

# Augustana/Halstad/Immanuel - United Valley Parish 2026 - UVP February Newsletter

**Matthew 5:21-26:** <sup>21</sup> “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup> But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup> So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

In Jesus’ first sermon in Matthew, his Sermon on the Mount, one of the first topics he tackles is anger and what to do with it. Before talking about prayer, or marriage, or the worries of this life, he teaches about anger, including linking it to murder. He says that being angry with someone is as bad as killing them? Jesus says both the act, and the thought, are liable to judgment. Anyone else feeling uncomfortable?

This is the first of six antitheses of behavior that Jesus demands of his disciples. Each begins with a command or ordinance introduced by “You have heard it was said...” followed by Jesus’ teaching on that statute, augmenting or deepening its meaning.

This isn’t the last time Jesus encourages his disciples to exercise control over their thoughts and feelings, because given time, negative inner emotions can often percolate and eventually have destructive ramifications for us.

But how do we deal with something as insidious as anger. Someone cuts you off in traffic and

Continued on next page...



## United Valley Parish Lenten Services

Begins Ash Wednesday, February 18

**Ash Wednesday, February 18, 5-7pm,  
Soup Kitchen Freewill Community Dinner  
at HLC. Please bring canned goods and/  
or monetary donations for our local food  
pantries.**

**Lenten services will be held Wednes-  
days, 7:00pm at Halstad Lutheran with  
Soup & Sandwiches beginning at 6:00pm**

### Holy Week:

**March 29, Palm Sunday,** 9am service at Immanuel Lutheran; 10:30am service at Halstad Lutheran

**April 2, Maundy Thursday,** 7pm service at Immanuel Lutheran

**April 3, Good Friday,** 7pm service at Augustana Lutheran

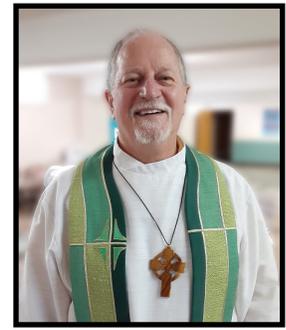
### Easter Sunday, April 5:

7:00am Augustana Lutheran

9:00am Immanuel Lutheran

10:30am Halstad Lutheran

**\* No Confirmation Classes During Lent**  
**\* All Confirmation students are  
EXPECTED TO ATTEND the six Lenten  
worship services**



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

**HLC Office Manager:**  
hlp@rrv.net

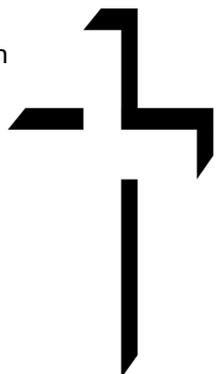
**ILC Office Manager:**  
Diann Prussia  
immanuel1@loretel.net

## Prayer List

Lorie Arneson (Vonnie Jacobson's sister)  
Ron Berry (Karen Smart's brother)  
Elaine Borgen (Brian Borgen's mother)  
Jonathan Grothe  
Terry Guttormson  
Westin Hage (son of Dustin and Tasha Hage)  
Katie Halvorson  
Marlene Hetland  
Tom Hinkley (son of Janice Hinkley)  
Cole Kaiser (son of Melanie Nelson's niece)  
Becky Kolness  
Allison Lindgren (sister of Darin Johnson)  
Paul Martinson  
Pastor Myron Nysether  
Regan Okroi  
Harlan Rise  
Helen Rognlie  
Becky Todd  
Diane (Penny) Todd  
Marijo Vik  
Netta Wenshau

### **Military Service of:**

Colton Armstrong  
Steele Armstrong  
Dustin Beliles  
Riley Culp  
Ethan Hellerud  
Stephen McCraven  
Carlos Medina  
Isaac Spaeth  
Gabriel Mertz  
Tucker Hansen



rage jumps in. Someone insults your politics and rancor surges. Someone says something you know not to be true and your passion is inflamed. The closer the topic is to your heart, the more indignant you become. We are a tightly wound nation these days. If people were judged on thoughts alone, we would all be behind bars. How can Jesus hold us accountable for something as natural as anger?

The Bible doesn't condemn all types of anger. Righteous anger is often a prelude to biblical justice. Jesus himself knocked over tables, scattered wares, and drove the money changers out of the temple. The prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah railed against the religious leaders of their day because the poor were being neglected, while God's command to care for widows, orphans and aliens fell on deaf ears. God doesn't expect us to passively swallow injustice. We are commanded to combat it.

But most of our anger isn't aimed at religious tyrants or political leaders, but rather at people we know well—family members, friends, people at work, school or

church. People we live with everyday can sometimes infuriate us. But the Bible doesn't condemn this type of anger either. Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:26 "Be angry, but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger." In other words: you're going to get mad, but we must find ways to get over it. If we continue to carry it, it can become a burden that will eventually affect our health and well-being.

Festering anger is a different story. The rage, and even hatred, that can last days, months and years is the type Jesus equates with murder; the type we nurse, or even enjoy. That type of anger can become a jail. You have to let it go in order to get out of it. In Matthew 5:43-45 Jesus orders his disciples to pray for their enemies, I believe not for their benefit, but for ours. Anger may be eternally dangerous but its day-to-day effects will harm us in so many ways before we reach judgment day.

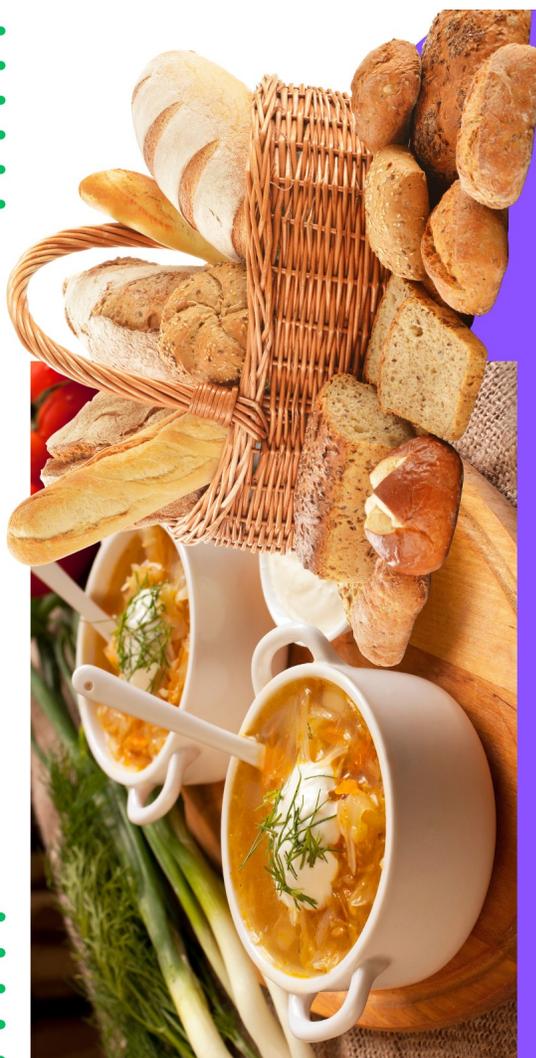
While you are praying for your enemies, also pray for yourself, that your emotions don't rule your life. That's Jesus' job.

# **FREEWILL COMMUNITY SUPPER** **@Halstad Lutheran Church**

# **Lenten Soup Kitchen**

## **Wednesday, February 18** **5-7pm**

- .....➔ 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

# February 2026

Sun

Mon

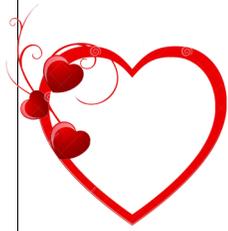
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>9am ALC with Communion  <b>ALC Annual Meeting Following Worship</b>                      9am ILC Worship                      9:45am ILC Coffee &amp; Fellowship</p>	<p>9:30am ILC Quilting                      12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House                      6pm BSF at HLC</p>			<p>9:30am-4pm                      Hendrum Food                      Pantry at Hendrum Professional Building</p>		<p>9am-2pm Renew                      Thrift Store Open</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9am ILC Service                      9:45 am ILC Council meeting                      9:45am ILC Coffee &amp; Fellowship                      10:30am HLC Worship                      Coffee &amp; Fellowship 10am  <b>HLC Annual Meeting Following Worship</b>                      Potluck to follow</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30am ILC Quilting                      12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House                      6pm BSF at HLC</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am-4pm                      Hendrum Food                      Pantry at Hendrum Professional Building</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>9am ILC Service with Communion                      9:45am ILC Coffee &amp; Fellowship with Communion                      10:30am HLC Worship with Communion                      Coffee and Fellowship 10am                      11:15 HLC Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30am ILC Quilting                      12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House                      6pm BSF at HLC</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1:30pm ILC WELCA  <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                      5-7pm Soup Kitchen                      Community Dinner at HLC                      7pm UVP Ash                      Wednesday Service at HLC</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am-4pm                      Hendrum Food                      Pantry at Hendrum Professional Building</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9am-2pm Renew                      Thrift Store Open</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am ILC Service                      9:45am ILC Coffee &amp; Fellowship with Communion                      10:30am HLC Worship                      Coffee &amp; Fellowship 10am</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am ILC Quilting                      12:30pm HLC Quilting at Heritage House                      6pm BSF at HLC</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lenten Worship at Halstad                      6-7pm Soup &amp; Sandwich                      7pm UVP Service at HLC</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am-4pm                      Hendrum Food                      Pantry at Hendrum Professional Building</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>

Pastor John Andrews  
**(c) 701-306-2575**  
**(o) 218-456-2144**



Online Calendar  
[www.uvparish.org/calendar](http://www.uvparish.org/calendar)

# February

## Augustana & Halstad Lutheran Churches Newsletter 2026

### Halstad Lutheran Church Council Meeting Sunday, February 11, 2026

#### Pending Approval

President Donna Scholl called the meeting to order following church services.

**Present:** Cheryl & Darin Johnson, Pam Vandermeer, Chad & Alli Tice, Donna Scholl, Jackie Hellerud, Pastor John

**Trustee:** Heat is now in the kitchen.

**Board of Ed:** None existent, but discussed whether it should be revived in the future.

**Memorial Secretary:** Balance of \$12,500 in the account.

**Treasurer/Financial Secretary:** Purchased baptism candles. Sonia Meline is not wanting to be paid for playing in church. She stated that that is her offering to the church. Thank you, Sonia.

**Pastor:** There are 3 confirmands. Attendance is up in the church.

**A motion was made by Darin and seconded by Chad to approve the reports as supplied.**

**New & Other Business:** Council breakfast will be discontinued for now and revisited in the spring.

Kim and Lori will talk to someone at the school about The Giving Tree.

The meal was discussed for the dumpling dinner fundraiser. Same as last year. Dessert will be strawberry jello cake. We will again have deliveries. Darin will call Dean about making the dumplings.

Previous insurance was cancelled as of October 23rd.

Church decorating for the holidays will be November 23rd.

Halstad Lutheran Church will have the community dinner on December 17th.

The church doors have not been opened a few times for Sunday morning services, so Cheryl will speak to Jeff about that.

The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer.

Next council meeting will be held December 14th after church.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Vandermeer



### Sunday, February 8, 11:15 am POTLUCK TO FOLLOW

We need the congregation to come and let your voices be heard at this annual meeting. As you can see, we have the president, treasurer, audit committee and synod delegates to fill. Join us and have some great Norwegian Potluck after.

President:	_____	1st of 2-yr limit
Vice President:	Donna Scholl	Yearly (no limit)
Secretary:	Pam Vandermeer	Yearly (no limit)
Treasurer:	_____	Yearly (no limit)
Financial Secretary:	Cheryl Johnson	Yearly (no limit)
Memorial Secretary:	Alli Tice	Yearly (no limit)
Board of Deacons (resolution):	Chad Tice	Yearly (no limit)
Board of Trustees (resolution):	Darin Johnson	Yearly (no limit)
Audit Committee:	_____	
Nominating Committee	Halstad Council	Yearly (no limit)
Synod Delegates (1 female; 1 male):	_____	
Cemetery Committee:	Randy Paulsrud; Chad Tice; Gaylord Christianson	
Grounds Committee:	Pam Vandermeer	
Custodian/Janitor:	Jeff Schmidt	
Organist/Pianist	_____	



## 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

### FEBRUARY FAITH, CARE AND SHARE

Rick & Diann Prussia (Team Leader)  
Steve & Christy Jacobson  
Diane Nelson

### FLOWER AND ALTAR GUILD

Debby Borgen and Becky Harrington

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

Diane Nelson and Pam Hedrich

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

## Immanuel Lutheran Church Council January 11, 2026

**Present:** Faye DeLong, Bonnie Scholl, Amy Sweeney, Tod Harrington, Becky Harrington, Del Schnabel, Pastor John Andrews, Mike Smart

**Absent:** None

Faye called the meeting to order at 9:55 am on January 11, 2026.

### Report Highlights:

- Pastor: Lenten services will be at Halstad Lutheran, Maundy Thursday at Immanuel, Good Friday at Augustana; Easter Sunday services will be 7:30 am at Augustana, 9 am Immanuel, 10:30 am Halstad.
- Secretary: Minutes from December 14, 2025 meeting.
- Treasurer: December income for ministry: \$7,797.72; expenses for ministry: \$6,128.59, net \$1,669.13, general fund \$9,033.90.
- Deacon: \$1,104.52 sent to National Child Safety Council through the Norman County Sheriff's Department for the 2025 Mission of the Year. 2026 MOTY will be The Gideons International. Will get a worship leader for the first Sunday in February.
- Trustee: Purchased another carton of LED bulbs and will replace office lights.
- Board of Education: Kids Club is held the third Wednesday each month, 6-7 pm at Halstad Lutheran in conjunction with the community meal. An adult Bible Study is being planned for Wednesdays.
- President: Annual reports are due January 12.

Motion by Bonnie, seconded by Del, to approve the reports. Motion carried.

## February 14th

### Unfinished Business:

- Immanuel's annual meeting is January 25, 2026, after worship with a potluck to follow. The nominating committee has been reaching out to possible candidates. Faye will set up a link to join via distance if a member is not able to join in person.

### New Business:

- Diann Prussia resigned as church secretary. We give thanks to God for Diann's faithful service! Motion by Becky, seconded by Del, to seek to hire a church secretary to collect/distribute the mail, bulletins, newsletter, keep congregational/pastoral records. Motion passed. Faye will develop a job description and publicize. Diann had also handled trustee/financial secretary tasks (count, record, and deposit offering and run statements). It was suggested a financial committee be put in place; this will be brought to the annual meeting.

Next council meeting is February 8 following worship.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m., and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Harrington

The HENDRUM FOOD PANTRY has changed ownership and extended the hours for food pickup. The Food Pantry is located at 308 Main St., Hendrum MN. Hours for the Hometown HOPE Food Pantry hours are: Mondays, 4-6 pm; Thursdays, 9am - 1pm. No appointments needed.



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18 and ends April 2nd. It lasts six weeks before Easter. Lent is the religious period of fasting and repentance for Christians.

Lenten services will be at Halstad Lutheran, Maundy Thursday at Immanuel, Good Friday at Augustana;

Easter Sunday services will be 7:30 am at Augustana, 9 am Immanuel, and 10:30 am Halstad.

