



THE CHALICE

A publication of Holy Communion Lutheran Church January, 2024

In This Issue

Help Wanted:

Join Our Church Council.....	2
Children's Chalice.....	3
Food Pantry News.....	3
Youth Ministry Zone.....	4
Warm Clothes & Blankets For the Hospitality Center.....	4
Men's Group.....	4
Birthday Club.....	4
Thank You Decorators!	5
Cooking Class.....	5
Ketchup Club.....	5
Finance Update.....	5
Taking Down the Trees.....	6
Book Club.....	6
Third Tuesday Bible Study.....	6
Poinsettias.....	7-8
Altar Flowers.....	9
Hospital Visitation.....	9
January Calendar.....	10
Quilting Group.....	11
Puzzles.....	11
Volunteer Calendar.....	12
January Altar Flowers.....	12

january
2024

The Annunciation and Nativity

In Matthew...

The news of the birth is such a scandal... that Joseph makes arrangements to end the engagement. But the Angel of the Lord changes his mind, and says **do not be afraid**...the child is conceived of the Holy Spirit, and he will save his people from sin.

In Luke...

Mary is said to have found favor with God. And on the night that she gives birth to the babe... the angels appeared to the shepherds and told them **not to be afraid**... for I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all the people.

The stories of Matthew and Luke have much in common. The birth is foretold by an Angel, the baby is conceived by the Holy Spirit, and he is born in the time of King Herod. However, there are also great differences between the two accounts. Matthew - alone has the wise men, a star, and the hurried escape from King Herod into Egypt. Luke: includes a Roman Census, a manger, shepherds and an Angelic Choir...

But what is clear in both, is that the narratives point to the way in which God - through the birth of Jesus - took the initiative to come into our world and into our lives in this gentle act of love. This is God's way... it is the way of peace and gentleness and new life. In this coming year, may we all be blessed with new beginnings and new opportunities. Let us all follow the way of Jesus - and **not be afraid**... to bring peace and joy into this world.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Mark



Help Wanted: Join Our Church Council!



Are you passionate about making a difference? Do you have ideas for creating positive change and fostering a welcoming, inclusive environment? If so, we invite you to become a vital part of our Church Council!

Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with a diverse team to shape the direction and initiatives of Holy Communion.
- Offer insights, guidance, and innovative ideas for community outreach, events, and support programs.
- Help facilitate decision-making processes that align with Holy Communion's mission, values and goals.
- Act as a liaison between the congregation and church leadership to ensure effective communication and understanding.

Qualifications:

- Enthusiasm for contributing to the growth and well-being of Holy Communion.
- Strong communication and teamwork skills.
- Willingness to commit time and effort to attend meetings and participate in planning sessions.
- Respect for diverse perspectives and a commitment to inclusivity.

Perks:

- The opportunity to make a meaningful impact and inspire positive change.
- Collaborate with a dedicated team of individuals passionate about serving others.
- Personal and spiritual growth through community engagement and leadership development.
- Deepen your connection with Holy Communion and its mission.

Join us in creating a warm, compassionate, and thriving community where everyone feels valued and supported. Your voice and ideas matter!

To Apply: If you're excited about this opportunity to serve and grow with us, please reach out to anyone on the Church Council or any one of the Pastors.

Kylee Albright	Jim Black	Joleen Carlson
Dave Knudson	Laurie Knudson	Andy Larson
Rebecca Mason	Polly Timmerman	



The Children's Chalice



Holy Communion Lutheran Church January, 2023

HAPPY BAPTISM BIRTHDAY to the following children

who were baptized during the month of January:

Alice Barootian

Jaxon Doidge

The children had a great time at **SANTA'S NIGHT OUT!** The night began with pizza and other treats. Then the kids got comfy on sleeping bags, pillows and beanbag chairs while watching the movie *The Grinch*. After the movie, Patrick BeBow read The Night Before Christmas and led the annual "silly" gift exchange. The night ended with Pastor Mark playing "hide and seek" with all of the kids! Hopefully, parents were able to get some errands and Christmas shopping done!

Thank you to everyone that brought cookies for the celebration in the lounge after our Christmas program **LOOK FOR THE LIGHT**. We had a great variety of delicious treats!!! If you have shepherd costumes that your children have outgrown and you are just going to get rid of them, please bring them to church. We store them for other children to use in coming years.

May the *light* of Jesus shine in all of your lives this coming year...



SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 7th.

SEE YOU THEN!!!

Food Pantry News

For about eight years we have been putting devotional booklets on a table for our guests to take. During the first year and a half of the pandemic, I noticed more of the booklets were being taken. That led me to believe people are spiritually hungry as well. We have now started putting our Bibles and children's Bible storybooks. The problem is that we can't keep up with the demand, so this is where we need your help. If you have any Bibles or Bible storybooks you are not using, please bring them for the pantry. The books don't have to be new. Gently used books are fine! Stories for all ages of children would be appreciated.



For January we are asking for donations of these items: canned peas, cereal, tomato soup, saltines, chicken noodle soup and bar soap. We can always use brown paper grocery bags and clean, lightly used plastic shopping bags.

We are so grateful to everyone who helps the pantry through gifts of their time, food items, or monetary donations. It would not be possible to continue this ministry without you!



Our Youth Groups and Confirmation Class will be meeting in the month of January on the following dates:



2nd - 5th Grade Youth Group

All of our 2nd - 5th Graders are invited to come and join the pastors for some Popcorn and Playtime on **Sunday, January 7th, from 11:00-12:00.**

6th - 8th Grade Youth Group

All of our 6th - 8th Graders are invited to join Pastor Laura and Pastor Mark on **Sunday, January 21st, from 11:00-12:00** for an awesome and amazing time of fun, fellowship and learning. Snacks will be provided.



Our next block of Confirmation takes place in January. We'll meet from 12:00-1:00PM on the following Sundays...
January 14th, 21st and 28th.

Collecting Warm Clothing and Blankets for the Hospitality Center

If you have extra blankets, sheets, pillows, or warm clothing, you can bring them in for the Hospitality Center. They give these items away throughout the cold weather, so you can bring them in until spring. You can bring your donations to the office during the week or put them in the back of the church on Sunday morning. Thank you for caring about the vulnerable people in our community.



Men's Group

All men are invited to join this group for discussion on the second Friday of the month. They have had some wonderful conversations and they would be pleased to have you join them at 9:00 a.m. on January 12th.

Everyone with a January birthday is invited to join us in the lounge on **Thursday, January 11th** at 10:00 a.m. for a cup of coffee, a birthday donut, and some fun conversation as we celebrate you! *(Please note... the birthday club is moving to the second Thursday of the month!)* Hope to see you there!



Thank You Very Much!

Thank you to the hard-working crew of tree wranglers, garland hangers and tree decorators who decorated the sanctuary on Saturday, December 2nd ! Your efforts to make the sanctuary incredibly beautiful help to add so much to our worship during the Advent and Christmas season. You are much appreciated! Please say thanks to these folks when you see them!



Greg Berg	Elaine Lewis	Barb Pedersen	Barb Salvo
Kathy Berg	Shelley Lussmyer	Dwight Pedersen	Jean Veltman
Val Conner	Carl Lussmyer	Kate Potter-Barrow	John Adamski
Linda Godson	Lori Neu	Carol Riekana	Pastor Laura
Amy Larsen	Sarah Ronnevik	Alice Barootian	Pastor Mark

A heartfelt thank you to all the folks who helped to get things from the third floor on Sunday November 26. The job went so quickly because so many of you pitched in. Finally, an extra special thank you to the Monday Morning Bible Garland Fluffer Ladies – Shelley Lussmyer, Christine Monreal, Joni Reske, Karen Larsen, Lynn Sinclair, Grace Deibert and Pastor Laura. You saved us hours of work on Saturday!

Thank You All!

Cooking Class With Stacy Joers February 20th

Join us for another of Staci Joers fabulous cooking classes on Tuesday, February 20. Staci will prepare a menu of delicious classics featuring Arancini (fried risotto stuffed with mozzarella) served with five- minute Marinara, Beef Bourguignon, Rice Pilaf, and Cannoli Pudding. The cost of the class is \$23. The classes have sold out when Staci presented here in the past, and the class size is limited so don't delay! Heidi and Keri can take your reservation during the week or you can turn your check in on Sunday. Please mark the envelope "Cooking Class" and make the check payable to HCLC. Heidi will contact you when she gets your payment. If you do not hear from the office, please call to make sure we got your check.



Ketchup Club



Our Ketchup Club outings have been so much fun! It is a wonderful to be able to socialize and "catch-up" with one another. It is a friendly, welcoming group and we would love to have more of you come join the lively conversations and share a few laughs, to catch up with some old friends or meet some new ones! In January we will meet for lunch at 11:30 at the Aries Café, 4713 Douglas Avenue, on Tuesday, January 23rd. To help us know how many seats to reserve, please let Pastor Laura (pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com), or Heidi (office.hclc@gmail.com) know by Sunday January 21st, if you're able to join us. But if you should unexpectedly find yourself free that day, please come join us! Hope to see you there ☺

Finance Update

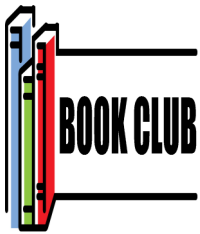
November Numbers		Year-to-date Numbers	
Revenue:	\$34,031.01	Revenue:	\$469,656.66
Expense:	\$44,070.53	Expense:	\$483,870.38
Net Income:	(\$10,039.52)	Net Income:	(\$14,213.72)



Taking Down the Wreaths and Trees January 7th After Worship

**We will be taking down the Christmas trees and wreaths after worship on
Sunday, January 7th.**

**This job will go much faster if we have several people to help. Please consider
staying for a short time after worship on the 7th to pack up and put away our
Christmas decorations! Thank you!**



For the new year the book club is reading and discussing, The Moon is Down by John Steinbeck. The title is inspired by a scene from act 2 of Macbeth. ("The moon is down"...foreshadowing the descent of evil on the kingdom.)

In the summer of 1941, Steinbeck was asked to write a work of propaganda to tell of the plight of the refugees of the war in Europe. He decided to write about the psychological effects of enemy occupation upon the populace of conquered nations. The novel was not well received. The controversy raged on for months. However, the novel had found a receptive audience in Nazi-occupied Europe. In spite of the Nazis' efforts to suppress the novel, hundreds of thousands of copies in seven languages, clandestine editions circulated during the occupation. It was easily the most popular work of propaganda in occupied Western Europe. It is easy to figure out where the story is set, who the enemy is, and who the resistance is. The novel is relatively short, at 110 pages. After 1945, the novel has been published in approximately 28 different languages.

We will be meeting on Wednesday, January 10th at 10-11:30 at Julie Burton's home. If you would like to join us, call Julie at 262-639-5914 for directions.

For our February meeting, we will be discussing The Confession by John Grisham.

THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

January 16th the study of the Gospel Of Mark will meet at the home of Julie Burton from 10:00 to 11:30. The study begins on page 253 with "The Cause Of Failure." What a beginning for the new year! The disciples had failed to heal a young boy who could not hear or speak. Why? "You don't live close enough to God" was the way William Barclay explained it.

After this rebuke, Jesus delivers another difficult message. "The Son of Man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him..." (page 256). Now Jesus had the difficulty of ensuring that his message would spread. The twelve disciples did not understand what Jesus was telling them and were afraid to ask more questions. Instead, they began arguing "who would be the greatest" (page 257). Interestingly, Jesus responded by choosing a little child and pointed out that being close to God means being concerned about poor, ordinary people who are in need (page 260).

Mark 9:38-40 (page 261) is not interesting. The disciples rebuke a man driving out demons using the name of Jesus. But Jesus said, "He who is not against us is for us." Perhaps it reminds us to be more accepting of other styles of proclaiming a faith in Jesus.

Our January study concludes with Mark 9:41-42 (page 265) letting us know that our focus should be on the little, everyday things we can do to help people. Our focus on everyday needs is both meaningful and humbling.

Meet January 16th for the THIRD TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY from 10:00 to 11:30. We'll meet at the home of Julie Burton 136 Steeplechase Drive. Happy New Year!



The poinsettia plants in the sanctuary were given in honor or in memory of the following people:

Given by:

The Johnson family
Linda Jensen
Linda Jensen
Gloria and family
The Barootian family
The Barootian family
The Barootian family
The Sinclair family
The Sinclair family
Tom and Evelyn Lajiness
Carol Riekana
Matthew and Kaytie Wolf
Jill Vander Brug
Jill Vander Brug
Jill Vander Brug
Kathy and the Cuccio family
Kate Potter Barrow
Linda Fox and family
Linda Fox and family
Linda Fox and family
The Veltman and Fergus families
The Leete Family
The Overdier children - Faith,
Carol, Tim, Beth, and Grace
The Jim Theusch Family

In memory of:

Dolly Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey and Jeanette Jensen
Diana Lyn Jensen
Don Dobrowski, whose 85th birthday would have been Nov. 1st
Dawn Barootian
Florence Svendsen
Viggo Svendsen
All of their loved ones
Jim Molbeck and Randy Molbeck
Their loved ones
Her husband, Vernon Riekana
Marion Marek
Cornelius and Mariane Vander Brug
Ray, Jeltje, Peter and Corine Lynn Vander Brug
Achille & Harriet Grenier and Eleanor & Jeffrey Bostetter
Joe Cuccio
Jack Potter
Dick and Effie Reitsma
Art & Evy Fox
David Fox
Jim & Ruth Fergus
Loved ones no longer with us this holiday season

Pastor George & Adeline Overdier.
Raynor and Marion Theusch

continued on page 8.....

Given by:

The Jim Theusch family
Joan Fergus
Joan Fergus
The #Chavezstrong Family
The William Beckett Sr.
Wayne & Linda Holmquist
Leland Holm
Christine Monreal
Lynn and family
Linda Godson
Jo Nissen
Jo Ann Nissen
Stacey & Jim Black
Karen & Bob Larsen
Karen & Bob Larsen
The Neubauer family
The Neubauer family

In memory of:

Edwin and Lois Kalfahs
James & Ruth Fergus
Dolores Fergus
Husband, father and grandpa, Domingo Chavez
Wife, mother, and grandma Josephine Beckett
Edna & Kenneth Sorenson and Ione & Ben Holmquist
Lynne Holm
Her mom and dad
Walter Hermanns
Her grandparents, David & Gertrude Jensen
Wally Nissen
George Nissen and Tim Cagle
Their parents, Bettie, George, and Jim
Bob's parents, Edward and Mary Larsen
Karen's parents, R.J. and Helen Kovac
Karen Neubauer
Lizzie Stimson

Given by:

Gloria Dobrowski
Lori Neu
Matthew and Kaytie Wolf
Jean Veltman
Jean Veltman
Stacey & Jim Black
Stacey & Jim Black
Karen & Bob Larsen

In honor of:

Her children, Sharon, David, Ron and their families
Her family
Their daughter
Jim Veltman
Pat Barlament for leading her wonderful cancer support group
Their sons, Garrett and Mason
The people of Holy Communion
Bob's sister Amy Larsen & in memory of his brother James Larsen



There are still many open dates for altar flowers. No one is signed up for January 28, February 4, 11, 18 and 21, March 10 and 24, April 14, and 30, May 5 and 26, June 9, 16, 23, and 30, July 7, 14, and 21, August 11, 18, and 25, Sept. 29, October 6 and 27, November 3, 10 and 17, and December 8, 15, and 22. There is room for a second vase of flowers most weeks. To sign up, please return the form below to the church office with your check or visit the scrip table on Sunday morning.



The cost of each vase is \$25.00. If you wish you may pick the flowers up after the service. Fill out the form below and note what you wanted printed in the bulletin about who the flowers are in memory/honor of and who they are from. Please list one or two alternate dates in case your preferred date is filled. If your preferred date is filled, the office will let you know which date your flowers will be in church.

Your Name _____ Env. Number _____

Number of vases ordered _____ Total enclosed _____

Given in honor/memory of _____

Given by _____

Preferred Date _____ I will pick up my flowers _____

Alternate Dates _____

Given in honor/memory of _____

Given by _____

Preferred Date _____ I will pick up my flowers _____

Alternate Dates _____

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 by email, office.hclc@gmail.com, or by phone, 262-632-8802.

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2	3	4	5 1:00 Food Pantry	6 <i>Epiphany</i>
7 <i>Setting 4</i> 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:30 Taking Down the Trees and Wreaths 11:00 2nd - 5th Grade Youth	8 1:00 Food Pantry	9 1:00 Quilters Annual Report Deadline	10 10:00 Book Club	11 10:00 Birthday Club 7:00 Senior Choir	12 9:00 Men's Group 1:00 Food Pantry	13
14 <i>We Are Called</i> 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 11:00 6th - 8th Grade Youth 12:00 Confirmation Class	15 ML King Jr. Day Office Closed 1:00 Food Pantry	16 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study	17 February Challice Deadline	18 7:00 Senior Choir	19 1:00 Food Pantry	20
21 <i>Setting 10</i> 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 12:00 Confirmation Class	22 1:00 Food Pantry	23 11:30 Ketchup Club 1:00 Quilters	24	25 7:00 Senior Choir	26 1:00 Food Pantry	27
28 <i>O the Joy</i> 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 12:00 Confirmation Class	29 1:00 Food Pantry	30	31			

Quilting Group

Often, when natural disasters strike or war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion but we don't know how to help. If you've wondered how to volunteer to quilt for charity, look no further. Making Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering.

LWR distributed its first quilts in 1945 to families in war-torn Europe following the Second World War. Within a decade, the ministry was reaching around the globe to villages far removed from the world's attention. Today, an average of 300,000 quilts are lovingly given worldwide each year.

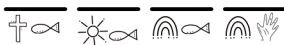
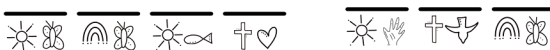
Our quilters will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 . In January they will be meeting on the 9th and 23rd. They would love to have more help and everyone is welcome to join them. You don't have to have any prior quilting experience to help! Call Linda Holmquist, 633-0032, or Evelyn Lajiness, 634-0527, if you have any questions about the group.

Puzzle!

Use the grid to discover what James 5:13-18 advises when challenges loom.

	A	F	L	P	T
	C	H	N	R	W
	E	I	O	S	Y

P



PUZZLE

HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.

JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
7		8	9	10	11	12
glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	a
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
he	again	through	earth	made	while	back
28	29	30	31			
new	if	and	creation			

The second Monday _____

The last Monday _ _

The 16th _ _ _ _ _

One day before the 20th _ _

The day before the first Friday _ _

The last weekday of the second week _ _ _ _ _

The day after the 20th _ _

The day after 18th _ _

The first day of the second weekend _

The last Sunday _ _ _

The last day of the month _ _ _ _ _

Answers: Pray in faith. Pray for each other. Pray earnestly.

Answers: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

December 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.

	January 7 9:30 am	January 14 9:30 am	January 21 9:30 am	January 28 9:30 am
Greeter	Jo Nissen	Kay Krause	Carol Riekana	
Lector	Julie Burtonn	Roger Degermann	Marianne Jensen	Gary Wee
Communion Assistants	Joan Fergus Julie Birton	Sheri Krenzke Gary Wee	Steve Barootian Roger Degermann	Linda Godson Don Lautz
AV Technicians	Lynn Helmke	Kylee Albright	Todd Jansen	Barb Salvo
Coffee Fellowship	Rose Adamski			Shelley Lussmyer
Councilperson In Charge	Andy Larson	Kylee Albright	Laurie Knudson	Rebecca Mason
Ushers	Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, and Gary Wood			
Altar Guild	Joni Reske, Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, and Lori Neu			

Altar Flowers

January 7 - In memory of George Hahner given by Heidi Komistra and Kristin Hahner.

January 14 - In memory of the children who lost their lives due to war and violence.

January 21 - In celebration of their 45th anniversary given by Jim and Joleen Carlson

January 28 -

The Chalice January 2024

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

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 Lisa Lequia, Children's Ministry Director.....sundayschool.hclc@gmail.com
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