

2026 – UVP SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

September is back to school month. For some with lake places it means summer is over, time to get back to work. For the rest of us it begins the “slowish” slide into winter, with the days getting shorter and shorter. I say “slowish” because the older I get the faster summer goes and the longer winter lasts. It’s all about perspective.

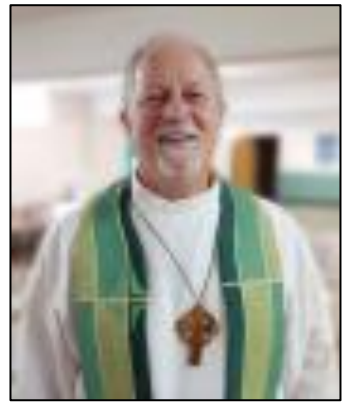
Perspective is a way of looking at something or a point of view. Your perspective can be changed over time because of changing circumstances. When Jessica, our oldest daughter, first went off to school, Juliana began to party on the first day of school with several friends who also had sent their cherubs off to receive an education. [Juliana suggested that I point out it was a “tea party,” to keep her reputation intact, without mentioning that Long Island Iced Teas may have been involved. She’s going to love this article even less than when I use her as a sermon illustration, one of the many hazards of being a “pastor’s wife.”]. But once Jacob, our youngest was enrolled, she started working at school, after which she started to have “tea parties” with the other teachers on the last day of school. Her perspective changed.

Last Friday I had three different people tell me to “have a great weekend.” I just nodded twice, but finally I told the third one that weekends didn’t have the same cachet as when I worked for UPS, when Fridays were the day, you worked all week to get to. Now that I work every weekend, I look forward to whatever day I manage to take off during the week [Juliana will tell you I’m too often *not* successful]. My perspective has changed.

Several pastors try to take Mondays as their Sabbath, or day of rest, but the Synod office, thinking that we have the day free, always seems to schedule Synod meetings on Mondays. Apparently, the Bishop isn’t very good at understanding what Sabbath means either. While I’m whining, I’m going to mention one other pet peeve. Juliana and I often go shopping after getting back to Fargo-Moorhead on Sunday, especially to Aldi’s on our way home. I’m usually wearing a clergy shirt with a white collar. The “holiness police” will frequently stop me to tell me that I shouldn’t be shopping on the Sabbath, completely ignoring the irony that the only reason they are talking to me in Aldi’s, instead of in a church, is that they are breaking the same commandment, a clear case of “do as I say, not as I do.” Usually I ignore them, but occasionally I will point out that Sunday can’t be my Sabbath, because it’s the one day of the week when I absolutely must be at work. People *always* notice if I skip church.

The point I’m slowly trying to get to is that as Christians, our perspective has to change. We need to not only ask “what would Jesus do?” but “what did Jesus do?” Jesus came to welcome *everyone* back into a relationship with our God, and he didn’t pitch stones at others while doing it. “Judgment is mine says the Lord.” He told us yes, the Commandments are still valid, but there is a hierarchy; the most important Commandments are to love our Lord and to love our neighbor, and to do those might require us to go against what society, or our politicians, or the religious authorities tell us constitutes righteous behavior. We can’t claim to be Christians when we drive people away from God with our judgments on their behavior. We can’t claim to love God with our entire being when we refuse to care for all God’s children. We can’t claim to love our neighbor as we love ourselves when we cut funding for supplemental food programs and take away their health care, so we can give massive tax cuts to the already wealthy, who don’t have to worry about where their next meal is coming from, or if they can afford to take medications for chronic conditions, because if they do, they might not be able to feed their children. The “holiness police” need to worry less about the behavior of others and more about their own. And saying that, perhaps I need to take my own advice about judging others. I too remain a sinner in need of God’s grace.

Pastor John



Pastor John Andrews

701-306-2575

218-456-2144

HLC email:

hlp@rvv.net

ILC Office Manage:

Katelynn Eli

Immanuel1@loretel.net

Prayer List:

Lorie Arneson (Vonnice Jacobson’s sister), Ron Berry (Karen Smart’s brother), Elaine Borgen (Brian Borgen’s mother), Terry Guttormson, Westin Hage (son of Dustin and Tasha Hage), Katie Halvorson, Mark Henderson, Marlene Hetland, Alexis Holte, Cole Kaiser (son of Melanie Nelson’s niece), Becky Kolness, Silas Larson-Reinhart, Donna Lee, Allison Lindgren (sister of Darin Johnson), Paul Martinson, Roger Meline, Pastor Myron Nysether, Regan Okroi, Harlan Rise, Helen Rognlie, Greg Strand, Becky Todd, Diane (Penny) Todd, Gloria Uekert (Amy Sweeney’s mom), and Kurt Vandermeer.

We pray for our military:

Colton Armstrong, Steele Armstrong, Dustin Beliles, Riley Culp, Tucker Hansen, Ethan Hellerud, Stephen McCraven, Gabriel Mertz, and Carlos Medina.

BAPTISM ANNOUNCEMENT

Bennett Warner Rademacher, son of Hanna and Brandon Rademacher, was baptized at Halstad on August 16th. His sponsors are Nora and Gabriel Rodriguez.



KID'S CLUB

Don't forget that
Kid's Club is
resuming on
September 16th
from 6 – 7 pm.

Freewill Community Dinner

at Halstad Lutheran Church

Wednesday, September 16,
5-7pm

Menu: hamburgers, hot dogs, chili
dogs, all the fixins' and
fresh cut fries and chips.

Kid's Club

beginning for the season

from 6-7pm



SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun

Mon

Tu

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Don't Forget about the Time Change Augustana is at 9:00 am Halstad is at 9:00 am Immanuel is at 10:30 am		1 9:30am ILC Quilting 12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House	2	3 9-11am Hometown HOPE Food Pantry located at 308 Main St. Hendrum	4	5 9am-2pm Renew Thrift Store Open
6 9:00am ALC Worship with Communion 10:30am ILC Worship ILC Coffee & Fellowship	7 4-6pm Hometown HOPE Food Pantry	8 9:30am ILC Quilting 12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House	9	10 9-11am Hometown HOPE Food Pantry located at 308 Main St. Hendrum	11	12
13 God's Work, Our Hands 9:00am HLC Worship 10:30am ILC Worship ILC Council Meeting Coffee & Fellowship following Worship	14 4-6pm Hometown HOPE Food Pantry	15 9:30am ILC Quilting 12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House 6-7pm Bible Study @ ILC	16 5-7pm Freewill Dinner @ HLC UVP Kids Club @ HLC 1pm ILC WELCA	17 9-11am Hometown HOPE Food Pantry located at 308 Main St. Hendrum	18	19 9am – 2pm Brew & Renew Open
20 9:00am HLC Worship with Communion 9:50am HLC Council Meeting 10:30am ILC Worship with Communion	21 4-6pm Hometown HOPE Food Pantry	22 9:30am ILC Quilting 12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House 6-7pm Bible Study @ ILC	23	24 9-11am Hometown HOPE Food Pantry located at 308 Main St. Hendrum	25	26 10am-12:30pm Mini-Retreat @ ILC – Clarinda will talk about her Trip to Greece and Turkey, along with a talk & study about grace. There will be food.
27 9:00am HLC Worship 10:30am ILC Worship	28 4-6pm Hometown HOPE Food Pantry	29 9:30am ILC Quilting 12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House 6-7pm Bible Study @ ILC	30	Pastor John Andrews (c) 701-306-2575 (o) 218-456-2144 If Interested in Bible Study at ILC, it will be nine-sessions. Books are available any Sunday or call (701) 371-4225 to order one.		



Augustana & Halstad Lutheran Churches Newsletter 2026

HLC Council Meeting Sundays, August 16th, Pending Approval

Council Members present: Darin & Cheryl Johnson, Alli & Chad Tice, Kyle Aasand, Donna Scholl, Pam Vandermeer, and Pastor John

Darin called the meeting to order. Minutes were reviewed.

Deacons: Josh Poehls removed the dirt from the South cemetery. He will also be removing the dirt pile from the North cemetery.

Trustees: The cracked toilet in the women's bathroom was replaced. Pastor stated that the sink was plugged in his office bathroom.

Memorial Secretary: \$220 was donated in July.

Treasurer: incoming amount for the month of July: \$10,313 .
Outgoing: \$8,815.

Pastor: Confirmation will be the second Wednesday in September. Kids' Club will be the third Wednesday, resuming on September 16th. The meal for Kids' Club will be hamburgers and fries.

God's Work Our Hands will be September 13th following services with a pot luck dinner. Pastor said we are in need of baptismal cloths. Will check with the quilters or Shirley Weeding to see if they would make them. Pastor will be gone September 23rd-October 2nd. Sonja will do the service in his absence.

Pastor stated he put up a flyer at all three universities in the Metro area looking for a full time accompanist. No bites so far.

A motion was made by Donna and seconded by Chad to approve the reports as supplied. MC

New and other business:

Tucker and Ivy Christianson will be attending the Metigoshe camp. The total cost is \$835. **Darin, seconded by Donna, made the motion to pay their fees. MC.** Money will be taken out of the Sunday School fund.

Katelyn Eli attended the meeting to ask what her duties will be as the new office secretary. She will be doing the bulletin, newsletter, calendar, prayer list, and previous duties performed by Lydia. Katelyn's email will be put in the bulletin in case she needs to be reached. Her pay will be \$16/hour. Thank you Katelyn for taking on this position.

BBQ dinner for Sugar Fest was discussed. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7:30. Wednesdays Free Will Dinners has an opening for September.

The new time change for services will begin September 6th. HLC services will be at 9:00. The council discussed resuming breakfast again after the time change.

Next council meeting will be September 20th @ 10:00 AM

Cheryl made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alli. MC

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Pam Vandermeer



Note: This is not complete because the newsletter is finished before the end of the month so some expenses are not counted.

Financials for August

Income \$10,313

Expenses \$8,815



Immanuel Lutheran News & Views

*We are a congregation
strengthened by God's Word,
Reaching out to all people
with Christ's love.*

321 Main Street
P.O. Box 130
Hendrum, MN 56550

Church: 218-861-6218
Food Shelf: 218-861-5700

ELEVATOR AVAILABLE



You can contact
Pastor John Andrews

Email: jtjmandrews1976@gmail.com
Phone: 701-306-2575

SEPTEMBER FAITH, CARE AND SHARE

Pam Hedrich (Team Leader)
Brian and Debby Borgen
Cindy and Dean Todd

FLOWER AND ALTAR GUILD

Debby Borgen and Becky Harrington

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Diane Nelson and Pam Hedrich

IMMANUEL CHURCH COUNCIL		
PRESIDENT	Faye DeLong	218-456-2640
V. PRESIDENT	Mike Smart	218-861-6420
TREASURER	Tod Harrington	701-860-6280
SECRETARY	Becky Harrington	701-860-6280
DEACON	Amy Sweeney	919-770-6812
BOARD OF ED.	Bonnie Scholl	701-860-6470
TRUSTEE	Del Schnabel	218-861-6284

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The week of August 10th - 13th a total of 33 children participated in Vacation Bible School.

Rain Forest Falls was this year's theme and walked the children through one attribute of God each day, rainforest through a Bible Buddy, a primary Bible story, a key Bible verse from Psalms and an action song. They learned God is our creator, he is all knowing, he is our safe place (refuge) and above all he is love.

A special thank you to those who volunteered as teachers, crew leaders, helpers and with preparation.

Seeds of faith are planted because you are willing to serve.



The main Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) nationwide event for September 2026 is "**God's work. Our hands.**" **Sunday on September 13, 2026.** This annual day of service features congregations across the country engaging in hands-on local community volunteer projects and worship.

"WINGS AND STRINGS"

Kristi Beyl from Hometown Hope sponsored "Wings and Strings" Kite Show on August 15th at Immanuel and the park next to the school. Kids were able to assemble their own kites.

Hometown Hope's mission is to increase access to healthy food, support local farmers, and build a stronger, more connected rural community through service, education, and shared resources.



Labor Day is a federal holiday celebrated to honor the American labor movement and the contributions of workers.

Patriot Day is observed annually in the United States to remember the nearly 3,000 victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks



National Grandparents Day to honor grandparents and older adults.



Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is observed in the United States every year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787



The first day of fall in 2026 for the Northern Hemisphere is Tuesday, September 22, at 8:04 P.M. EDT (7:04 P.M. in North Dakota)

