

# Big Canoe & Highland Lutheran Churches

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## NEWSLETTER

### JUNE WORSHIP TIMES

Highland 10:00 a.m.

***Big Canoe's quilting group has been busy.*** On May 9th we packed a vehicle full of Quilts, sewing supplies (fabric & thread), some clothing items, cleaning supplies and a COFFEE POT. Off we went to visit the Pine Ridge Reservation near the Badlands National Park in South Dakota. We were able to deliver 16 quilts - 10 full size and 6 smaller ones - to a Women's Shelter and 10 more to a Local Trading Post on the Reservation. The individuals we connected with were so very appreciative, and we look forward to an ongoing relationship with them. Many thanks to all who helped make the project successful! Emma & Dee

**CEMETARY:** Work has started in the cemetery on fixing some gravestones. If anyone is interested in donating to fix more, please let Carey or Tammy Nordheim know.

Just a reminder if you would like to purchase a spot in the cemetery members are \$350 a person and non-members are \$700.

***THANK YOU!!!*** to The Juve family for their generous donation in memory of Hattie & Raymond Juve. A BIG THANK YOU to the crew that put the church yard back in shape, to Jamie and Robert Anderson for the dump truck loads of topsoil, to Gary Stortz for donating the grass seed, to Steve Emery, Bob Thomas, and Bob Maroshek for the 11 hours of physical labor. We truly appreciate the care you all give to the Big Canoe Church.

### Hannah Circle meeting

Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>  
1:30 p.m.  
Big Canoe

### Highland WELCA meeting

June 11th  
after service.

**Big Canoe Council Meeting  
May 7, 2023**

The Big Canoe Church Council met for its regular monthly meeting after services on May 7, 2023. Members present were: Brian Bigler, Pat O'Regan, Shelly Bigler, Kathryn Thompson, Steve Emery, Treasurer Laurie Emery and Rita Thomas.

Brian opened the meeting with prayer.

The Secretary's minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$3,238.89. The Easter breakfast and pie auction brought in \$2,444.53. This money will be split three ways. Brenda Falk, the tuckpointing fund and the Luther League will each receive one third. The Treasurer's report was accepted and placed on file.

The Treasurer reported that it has become increasingly hard to make ends meet each month due to a drop in giving and attendance. Summers are always hard on both for a variety of reasons. Pat motioned and Shelly seconded that there be a notice inserted in the newsletter and that Pastor announce each Sunday that we all remember that the church does not run on air. If you can't make it to church and still would like to contribute you can either drop a donation at church during the week or mail a donation to: Big Canoe Lutheran Church, 1381 Big Canoe Rd., Decorah, Iowa 52101. Thank you.

Steve announced that work on the church and parsonage grounds, to fill in the machine tracks left after the roofing work, will begin on Tuesday, May 9, weather permitting. Robert Anderson will be dumping the dirt in the parking lot and Bob Thomas will transport and level where needed. Grass seed, provided by Gary Stortz, will be added and covered by straw, provided by Bob Thomas.

The tuckpointing job was discussed. Since most of the contractors have already lined up their schedules for the summer and fall and we have yet to have bids submitted, the council decided that we would have someone in to check out where tuckpointing is most needed and then seek bids. We can then accept a bid and line up the work to be done next season.

The rental agreement for the parsonage is coming due in the next few weeks Pat reported. The council saw no reason to terminate the agreement and it was decided that Pat would speak to the renters about another year's lease or a month-to-month agreement.

Citing no other business Rita motioned and Kathryn seconded that we adjourn the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Rita Thomas

**Highland Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
April 16, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The April 16, 2023 meeting of the Highland Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Steve Langland at 8:30 a.m. at the Highland Lutheran Church basement. Council members in attendance: President Steve Langland, Vice President Mark Sollien, Secretary Darlene Sollien, Anna Jetson council member and Treasurer, and council members Virginia Karlsbrotten, Karen Erickson and Al Erickson. President Steven Langland opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

**Secretary's Report**

Motion by Darlene Sollien and seconded by Karen Erickson to dispense with reading aloud the minutes of the last meeting and approve. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Financial Report**

Anna Jetson provided printed and verbal materials for the monthly/quarterly reports. Balances as of April 2, 2023 were:

- Current                      \$20352.21
- Benevolence                \$440.00
- Anniversary Fund        \$375.10
- Improvement Fund        \$72,921.05
- Scholarship Fund         \$5895.38

Anna noted that she has paid some Benevolence and we are looking OK there. No other issues or concerns at this time.

Motion by Virginia Karlsbrotten and seconded by Al Erickson to approve the March 2023 financial report subject to audit. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Motion by Virginia Karlsbrotten and seconded by Mark Sollien to approve the first quarter report to be presented to the congregation. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Pastor's Report**

Pastor Gies is on vacation and therefore we have no report.

**Old Business**

1. Retaining Wall and plants by back door: Steve Langland reported that Sawyer Wiese can take out the retaining wall. After a brief discussion it was decided that we will look at the plants and determine what is worth saving. Motion by Virginia Karlsbrotten and seconded by Karen Erickson to move forward and approve the project plans, removing and replanting what we can. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
2. Camera/Sound System for live streaming of services: Steven Langland reports that Dan Dutka was talked about putting in a camera for livestreaming right above the entrance door that can be controlled remotely. Dan has indicated that this would not be a huge expense. We would need to have an internet connection. Karen Erickson suggested that we get a donation from the Depot. Motion by Anna Jetson and seconded by Virginia Karlsbrotten to reimburse Dan for his expenses and apply to the Depot for additional funds. Any balance to be paid out of the improvement fund. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
3. Other: Anna indicated she received a \$250 check from Gemini. She was instructed to place this in the improvement fund at this time.

**New Business**

1. Synod Assembly: Anna is planning to attend the Synod Assembly on June 9 and 10 in Decorah, Iowa. If anyone else is interested the registration deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup> in order to receive the discount. No other council members are planning on attending. Anna will make an announcement in church.

2. Lutheran Living will be available only on-line at the end of 2023. We currently get five copies in hard print. Anna is seeking guidance on how we would like to handle. Anna will announce periodically at church to see how we want to proceed. We have time to deal with this.
3. Updating Official Church Records: Anna provided four handouts showing
  - a. Blue – master list from the annual report;
  - b. Yellow-What she put together from the official registration, but the book needs to be updated
  - c. Orange –Baptismal records
  - d. Purple-Confirmation records

Anna indicated that she does not want to be the one to keep the official record in the book, but would be willing to keep an electronic record for us. Motion by Anna Jetson and seconded by Al Erickson to revise the responsibilities of the council secretary to include this duty and the council secretary together with one other individual will be responsible for keeping the register up-to date. Motion carried by unanimous vote. This year Darlene and Karen will update. Darlene suggested that we regularly review at our meetings so that we stay on top of this.

4. Shared Ministry: Anna shared the agenda for the April 23, 2023 meeting. Anna is seeking feedback on this year's Lenten Services. Someone expressed concerned to her that the large attendance may be too much for some of the smaller churches to handle. Steve suggested that the "host" church have more interaction or assist to create more interaction amongst members during the dinner.
5. Trained Leadership: We've had only one meeting here at Highland to train leaders. Council discussed various concerns and options on how to proceed. Steve suggested that we may need to work with a neighboring church to get this done for us as this can't all fall on Pastor Gies.
6. Sunday Morning Readers: We discussed the lack of volunteers for readers at Highland. Suggested that we seek volunteers and set up something like our janitor list. Steve, Virginia, Darlene, and Anna volunteered to be readers at this time. Steven indicated that Dan would be willing to read as well. All would like the scripture readings a week in advance so that we can prepare.
7. Synod Staff to Preach or Participate in Sunday Services: We would like their participation. We will check with Pastor Gies on how to make contact with them.
8. No Easter Services at Highland: Some have received feedback, concerned that there were no services at Highland. There was also some confusion about Thursday and Friday services as well. The information was in the newsletter and on the website, but was changed. Anna indicated that she participated in an Easter Vigil at her sister's church that was very moving. They start in the dark and use candles. All thought this was a good idea, but should wait until we have a permanent minister. Anna will bring up at the shared ministry meeting.
9. Ice Cream Social and Labor Day Luncheon: Virginia indicated that WELCA voted to have both events this year, although it wasn't a unanimous vote. She indicated that WELCA will need help from the entire congregation. Suggestion that we combine them. Other suggestions are having free will donation rather than specific prices; having assorted salads rather than just potato salad, having the Country Store Craft and Bake Sale at the Ice Cream Social rather than at the Labor Day Luncheon. We have fewer members to get these things done. We need to simplify. Others are not available on Labor Day weekend.
10. Pastor's Contract: Pastor Gies' contract will be coming up. He has indicated that he really isn't interested in doing this next winter. Discussion will continue at the joint council meeting with Big Canoe in June.
11. Other New Business: The joint council meeting in June will be held at Highland. Proposed date is June 25, 2023, after church with a potluck.

There being no further business, motion by Al Erickson and seconded by Virginia Karlsbrotten to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Anna led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Sollien  
Highland Secretary

# June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Highland Custodial 4 <sup>th</sup> – Danny Dufka 11 <sup>th</sup> – Larry Lane 18 <sup>th</sup> – Al Erickson 25 <sup>th</sup> – Ed Stoen			1	2	3
4 Highland 10:00 a.m. Communion Big Canoe council after service	5	6	7	8 Hannah Circle 1:30 p.m. Big Canoe	9	10
11 Highland 10:00 a.m. Highland WELCA meeting after service	12	13	14	15	16 Newsletter items due	17
18 Highland 10:00 a.m.	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Highland 10:00 a.m. Highland Council Meeting	26	27	28	29	30	31
JULY 1 Big Canoe 10:00 a.m.				Big Canoe & Highland website: <a href="http://www.bchlutheran.org">www.bchlutheran.org</a>		



~ Shared Ministry Newsletter ~  
June 2023



The Shared Ministry Group prepares an informational newsletter each month, which is available for churches to distribute to their congregations. The newsletter will include items of interest, worship times, and other pertinent information.

\*To submit information for the monthly Shared Ministry newsletter, please email

Linda Folstad at [linda.folstad49@gmail.com](mailto:linda.folstad49@gmail.com)  
By: June 6th for the July 2023 Newsletter



All are invited to join us for Bible Study held at Highland Lutheran Church June 8th at 9:30 am! The Bible Study Group is comprised of women from area churches and meets on the second Friday of each month.

Discussion centers around Bible studies in the GATHER Magazine, an ELCA publication.

(NOTE: If school is delayed or closed due to inclement weather Bible Study is cancelled).

If you are interested in joining a Bible Study group but are unable to attend morning meetings at Highland please contact Linda at [linda.folstad49@gmail.com](mailto:linda.folstad49@gmail.com) and suggest a meeting time that works for you. We would like to offer another meeting time and date if there is interest.

**CAMPFIRE WORSHIP & MARSHMALLOW FELLOWSHIP**

at Hesper Lutheran Church



Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Come and enjoy an informal worship service outdoors around a campfire

Marshmallow Roast follows worship

Bring your lawn chair or blanket. Invite a friend or neighbor.

All are welcome!

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**CANOE RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Sunday, June 25th Serving 11 am-1:30 pm

Barbeques, Brats, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad,

Calico Beans, Pie, Ice Cream, Milk, Coffee, Lemonade

& Water. Hope you can join us!



**Upcoming Events**

June 9-10: Synod Assembly at Luther College

June 17: 35th Annual NE IA WELCA Gathering at Trinity Lutheran in Belmond, IA

July 23: SHARED MINISTRY Meeting at 1:00 pm at Highland Lutheran Church

**Sunday Worship Services ~ June 2023**

	June 4	June 11	June 18 Happy Father's Day	June 25
<b>Highland Big Canoe</b>	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland
<b>Hesper</b>	8:30 am Coffee Hour	8:30 am Coffee Hour	8:30 am Coffee Hour	Laura Days in Burr Oak. Ecumenical Worship service. No services at Burr Oak or Hesper.
<b>Burr Oak</b>	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	
<b>Canoe Ridge</b>	8:30 am	10:30 am	8:30 am	10:30 am
<b>Glenwood</b>	10:30 am	8:30 am	10:30 am	8:30 am
<b>St. John's Hauge</b>	Joint Worship 9:30 am at Hauge	Joint worship 9:30 am at St. John's	Joint worship 9:30 am at Hauge	Joint worship 9:30 am at St. John's

**ELCA Bishops Against Hunger**

The 3 Iowa ELCA Bishops will be riding in this year's 50th Annual RAGBRAI to raise \$50,000.00 to fight hunger. They will be highlighting 50 anti-hunger Ministries along the way. Churches with ministries such as a food pantry, community meal or similar are encouraged to share information about it by completing the Hunger Ministries Form on the Bishops RAGBRAI website: <https://sites.google.com/seiasynod.org/bishops-ragbrai/home>



**Websites:**

- [www.WomenoftheELCA.org](http://www.WomenoftheELCA.org)
- [www.NEIASynod.org](http://www.NEIASynod.org)
- [www.bchlutheran.org](http://www.bchlutheran.org) Big Canoe/Highland Lutheran
- [www.glenwoodlutheran.org](http://www.glenwoodlutheran.org) Glenwood/Canoe Ridge
- [www.bohlutheran.org](http://www.bohlutheran.org) Burr Oak/Hesper Lutheran
- [www.hauge.lutheran.com](http://www.hauge.lutheran.com) Hauge/St. John's Lutheran

**Lutheran World Relief Quilt & Kit Tracker**

As of May 15, 2023 the LWR Quilt & Kit Tracker is officially out of service. The barcode tracking labels no longer need to be printed. Quilts and kits are still being shipped where needed. A new, up to date tracking system is in process for future use.