter that fills a whole room. Along with Sunday School and Confirmation Classes being offered, we've been gathering with our 2nd-5th Graders and 6-12th Graders but we'd like to boost up these gathering times to a new level...and that's where we need you ☺.

As we prepare for the new school year, we're hoping to form two small planning teams (2nd-5th Grade and 6th-12th Grade) to help shape these times together...gatherings that include a mix of fellowship, simple service projects and opportunities for our children and youth to see how their gifts bless the world around them. It doesn't have to be anything complicated, just a few adults dreaming together (and we'd love to have some youth on these teams as well) and helping pick dates and activities for our beloved children and youth.

Whether you're a youth, parent, grandparent, guardian, or simply someone who loves seeing kids thrive...your voice matters and you can help make these gatherings feel warm, welcoming, and full of life. If you'd like to join one of the planning teams...or simply share a few ideas...Pastor Laura and Pastor Mark would be grateful to hear from you. Together, we can create monthly or quarterly meet-ups that support our children and youth as they grow in faith and community.

2027 Youth Gathering Meeting – September 20th

This is for all of our youth who will be participating in the 2027 Youth Gathering next summer in Minneapolis. It will be a very short meeting to hand out registration information that will need to be in by October 1st.

Confirmation Class (We will usually meet on the second Sunday of the month)

All of our 8th 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. **Our first time to gather is Sunday, October 11th...we'll meet from 11:00AM til Noon.** Snacks will be provided...looking forward to seeing you all!!!

(Please mark your calendars...Confirmation/Pentecost Sunday falls on Sunday, May 16, 2027.)



During the month of September the pantry is asking for donations of cereal, bar soap, jelly, saltines, pork & beans. The pantry can also use clean, lightly used plastic shopping bags, large brown paper bags, and reusable bags for packing the groceries.

The pantry has a very large supply of greeting cards and do not need any at this time! They will take Bibles, children's Bible storybooks, adult inspirational books (such as devotional books or Bible Study books), 2027 calendars, pens and pencils, and cookbooks. Please do not bring other types of books. We also do not take dishes, clothing, or other household items.

A big thank you to all the pantry volunteers and donors who make our ministry possible!

Monday Morning Bible Study

Monday Morning Bible Study will resume on September 14th. The discussions this fall will be about the upcoming Sunday's gospel lesson. (The gospel for September 20th is Matthew 20:1-16.) The group meets in the lounge at 10:00. Everyone is welcome to join them!



Men's Group

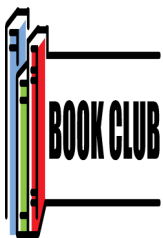
All men are welcomed to join Pastor Mark in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, September 11th. All men are welcome to come and join the conversation!

THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Acts chapter 18 will be the focus of our study in September. The study guide is on pages 158 to 165 in William Barclay. It begins "In the Worst City Of All" ((Acts 18:1-11), Corinth. Paul's preaching angered the Jews so Paul reached out to Gentiles for a year and a half. The Jews tried to get the government to stop Paul's preaching, but they refused (Acts 18:12-17). Then in Acts 18:18-23 Paul "Returns To Antioch" (pages 161-162).

"The Entry Of Apollos" (18:24-28) introduces a Jew who very effectively taught about Jesus and was a great help to these new Christians. Paul was also teaching in Ephesus and stayed almost three years. Christianity is truly spreading through the Roman Empire beyond the Jews and among the Gentiles.

September 15th from 10:00 to 11:30 meet at Julie Burton's home (136 Steeplechase Drive) to discuss the 18th chapter of Acts.



How quickly summer has passed! The book club is meeting on September 9th. We will be meeting at Julie Burton's home. The book we plan on discussing is The Lost Apothecary by Sarah Penner.

Hidden in the depths of 18th century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual clientele. Nella sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in women's lives. When a new patron, Eliza, a precocious 12 year old, makes a fatal mistake. That mistake echoes through the centuries. In present-day London, an aspiring historian, Caroline Parcellwell spends her time alone, running from her own demons. She stumbles across an old apothecary bottle while mudlarking in the Thames River. She thinks the bottle may be connected to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London 200 years ago. This twist of fate could be dangerous - and not everyone will survive.

All are welcomed to join us as we discuss this exciting mystery! Julie's home is at 136 Steeplechase Drive. We meet at 10 - 11:30. This should be very interesting!

For October 14th meeting, we plan to discuss The Borrowed Life of Fredrick Fife by Anna Johnston.

Save the Date! Look For The Light 2026!

Mark your calendars now! Holy Communion's Christmas program, Look for the Light, will be held on Sunday, December 13th, at 9:30 A.M. Rehearsals for kids will take place during regular choir practice starting on September 20th. There will be longer rehearsals at the end of November and beginning of December. Follow the bulletin and Chalice for updates. If you'd like to participate or lend a hand, please contact Kate Potter-Barrow at church or via text: 262.498.7593.

Peyton Larson's 7th Annual Birthday Lemonade Stand for DSAW

This is a fundraising event for the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin
Saturday, September 19, 2026
11am - 3pm

6015 Finch Lane, Caledonia WI 53402

DSAW provides amazing services for over 5500 individuals with Down Syndrome and their families living in Wisconsin. The funds raised are used to provide job training, classes, events and overall awareness of Down Syndrome. This is our chance to give back; please come out & support this fantastic organization!



Can't make it on the 19th?
Scan the QR code to donate to DSAW through Peyton's Awareness Walk Team.

Collecting Socks, Underwear, and T-shirts

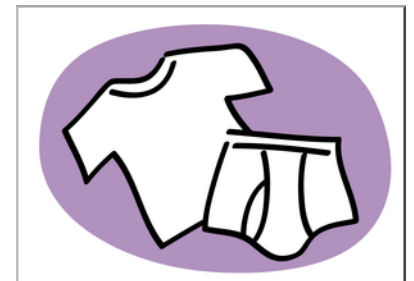
Thank you for the wonderful collection of adult sized socks, underwear, and t-shirts you brought to the church picnic for Undie Sunday.

Your donations have been delivered to the Hospitality Center. There is an ongoing need for these basic clothing items so we will continue collecting them.

If you bring them with you on Sunday morning you can put them in the container in the narthex with the bright pink **Love in Action** sign.

If you'd rather bring them during the week you can leave them in the office.

Thank you for generosity and your love for your neighbors!



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.



Everyone with a September birthday is invited to join the pastors in the lounge on Thursday, September 11th at 10:00 for a birthday donut and fun conversation. Come celebrate with us!

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.

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

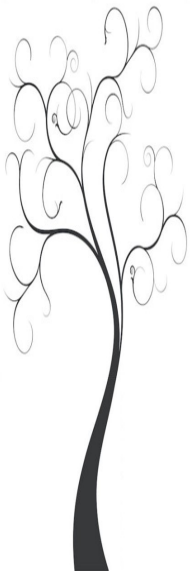
June Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$37,299.40
Expense: \$49,547.64
Net Income: \$(12,248.24)

Year-to-date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$295,220.08
Expense: \$322,393.16
Net Income: \$(27,172.18)

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.

September 2026

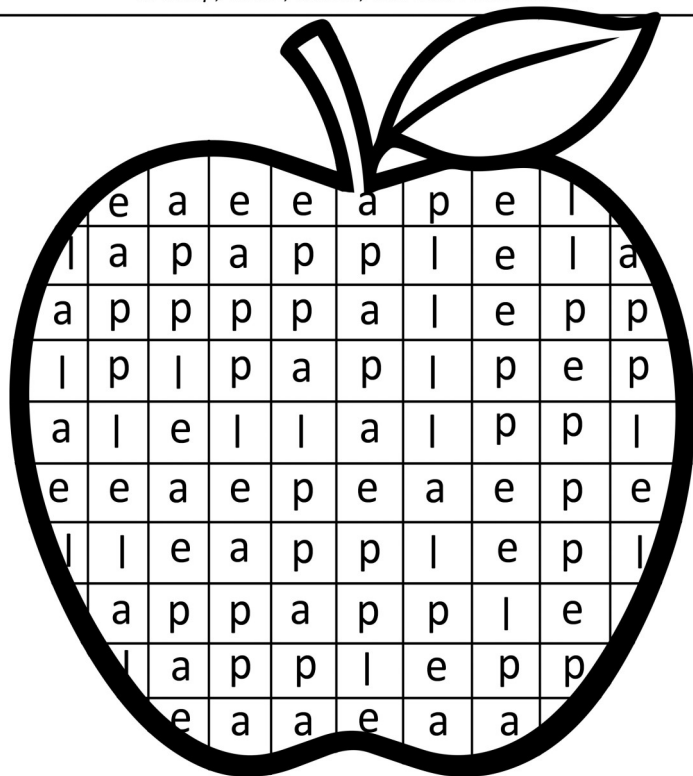
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11:30 Ketchup Club	2	3	4 12:30 Food Pantry	5
6 <i>Setting 3</i> 9:30 Worship	7 <i>Labor Day</i> Office Closed No Food Pantry	8 1:00 Quilters	9 10:00 Book Club 11-1 Diaper Ministry	10 10:00 Birthday Club	11 9:00 Men's Group 12:30 Food Pantry	12
13 <i>O the Joy</i> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School Blessing of the Backpacks	14 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Food Pantry	15 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	16	17	18 12:30 Food Pantry	19 Peyton's Birthday Lemonade Stand
20 <i>Setting 8</i> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 11:00 Youth Gathering Meeting	21 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Food Pantry	22 1:00 Quilters	23 4-6 Diaper Ministry	24	25 12:30 Food Pantry	26
27 <i>We Are Called</i> 9:30 Worship/Sunday School	28 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Food Pantry	29	30			



Apple of Your Eye

"Apple of your eye" means something very special that you protect. As school starts again, remember what God says in Proverbs 7:2 (NIV): "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye."

Can you find the word "apple" 12 times in the puzzle?
Look up, down, across, and even backward!



A Prayer for Autumn's Arrival

Lord of all seasons,
As the leaves change and the days grow cooler,
help me embrace the rhythm of your creation.
Teach me to let go of what I no longer need
and to trust your timing in every part of life.

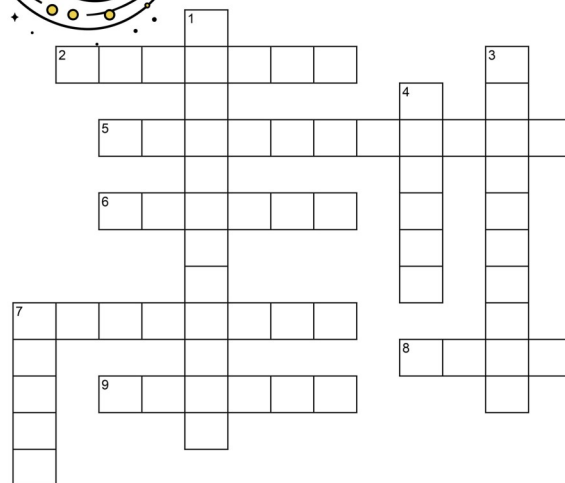
Thank you for the beauty of autumn—
for crisp mornings, golden trees, and the promise of harvest.
May this season deepen my gratitude,
renew my spirit,
and draw me closer to your heart.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.



ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pure in heart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: meek, 9 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poor in spirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn



September 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.

	September 6 9:30 a.m.	September 13 9:30 a.m.	September 20 9:30 a.m.	September 27 9:30 a.m.
Greeter			Kay Krause	Lori Neu
Lector	Joleen Carlson	Roger Degerman	Gary Wee	Marianne Jensen
Communion Assistants	Joleen Carlson	Roger Degerman		
AV Technicians	Todd Jansen	Lynn Helmke	Kathy Berg	Kylee Albright
Coffee Fellowship		Shelley Lussmyer	Evelyn Lajiness	Rose Adamski
Councilperson In Charge	Gary Wood	Kylee Albright	Polly Timmerman	Dave Knudson
Ushers	Steve Barootian, David Krueger, Gary Lequia, and Ed Wosilait			
Altar Guild	Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lori Neu, Lyndsey Newton, and Joni Reske			

September Altar Flowers

September 6 - Given with love by Susan Anderson in memory of her parents Joan and Leslie Anderson and in honor of all the teachers and students who returned to classrooms this week, given by the Palmgren family.

September 13 - In memory of Richard & Monica Gellott on what would have been their 75th anniversary, given with love by their daughter, Laura Gellott.

September 20 - In loving memory of Jerry & Ann Wiegel, given by their sons Rick Wiegel and Don Wiegel. and in honor of and appreciation for health care workers, given by the Palmgren family.

September 27 - In honor of Courtney Carlson on her birthday, given with love by her mom and dad, and in loving memory of Grandma Anne Cuccio and Joe & Kathy Cuccio, given by Jim, Joleen, & Courtney Carlson.

The Chalice **September, 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
 Heidi Komistra, Office Administrator.....office.hclc@gmail.com
 Office Phone.....262-632-8802
 Fax.....262-637-5622

Website: www.hopeonahill.org