

Sunday, July 19, 2026
The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



Sharing the Light!

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 Lori Neu, assisting minister Eleanor Mason,
lector Joleen Carlson, audio-visual technician Kylee Albright,
ushers Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, and Gary Wood,,
altar guild Grace Deibert, Susan DiPasquale Peterson, Katie Peterson, and Lynn Sinclair,
councilperson in charge Steve Barootian, and musicians Kate Potter Barrow, Gregg Albright,
and Gregory Berg for sharing their time and talent with us today.*

*Please stand if you are able where there is an asterisk * in the bulletin.*

PRELUDE (*a quiet time to reflect and prepare for worship*)

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

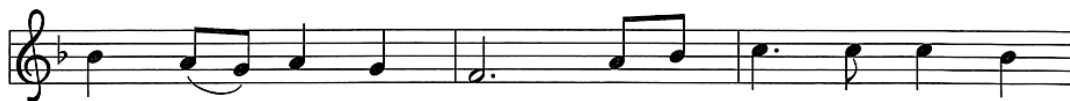
641



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

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

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.**

All: And also with you.

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***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.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Hands Jewel and Patrick Leonard* Carrie Jansen

*If I could tell the world just one thing
It would be we're all okay
And not to worry 'cause worry is wasteful
And useless in times like these
I won't be made useless
I won't be idle with despair
I'll gather myself around my faith
For light does the darkness most fear*

*My hands are small, I know
But they're not yours, they are my own
But they're not yours, they are my own
'Cause someone will stand up for what's right
'Cause when there's a man who has no voice
There ours shall go singing*

*'Cause in the end, only kindness matters
In the end, only kindness matters*

I will get down on my knees, and I will pray...

*My hands are small, I know
But they're not yours, they are my own
But they're not yours, they are my own
And I am never broken
We are never broken*

And I am never broken

*Poverty stole your golden shoes
It didn't steal your laughter
And heartache came to visit me
But I knew it wasn't ever after
We will fight, not out of spite
We are God's eyes
God's hands
God's heart*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lisa Lequia

NOISY OFFERING

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 44: 6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**
¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.
¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**
¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**
¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

***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.

All:



***Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

REFRAIN

SERMON Pastor Mark Doidge

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 -

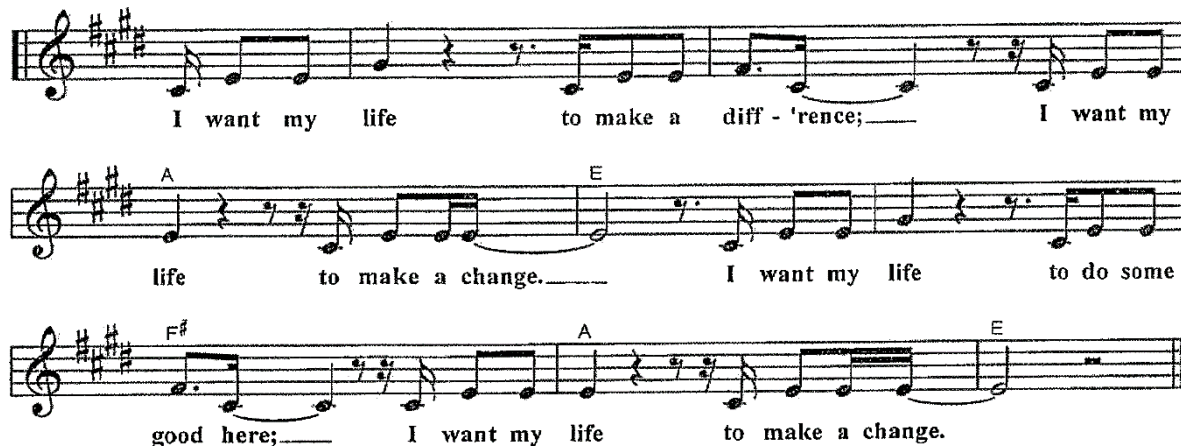


oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

***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

***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.

DISTRI BUTION 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.

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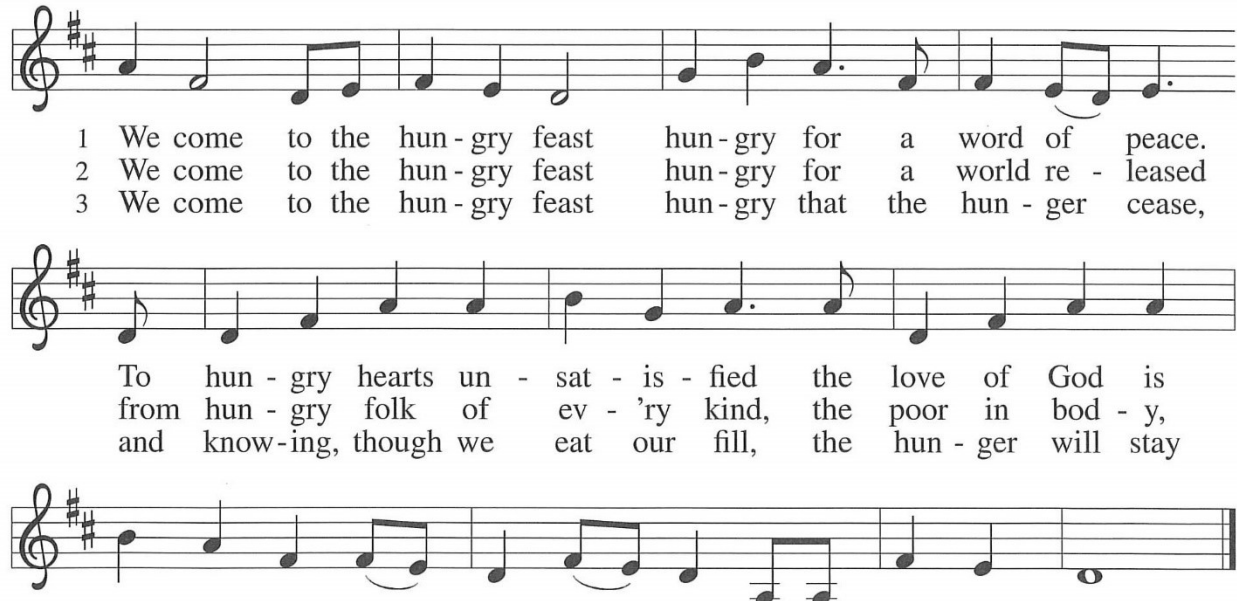
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We Come to the Hungry Feast

479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

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HUNGRY FEAST

7 7 8 8 9

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*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 the First and the Last, and from You we learn humility. When we are lost in our own arrogance and ignorance, remind us that we have so much to learn, so many ways we need to grow. so many lessons yet to learn. Show us how to walk humbly in Your Word, so we can make our way through this world with confidence, understanding and gratitude. With You by our side, Loving God,

WE ARE NOT AFRAID.

God, You are the First and the Last, and by You we are shown how to love. Open our eyes and our hearts to see one another with patience and grace. Help us to see the good in others - and show us the ways in which we share common humanity. Help us to love those who might seem to be unlovable - those we view as our enemies - those who are poor, hungry, or homeless - and those who are lonely and longing for connection. . Let our love be bold and generous. With You by our side, Loving God,

WE ARE NOT AFRAID.

God, You are the First and the Last, and through the storms of life and the turbulence of this world, You are the Rock on which we stand. Help us to anchor ourselves in Your eternal and unchanging grace. When we are discouraged, restore our hope. When we are confused, bring us clarity. And when all seems dark, share Your calming and encouraging Light. With You by our side, Loving God,

WE ARE NOT AFRAID.

God, You are the First and the Last, and you know everything about us - including our deepest hurts, fears and sorrows. And in every chapter of life's journey, You are with us. Draw close to all who are facing difficult burdens of illness, injury, exhaustion, discouragement, sorrow or uncertainty. Today we especially remember..... With you by our side, Loving God,

WE ARE NOT AFRAID.

We thank you for hearing these spoken prayers as well as the unspoken prayers of our hearts, and for responding with grace upon grace, mercy upon mercy, and blessing upon blessing, through Christ our Lord,

AMEN.

BLESSING

Congregation, please join in singing the choruses of Amens.

DISMISSAL

A.M.: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please come to the lounge for coffee and fellowship.



Announcements

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are in loving memory of Evan Hahner and Mikael Hahner, given by Heidi & Mark Komistra.

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 time of fellowship.

Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. If you feel more comfortable communing in your pew, there are individual cups available on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

Spotlight on HCLC's Donations from the Tithe Fund

Many of you will remember the wonderful blessing we received last calendar year from estate money. In years past we had approved a continuing resolution to set aside a 10% tithe from larger donations received by the church. Last year's estate gift resulted in a tithe fund and we asked for the congregation to give input on what the council should do with that money. We received many wonderful suggestions from all of you and after some discussions, decisions have been made. We will be spotlighting where the funds will go in bulletins and the newsletter. What a blessing we have been given and what a blessing to be able to share it!

Tithe Spotlight: SAFE Haven of Racine

Safe Haven of Racine is a private, non-profit agency that has served Racine for over 40 years. Their mission is to improve the quality of life for youth and families through education, opportunity and support. Services focus on basic needs, such as food, clothing and shelter with a goal of helping youth achieve results in education, self-esteem, employment, problem-solving and life skills. They have several programs to meet their mission and goals. The SAFE Haven Shelter is an eight bed multi-cultural community based residential group home for youth up to age 17 in need of emergency shelter due to runaway behaviors and homelessness. Counseling is provided to the youth and family members with a goal of reunification. The Middle School Engagement Program assists youth, parents and caregivers in engaging and motivating students to achieve success at school, home and in the community in order to deter truant behaviors. The Bridge to Independence Program is available for young adults aged 18-24 in need of assistance in acquiring independence from their parent's or caregiver's home. And SAFE Passage is a 12-month Rapid Re-Housing program that serves young adults aged 18-24 who are currently experiencing homelessness. We are pleased to be able to support their mission. For more information or to become involved see their website: safehavenofracine.org

Tithe Spotlight: Racine Vocational Ministry (RVM)

Racine Kenosha Vocational Ministry is a faith-based non-profit whose services include a holistic approach to job placement. They strive to help participants become productive, self-sufficient workers trained for appropriate careers. Helping participants retain jobs through monitoring and follow-up and addressing negatives in their lives that impede their careers - including drugs and alcohol, homelessness and emotional health problems. We are happy to support this local organization that opened it's doors in 2002 as they continue this vital service to the Racine community. For more information see their website: rvmracine.org

Youth Gathering Informational Meeting

Youth going into grades 8th-12th are invited to learn more about the **2027 ELCA**

Youth Gathering in Minneapolis...a powerful time of worship & fun, service & learning and community building with thousands of Lutheran teens from across the

country and beyond. This life-shaping experience helps young people grow in faith, build friendships, and see the church in a whole new way.



Join us for an **Informational Meeting** on either **July 19th** or **July 26th** (following worship in the **youth/education room**) to hear details about the trip, fundraising, and how our group will prepare together. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Laura.

Food Pantry

For July the pantry is asking for donations of 15 oz. cans of mixed fruit, 15 oz, cans of peaches, tomato soup, canned pasta, pork & beans, and instant potatoes. We also need clean, lightly used, plastic and large, brown paper shopping bags. If you have cookbooks, children's Bible storybooks, greeting cards, pens, or pencils that you won't use, the pantry clients are happy to receive them. Thank you all for your generosity and love for your neighbors!

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. Our next distribution dates are July 22nd from 4-6 PM and August 12th from 11AM – 1PM. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.



Save the Date! Picnic and Undie Sunday, August 9th

We will worship in the Wieczorek Pavillion at Pritchard Park, 2800 Ohio St. (same place as the last two years) on Sunday, August 9th at 9:30a.m. After worship we'll have a potluck picnic lunch.

And, we are launching a brand-new outreach effort that day: Undie Sunday. This new ministry grows out of our congregations 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 will bless the first donations during worship and celebrate the start of this new ministry. Rain or shine we will gather in the park and rejoice!

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

School Supplies for Our Community

Last year we held a drive for school supplies for the children of our community. Your response was overwhelming and an extraordinary number of kids in Racine received much needed help through your generosity. We would, once again, like to help the kids in our midst with an emphasis on products for middle and high school aged kids, something we learned was much needed after our distribution last year. We sent the list of items we are collecting in an email. There are copies of those lists on the tables in the back of the sanctuary and in the Welcome Center. Look for the yellow sheets if you would like to take on with you when you shop.

Let's do this! The ripple effect of small kindnesses creates positive change in our neighborhood and in the world!

Third Tuesday Bible Study

THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY will meet July 21st from 10:00 to 11:30 at the home of Julie Burton (136 Steeplechase Drive). The study will discuss Acts 15:22-35 to 16:16-24 on pages 136-146 in William Barclay. It begins with the decree from the Jewish headquarters in Jerusalem that Gentiles may be accepted as Christians. Now Paul travels into Europe and includes Timothy who had a Gentile father. Bring a Bible and learn how Christianity spread to all the world.

Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities

Sunday, July 19 – 9:30 Worship

10:30 Youth Gathering Informational Meeting

Monday, July 20 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, July 21 – 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study

Wednesday, July 22 – 9:30 Worship

Friday, July 24 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, July 26 – 9:30 Worship and Vacation Bible School

10:30 Youth Gathering Informational Meeting

Monday, July 27 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, July 28 – 1:00 Quilters

Friday, July 31 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sara Neubauer Funeral Service

Saturday, August 1 – 1:00 Recital (Bill Dieckhoff)

Sunday, August 2 – 9:30 Worship

Monday, August 3 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 4 – 11:30 Ketchup Club @ Reefpoint BrewHouse

Friday, August 7 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, August 9 – 9:30 Worship in the Park/Church Picnic

Monday, August 10 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 12 – 1:00 Quilters

Office hours Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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

Net Income: \$ (14,846.94)

In person attendance on July 12, 2026 – 101 Households watching online – 23

HCLC Council

President Joleen Carlson president, Vice President Gary Wood, Secretary Laurie Knudson, Treasurer Kylee Albright, Members at large Rose Adamski, Steve Barootian, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman