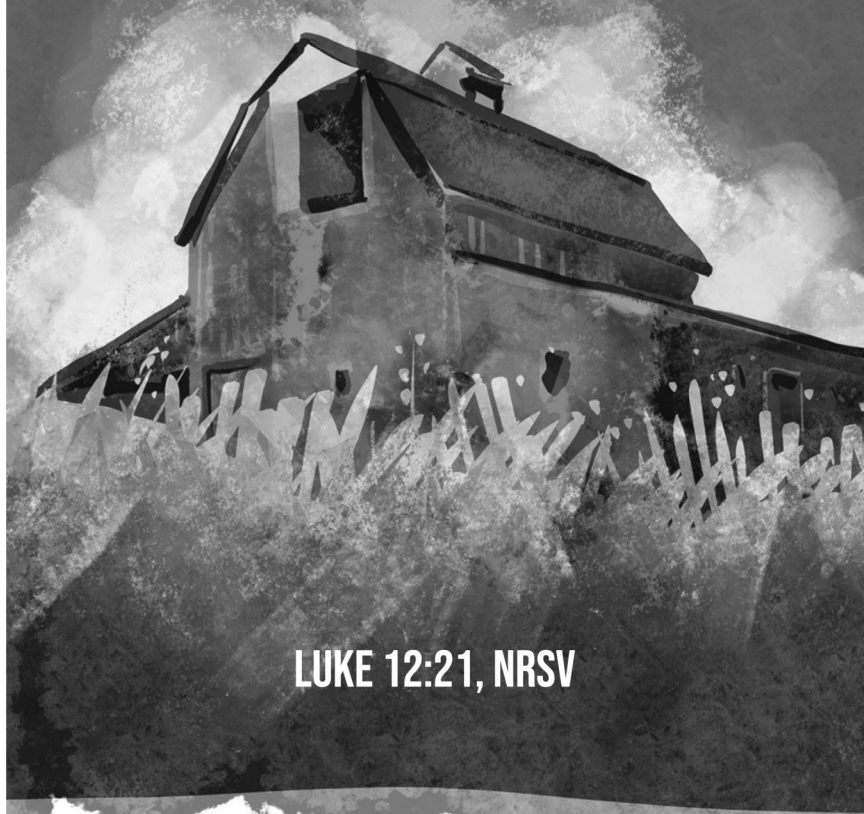


**Sunday, August 3, 2025**  
**The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**

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*"So it is with those  
who store up treasures  
for themselves but are  
not rich toward God."*



**LUKE 12:21, NRSV**

**Holy Communion Lutheran Church**  
**2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin 53405**  
**A community called to Worship, Learn, Love, and Serve**

**We Are Called**  
**A Contemporary Worship Service**

*Special thanks to greeter Lynn Helmke, assisting minister Lana Buhler, lector Linda Godson, communion assistants Lynn Helmke and Christine Monreal, audio-visual technicians Kylee Albright and Sawyer Krenzke, ushers Jim Buhler, Todd Jansen, Tim Krikau, and Gary Wee, altar guild Susan Barbee, Val Conner, and Barb Salvo, coffee fellowship Shelley Lussmyer, councilperson in charge and musicians Kate Potter Barrow, Gregg Albright and Gregory Berg for sharing their time and talent with us today.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**ALL: To do justice**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To love kindness**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To walk humbly with our God**

A.M.: We come to learn, to praise, to pray;

**All: We come to worship our God.**

# All Are Welcome

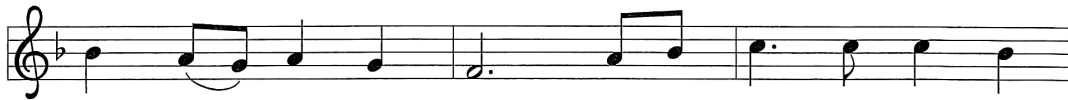
641



- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
- 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
- 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
- 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus:  
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:  
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: Marty Haugen  
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

TWO OAKS  
96 86 87 10 and refrain

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## CONFESSION OF SINS:

P. In the presence of God, who knows our hearts and minds, let us confess our sin:

O Holy and loving God,

**We acknowledge to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we're not what you have called us to be. We have not always stood by our faith, shared our hope, or reached out with love. We have done unkind and shameful deeds, and we have left undone, deeds which could have made a difference in the lives of those around us. Too often, we have failed to speak and act for peace, justice, and kindness in our world.**

**Have mercy upon our repentance, forgive our sin, and change our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved by God. Go into the world with changed hearts and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! **Amen.**

## GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

## \*\*SONG: Won't You Stand Up

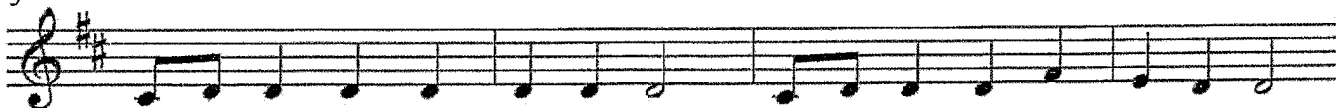
Solo: All the lonely people crying, it could change if we just get started.  
Lift the darkness, light a fire for the silent and the brokenhearted.

### Refrain:



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and make a choice.

5



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and use your voice.

Solo: With the comfort, there's a healing, high above the pain and sorrow.  
Change is coming, can you feel it? Calling us into a new tomorrow! **Refrain:**

Solo: When the walls fall all around you, when your hope has turned to dust.  
Let the sound of love surround you, beat like God's heart in each of us! **Refrain:**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A.M.: Oh God who breaks barriers down and welcomes all:

**All: You invite us to walk humbly by your side. You call us to act with justice. By your works, you inspire us to serve one another. We pray that you will give us the courage to make a difference in this world by treating people with respect and dignity, bringing healing to the broken, and living in your light so that those whose spirits are darkened by hopelessness and despair feel your shining presence and tender love.**

A.M. And all God's children say:

**All: Help us to walk humbly with you, O God! Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### WORD

#### **FIRST READING: Colossians 3:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 49:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

<sup>2</sup> **you of high degree and low,  
rich and poor together.**

<sup>3</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom,  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

<sup>4</sup> **I will incline my ear to a proverb  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

<sup>5</sup> Why should I be afraid in evil days,  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

<sup>6</sup> **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,  
and boast of their great riches?**

<sup>7</sup> One can never redeem another,  
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

<sup>8</sup> **for the ransom of a life is so great  
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

<sup>9</sup> in order to live forever and ever  
and never see the grave.

<sup>10</sup> **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

<sup>11</sup> Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,  
though they had named lands after themselves.

<sup>12</sup> **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;  
they are like the beasts that perish**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Cantor: We hear the ancient words of God, whose son once on this earth did trod. So we today could sing out, Hallelujah. With open mind and joyful heart, we listen, then we'll do our part—to help our broken world shout Hallelujah.

### REFRAIN:

All:



### GOSPEL: LUKE 12: 13-21

The holy gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.”

<sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### REFRAIN

**SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten**

## We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



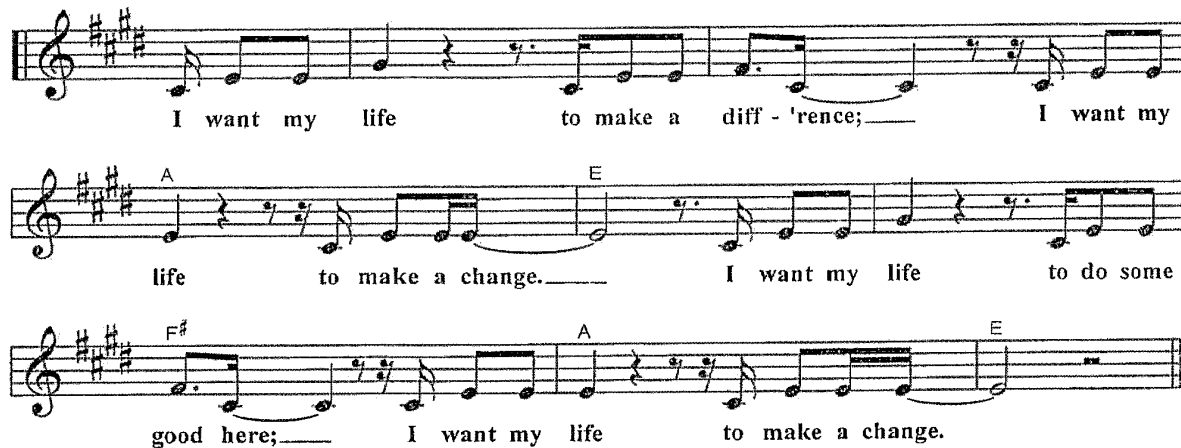
oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

## MEAL

### INVITATION SONG: Make A Difference - Rachel Kurtz

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference. You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table. You're calling us to do the same.

#### Refrain:



Solo: Working side by side, no out or inside,  
Together we can make that change.  
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

Solo: Crossing the great divide, Joy and peace will abide,  
Together we can make that change.  
Jesus is our peace, all fighting will cease  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

#### Words of Institution:

Solo: We're the citizens with the saints, We're the sunshine with the rain.  
We're the joy with the pain. We're the change!  
You healed the sick and fed the poor. You loved the prophet and ended war.  
Through us you will do more, You're the change! **Refrain:**

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference.  
You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table.  
You're calling us to do the same.

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## LORD'S PRAYER:

Our father in heaven.

Hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,


and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

**LAMB OF GOD:** *This song begins with a solo. Please watch the song leader who will invite you to sing when all instruments join after the interlude.*


D A . bm A G



Lamb of God you take a-way the sin of the world - have mer-cy

A D D A bm


6



on - us. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world


A G A D

12



have mer - cy on us.


D A bm G



Take a-way the ha-tred. Take a-way the chains - Take a way the

A G Asus D

6



hung - er take a-way - the pain Grant us peace.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## PEACE


The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY “Christ Be Our Light”

em bm em em C




1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for truth, -  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the hearts that

7 D em am D em C A




we turn to you. Make us your own, — your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to  
yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er, signs of your kind - dom

15 Dsus4 D G C G em G C D



see. ——— Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
come.

23 Dsus4 D G C G em am D C C G



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray. (brief silence)

God, You are righteous in all your ways. Guide your church that we might be faithful to your gospel in all we say and do. We especially pray for the ELCA's new presiding bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry. Bless him as he seeks to lead our church into a bright new day. In all that is to come, may your will be done. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

God, You are slow to anger and abound in steadfast love. As we have first been forgiven, help us to be patient and forgiving with others - especially those who are difficult to forgive - that we might experience the full abundance of your grace. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

God, you open wide your hand to satisfy the desires of all living things. Open our hearts that we might be joyously generous with all those in need. Help us to never turn away from the hungry, the thirsty, the lonely or the outcasts in our midst. We especially pray for our food pantry and for all agencies who work to feed the hungry in these challenging times. Remind us that all we have comes first from you. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

God, you lift up all who are bowed down. Walk with everyone who finds themselves without a home- living amid danger- or struggling with hopelessness. Extend your love to them - and help us to be instruments of your grace. We continue to pray for those rebuilding from the devastating floods in Texas- those living in war-torn regions of the world - and for those living in divided, struggling communities -that they may find hope. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

God, you are near to all who call upon you. Make your healing and encouraging presence known to all who are hurting in body, mind or spirit. We especially pray for .... <names> .... Be with them, and give patience and grace to those who care for them. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

God, you are loving in all your works. We thank you for the many ways in which your goodness and grace is made known to us ..... in the splendor of nature, in the beauty of music, in the joy of play, in the magnificence of this sanctuary and its windows .... and most of all, in the people who have loved us and been a blessed part of our lives. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Hear these spoken prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, that we might rest securely in the certainty of your love, through Christ our Lord,

**AMEN.**

## **BLESSING**

*Congregation, please join in singing the choruses of Amens.*

## **DISMISSAL**

A.M.: Go in peace. Live by the spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**



## **Announcements**

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this morning are in memory of Cornelius and Mariane Vander Brug, given by Jill Vander Brug and in memory of Ed & Mary Larsen, given by Bob, Karen, and Amy Larsen.

### **Welcome Visitors!**

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge after worship for a treat and a time of fellowship.

### **Communion By Intinction**

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. Individual wafer/juice cups are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for those who prefer to commune in their pews.

### **Ketchup Club**

The Ketchup Club will meet at 11:30 this Tuesday for lunch 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 plan to join us, please let Pastor Laura or the office know [pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com), [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com), or 262-632-8802) so we can reserve the correct size table. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please come and join us and we will happily make room for you at the table!

### **Men’s Group Meets This Friday**

All men are invited to join Pastor Mark in the lounge at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 8th. 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, please contact Pastor Mark at [pastormark.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastormark.hclc@gmail.com).

### **August Birthday Club**

If your birthday is in August, please join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura in the lounge on Thursday, August 14th at 10:00 a.m. to have a birthday donut, conversation and some laughs with them and others born in August!

### **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, more for a larger family. The pantry served 55 families, 212 people, on July 25th and 56 families, 158 people, on July 28th. 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. In August the pantry is asking for donations of spaghetti sauce, 1 lb. packages of spaghetti, tuna, tomato soup, and instant potatoes. Thank you to everyone who donates or 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 Katharine Jensen and to the Funk family who sponsors in memory of Wayne and Jan Sotona. Thank you all for your ongoing support!

August distribution dates are the 13th from 11AM – 1PM and the 27th from 4PM – 6PM.. Contact Kylee Albright [kygregg@mac.com](mailto:kygregg@mac.com) or Amy Larsen [amylarsen2406@att.net](mailto:amylarsen2406@att.net) with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.

**In-person attendance on Sunday, July 27, 2025 - 102 family units attending online - 23**

### **Giving With Tithely**

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



### **Book Club**

The book club will meet Wednesday, August 13th at 10:00 a.m. to discuss The Personal Librarian at Julie Burton's home, 136 Steeplechase Drive. Please call Julie at 262-639-5914 to let her know that you plan to attend. Their book for their September 10th meeting is James by Percival Everett.

### **HCLC 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!**

### **Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities**

Monday, August 4 - 10:00 Worship & Music Team

12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 5 - 11:30 Ketchup Club @ Wells Brothers

Friday, August 8 - 9:00 Men's Group

12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, August 10 - 9:30 Worship in the Park and Church Picnic at Pritchard Park

Monday, August 11 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 12 - 1:00 Quilters

Wednesday, August 13 - 10:00 Book Club

11:00 - 1:00 Diaper Ministry

6:00 Finance Team

Thursday, August 14 - 10:00 Birthday Club

Ben Menzhuber Recital

Friday, August 15 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, August 17 - 9:30 Worship

### **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**

### **Office Hours**

The office is open Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### **Holy Communion Church Council**

Joleen Carlson, president, Gary Wood, vice president, Laurie Knudson, secretary, Kylee Albright, treasurer  
Rose Adamski, Bob Larsen, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman

**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](mailto:kpotterbarrow@gmail.com)

**School Supply Drive For Local Kids and Schools**

As any teacher will tell you, many of the students in our schools come with great needs. We'd like to help 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. The ripple effect of small kindnesses can and does create positive change in our neighborhood and world!

Many stores have great prices on school supplies right now so it is a great time to shop. Why not consider doing your shopping with scrip cards? Stop at the scrip table this morning to get some!

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

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

**Worship in the Park and Church Picnic  
Sunday, August 10th at Pritchard Park - Wieczorek Pavilion**

Watch for signs directing you to the picnic area

**Worship begins at 9:30 a.m.**

**We will provide:**

Pulled pork, hot dogs, and buns

Plates, cups, napkins, plastic ware

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 our friends!  
Rain or shine we'll gather in the park and rejoice!**