

March Newsletter

March can be the cruelest of months. After struggling through what often feels like six months of winter, the sun finally starts to gain strength, the days lengthen, and we begin to hope that spring will arrive again this year. And then we get a blizzard; often a whopper of a blizzard. When I think back on the most memorable winters I've experienced, surprisingly it isn't the beautiful ones I remember. It's the never-ending winters filled with snowfall after snowfall, all topped off by a March blizzard of epic proportions. Those winters live on in infamy (or at least in my feeble mind).

So far, this winter will fade into my memory without leaving a mark. Sure we've enjoyed what may be the warmest winter on record, but how can you complain about that? And what have we to talk about, if we can't complain about the snow and ice, the huge snow banks, the unbearable cold, our cars not starting and, of course, those monstrous heating bills.

So maybe March will rescue us from a mediocre winter, but I hope not. You see, despite having so little to talk (complain?) about, I have definitely enjoyed our un-winter-like winter. My snow shovel actually has rust on it! I would be delighted if March becomes spring-like, especially after last year, when we jumped from "third winter" directly to summer. It would be enchanting to have April showers that actually lead to May flowers, but I would be even more delectable if March showers lead to April flowers, and May begins six months of summer weather (but not too hot, or I'll be whining again)! I'm already longing for the first

"real" tomato of 2024.

However the weather of March turns out, we know we have a brighter future ahead, especially this year when March ends on Easter Sunday. Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! God has guaranteed us a brighter future, in this life and the next. So while we complain about not having much to complain about, we have to remember all that we have to be grateful for. Recall what Job said after losing his family and all his possessions: "the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" Job 1:20. Job didn't deserve his punishment and we don't deserve our reward, but in God's grace, we are, despite the trials of this life, freely given what we cannot earn: eternal life with our Lord and Savior. Christ Is Risen!...



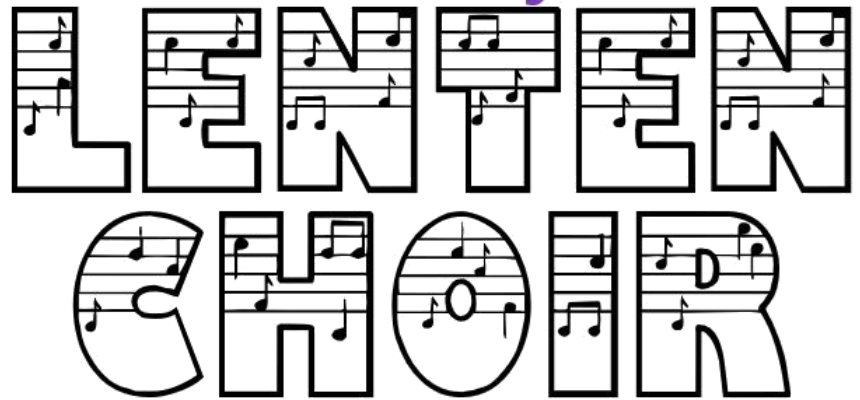
Pastor John Andrews
701-306-2575
218-456-2144

HLC Office Manager:

hlp@rrv.net

ILC Office Manager:
Diann Prussia
immanuel1@loretel.net

United Valley Parish



Two Rehearsals at 6:00pm
February 28th & March 6th

Performance at 7:00pm
March 6th Lenten Service

Prayer List

Juliana Andrews
Ron Berry (Karen Smart's brother)
Elaine Borggen (Brian Borggen's mother)
Anne Ebertowski
Jonathan Grothe
Terry Guttormson
Westin Hage (son of Dustin and Tasha Hage)
Katie Halvorson
Darlene Hauge
Marlene Hetland
Tom Hinkley (son of Janice Hinkley)
Tracy Holte
Stephanie Johnson
Yvonne Johnson

Cole Kaiser (son of Melanie Nelson's niece)
Sam Larson
Allison Lindgren (sister of Darin Johnson)
Mandi Lindgren
Lorie Merkle
Pastor Myron Nysether
Ron Ohren
Regan Okroi
Harlan Rise
Helen Rognlie
Tom Socha
Dick Storsved
Ray Sweeney
Diane (Penny) Todd

Jacquelyn Todd
Duane Trandem
Gloria Uekert (Amy Sweeney's mother)
Military Service of:
Colton Armstrong
Steele Armstrong
Dustin Beliles
Riley Culp
Stefan Horn
Stephen McCraven
Carlos Medina
Isaac Spaeth
Gabriel Mertz
Tucker Hansen

March 2024

Sun

Mon


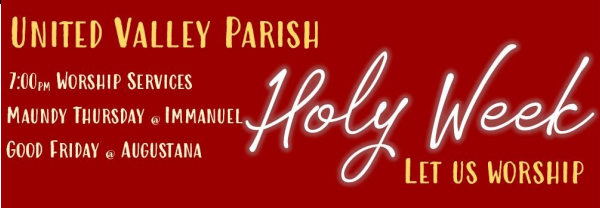

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

 <p>UNITED VALLEY PARISH 6:00PM SOUP & SANDWICHES 7:00PM WORSHIP SERVICE HALSTAD LUTHERAN CHURCH WEDNESDAY SERVICES <i>Lenten</i> THE BOOK OF JOB</p>		 <p>UNITED VALLEY PARISH 7:00PM WORSHIP SERVICES MAUNDY THURSDAY @ IMMANUEL GOOD FRIDAY @ AUGUSTANA <i>Holy Week</i> LET US WORSHIP</p>			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>9am ALC with Communion 9:00am ILC Worship 9:45am ILC Coffee & Fellowship</p>	<p>9am ILC Quilters 12:30pm HLC Quilters</p>	<p>6pm BSF - Women's Bible Study at HLC</p>	<p>6pm Soup & Sandwich at HLC 6pm Lenten Choir practice at HLC 7pm Lenten Service at HLC Lenten Choir perform</p>	<p>9:30am-4pm Hendrum Food Pantry at Hendrum Professional Building 218-861-5700</p>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Daylight Savings Begins 9am ILC Worship Council Installation 9:45am ILC Coffee & Fellowship ILC Council Meeting 10am HLC Coffee & Fellowship 10:30am HLC Worship</p>	<p>9am ILC Quilters 12:30pm HLC Quilters</p>		<p>6pm Soup & Sandwich at HLC 7pm Lenten Service at HLC</p>	<p>9:30am-4pm Hendrum Food Pantry</p>		<p>9am-2pm Brew & Renew Open</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>9am ILC Worship with Communion 9:45am ILC Coffee & Fellowship 10am HLC Breakfast by council 10:30am HLC Worship 11:30am HLC Council Meeting</p>	<p>9am ILC Quilters 12:30pm HLC Quilters</p>	<p>6pm BSF - Women's Bible Study at HLC</p>	<p>1:30pm ILC WELCA 5-7pm HLC Community Supper - Annual Soup Kitchen hosted by Holy Family, ALC, HLC, ILC 5:30-6:30 Community Kids Club at HLC during dinner 7pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>9:30am-4pm Hendrum Food Pantry</p>		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>9am ILC Worship 10:00 ILC Annual Meeting 10am HLC Coffee & Fellowship 10:30am HLC Worship</p>	<p>9am ILC Quilters 12:30pm HLC Quilters</p>	<p>6pm BSF - Women's Bible Study at HLC</p>		<p>9:30am-4pm Hendrum Food Pantry 7pm Maundy Thursday Service at Immanuel</p>	<p>7pm Good Friday Service at ALC</p>	
31	 <p>UNITED VALLEY PARISH 7:30AM AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN 9:00AM IMMANUEL LUTHERAN 10:30AM HALSTAD LUTHERAN SUNDAY SERVICES <i>Easter</i> HE HAS RISEN!</p>			<p>Pastor John Andrews (c) 701-306-2575 (o) 218-456-2144 Online Calendar www.uvparish.org/calendar</p>		

March 2024

Augustana & Halstad Lutheran Churches Newsletter

Halstad Lutheran Church Council Meeting in February was Postponed

HLC 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2023 HLC Annual Meeting was called to order by President Jon Hellerud on February 11 with twenty in attendance: Pastor John Andrews, Juliana Andrews, Cheryl Johnson, Darin Johnson, Barbara Wagar, Geri Viker, Veronica Dye, Sharon Fealy, Lori DeLong, Philip Dowdell, Jon Hellerud, Alli Tice, Chad Tice, Melanie Nelson, Stacey Hellerud, Vonnie Jacobson, Wallace Jacobson, Jackie Hellerud, Beverly Deitz, and JoAnne Mauritson.

A motion was made to suspend the rules of a quorum by Darin and seconded by Melanie.

Reports were reviewed:

Motion by Cheryl, second by Alli to accept the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes as printed. MC

The roof loan is on the descent. \$18,000 was paid along with the monthly \$1,000 payment for a total of \$30,000 paid in 2023. The amount still owed on the loan is \$34,000.

Trustees will be doing upgrades to the heating system. The twenty-year-old system is failing.

The Audit of all reports has been completed by Ron Gotteberg and Stacey Hellerud.

A motion was made by Jackie and seconded by Wally to accept all reports as printed. MC

A continuing resolution was brought up for a vote to allow Cheryl Johnson to do both Treasury and Financial Secretary positions. A motion was made to approve the continuing resolution by Melanie and seconded by Jackie. MC

The Brew & Renew Thrift Store and fundraising activities were reviewed for 2023. Over \$15,000 was raised through these two ventures. A huge thank you to Pam and Kurt Vandermeer for their countless hours put into the thrift store. Popularity is growing and it helps us sustain our congregation.



I know that my Redeemer lives!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, He lives, who once was dead: He lives, my ever living Head! He lives to bless me with his love: He lives to plead for me above: He lives my hungry soul to feed: He lives to help in time of need. He lives to grant me rich supply: He lives to guide me with his eye: he lives to comfort me when faint: He lives to hear my soul's complaint. He lives to silence all my fears: He lives to wipe away my tears: He lives to calm my troubled heart: He lives all blessings to impart. He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend: He lives and loves me to the end: He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing: He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King! He lives and grants me daily breath: He lives, and I shall conquer death: He lives my mansion to prepare: He lives to bring me safely there. He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my savior, still the same: Oh, sweet the joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!



POINTS OF INTEREST -

ALC/HLC/ILC calendar is online at uvparish.org/calendar

- HLC Roof Fundraiser (\$34,000 remaining)
- Bible Studies at HLC on Tuesdays; ILC Tuesday Bible Study done until April 2.
- Sunday, March 10, Council Installation
- Wednesday, March 20, 11am-1pm Soup Kitchen at Holy Family
- Wednesday, March 20, 5-7pm Community Dinner at HLC - Annual Soup Kitchen sponsored by Holy Family, ALC, HLC & ILC - Kid's Club during dinner
- Wednesdays, 7pm Lenten Worship at HLC
- March 17- 10am HLC Breakfast hosted by council
- March 17 - 11:30am HLC council meeting
- March 28 — 7pm Maundy Thursday Service at ILC
- March 29—7pm Good Friday Service at ALC
- March 31—HAPPY EASTER
 - 7:30AM ALC SERVICE
 - 9:00AM ILC SERVICE
 - 10:30AM HLC SERVICE
- Brew & Renew open 1st & 3rd Saturdays 9am-2pm
- March Birthdays
- March Faith, Care & Share: Dave & Lori Rufsvold, Mickey & Mariah Matti family, Darin & Cheryl Johnson
- March ALC Spic 'N Span: Stacy Christianson
- March Winter Care: Everyone

Continued on next page...

The proposed 2024 Budget was reviewed. No large changes were seen. We are still looking for a church office manager. We may be looking into filling this position as a UVP office manager to handle all three churches. Motion made by Chad, seconded by Melanie to approve the 2023 Proposed Budget. MC

The slate of officers for 2024 was presented. We are still in search of a Vice President and an education committee member. Darin nominated Jon Hellerud to fill the VP position which was seconded by Alli. No education member could be found. Discussions were made.


Jackie made a motion to accept the 2024 Slate of Officers as presented, Geri seconded. MC

There being no further business, Melanie moved, and Darin seconded to adjourn. MC

Pastor John closed with prayer.

Cheryl Johnson
HLC Treasurer

KIDS CLUB



WHO: 4 YR OLD - 6TH GRADE

WHAT: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WHERE KIDS WILL LEARN ABOUT *Jesus's love and God's saving grace.*

WHEN: THIRD WEDNESDAYS FROM 5:30PM - 6:30PM
(DURING THE COMMUNITY MEAL)

WHERE: HALSTAD LUTHERAN CHURCH
304 5TH ST E, HALSTAD MN

SPONSORED BY: UNITED VALLEY PARISH

Next Session:
Wednesday, March 20th

**GOD IS STRONGER
THAN ANYTHING**

FREEWILL COMMUNITY SUPPER Lenten Soup Kitchen

Wednesday, March 20 ~ 5-7pm

Halstad Lutheran Church
soups, breads and dessert

- Monetary or canned goods or
- non-perishable food items for
- the Food Bank



**HOSTED BY HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH &
AUGUSTANA, HALSTAD, IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

Proceeds go to the Hendrum Food Bank and North Country Food Bank



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: revjohn52@yahoo.com
Phone: 701-306-2575

MARCH FAITH CARE AND SHARE

Tod & Becky Harrington (Team Leaders)
John Kolness & Netta
Becky Kolness

FLOWER AND ALTAR GUILD

Debby Borgen and Becky Harrington

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Faye DeLong and Pam Hedrich

IMMANUEL CHURCH COUNCIL		
PRESIDENT	Faye DeLong	218-456-2640
V. PRESIDENT	Del Schnabel	218-861-6284
TREASURER	Tod Harrington	701-860-6280
SECRETARY	Cindy Todd	701-861-6363
DEACON	Amy Sweeney	919-770-6812
BOARD OF ED.	Bonnie Scholl	701-860-6470
TRUSTEE	Mike Smart	218-861-6420

Immanuel Lutheran Church Council February 11, 2024

Present:: Mike Smart, Del Schnabel, Faye DeLong, Cindy Todd, Bonnie Scholl, Pastor John Andrews, Amy Sweeney

Absent: Todd Harrington

President Faye DeLong called the ILC Council Meeting to order @ 9:51 am.

Pastor's report: Pr John vacation, pulpit supply needed for February 25th as well as 2 weeks end of May 2024 for family event. Lenten services will begin on Ash Wednesday in Halstad with light supper before worship. ILC WELCA will provide supper March 13, as will ILC Council March 20.

President's report: Synod delegates are still needed; 1 male & 1 female. Decision for council to meet 2nd Sunday, each month, following worship for 2024. Faye asked Council members to think of some goals for 2024. Brief discussion of ideas: More outreach to community; join in community opportunities/events, Christian education opportunities for children.

Secretary's report: minutes from January 16, 2024 meeting

Treasurer's report. January income \$5,176.94; January expenses \$6,373.76; net -\$1,196.82; General Fund Balance: -\$1,769.63

Deacon's report: Amy will cover February pulpit supply.

Trustees: Mike will contact Peter Jacobson Construction to get bathroom project schedule. Discussion about furnace duct cleaning, which may/may not be necessary. Mike will call to get bids.

Motion to approve board reports as submitted by Mike, seconded by Amy.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:35am and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting March 10, 2024 after worship.
Respectfully submitted:
Cindy Todd

**Immanuel Church Council Meeting,
Sunday, March 10 following worship.**

WELCA Meeting: March 20, 1:30 PM.

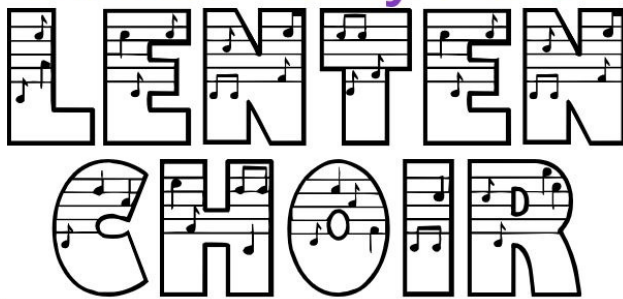
**IMMANUEL'S HANDICAPPED
RESTROOM CONTRIBUTIONS**

GOAL: \$20,000.00

Have Reached: \$14,180.00

Need: \$ 5,820.00

United Valley Parish



Two Rehearsals at 6:00pm
February 28th & March 6th

Performance at 7:00pm
March 6th Lenten Service

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT IMMANUEL

Immanuel Women's Bible Study meets again April 2nd from 6-7 pm. We will meet for all 5 Tuesdays in April and end the last lesson on Tuesday, April 30.

UNITED VALLEY PARISH
 6:00^{PM} SOUP & SANDWICHES
 7:00^{PM} WORSHIP SERVICE
 HALSTAD LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY SERVICES
Lenten
 THE BOOK OF JOB

UNITED VALLEY PARISH
 7:00^{PM} WORSHIP SERVICES
 MAUNDY THURSDAY @ IMMANUEL
 GOOD FRIDAY @ AUGUSTANA

Holy Week
 LET US WORSHIP



Lenten Services

At Halstad Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 6,
7 pm Worship

Wednesday, March 13,
7pm Worship

Wednesday, March 20,
7pm Worship

**Bring Your Easter Lily to
Immanuel March 30.**



**Worship at
Immanuel,
Sunday,
March 31,
9 AM**

TENTATIVE Pancake Breakfast @ Immanuel,

Saturday, March 23rd, 8-10 am .

Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Skit.