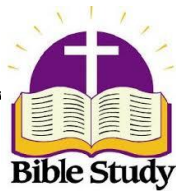


Big Canoe & Highland Lutheran Churches

Big Canoe - 1381 Big Canoe Road – Decorah, IA 52101
563-546-7974

Highland - 3824 Highlandville Road - Decorah, IA 52101
563-735-5974

NEWSLETTER



Pastor Becker's Sunday-morning Bible Class

8:45 a.m. each Sunday fellowship hall of the church of service. The class will last about 50 minutes.

Please consider taking advantage of this educational opportunity as a way to grow in your Christian faith.

During the month of June, we will continue studying the **Book of Revelation**. All are welcome to attend! During the months of July and August, we will not have the adult Sunday-morning Bible class. The class will resume in September.

Upcoming Events

- Sun, June 1 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Book of Revelation) meets in the fellowship hall at Big Canoe
- Sun, June 1 (10am): Service w/Holy Communion (Big Canoe) – Seventh Sunday of Easter (white)
- Sun, June 1 (in the worship service): Recognition of Brayden Thompson who has graduated from H.S.
- Sun, June 1 Highland WELCA meeting after service.
- Thurs, June 5 (noon): Pastor Becker teaches the Nigerian seminarians and pastors (Zoom)
- Fri, June 6 – Sat, June 7: ELCA NEI Synod Assembly in Cedar Falls
- Sun, June 8 (8:45am): Bible class (on Revelation) meets in the fellowship hall at Highland
- Sun, June 8 (10am): Service w/Holy Communion (Highland) – Pentecost Sunday (red)
- Sun, June 8 (after worship): Lucas Stoen's graduation party (Highland)
- Thurs, June 12 (noon): Pastor Becker teaches the Nigerian seminarians and pastors (Zoom)
- Sun, June 15 (8:45am): Bible class (on Revelation) meets in the fellowship hall at Big Canoe
- Sun, June 15 (10am): Trinity Sunday (w/Communion & baptism of Nelly M. Young) (Big Canoe) (white)
- Thurs, June 19 (noon): Pastor Becker teaches the Nigerian seminarians and pastors (Zoom)
- Sat, June 21 (10am-1pm): Annual church retreat for Highland and Big Canoe churches (Big Canoe)
- Sun, June 22 (8:45am): Bible class (on Revelation) meets in the fellowship hall at Highland
- Sun, June 22 (10am): Service of the Word (Highland) (green)
- Wed, June 25 (2:30pm): Pastor Becker leads the worship service (w/Holy Communion) at Aase Haugen
- Thurs, June 26 (noon): Pastor Becker teaches the final Zoom class for the Nigerian Lutherans (until Sep)
- Sun, June 29 (8:45am): Final Bible class on Revelation meets in the fellowship hall at Highland
- Sun, June 29 (10am): Service w/Holy Communion (Highland) (red, for Saints Peter and Paul)
- Sun, June 29 (after worship at Highland): Joint council meeting for Big Canoe and Highland (Highland)
- Sun, July 6 (10am): Service w/Holy Communion (Big Canoe) – Fourth Sun. a. Pentecost (green)
- Sun, July 13 – Fri, July 25: Pastor Becker will be doing research at three universities in Germany
- Sun, July 13 (10am): Service w/Holy Communion (Highland) – Fifth Sun. a. Pentecost (green) (Pr. Gies)
- Sun, July 20 (10am): Service of the Word (Big Canoe) – Sixth Sun. a. Pentecost (green) (Pastor Gies)
- Sun, July 20 (11am-1pm): Ice Cream Social at Highland
- Sun, July 27: Shared Ministry Joint Worship Service, Potluck, and Fun Day (Highlandville School)



Highland Lutheran Church Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Serving from 11:00 - 1:00

Menu: BBQ, Hot Dogs, potato salad,
coleslaw, baked beans, pies, ice cream
and various beverages.

Free will donation

Big Canoe WELCA would like to thank those who contributed to the cleaning of the church. They had hoped to get it done in the near future. They had a family member that needed care for a few weeks so are behind but are now catching up.

**2025-2026 Big Canoe
Grindelund Scholarship**

Forms are available at the back of the church on the small chest of drawers on the left side behind the pews.

Highland Church Council Meeting Minutes, May 11, 2025, Following Joint Worship at Highland

Call to Order: President Anna Jetson called the meeting to order at 11:20 AM.

Attendance: President Anna Jetson, Vice President Al Erickson, Secretary Kristy Selness, Treasurer Dan Dutka, Council members Myron Krauskopf, Gary Selness and Ed Stoen.

Opening Devotions: Anna Jetson provided a reading from Romans Chapter 12 and a prayer.

Secretary's Report: Kristy Selness read the March 9, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Al Erickson, seconded by Ed Stoen, carried.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Dutka provided an update. Current balance of \$19,275.76, Benevolence current balance of \$668.00, Anniversary fund balance of \$375.10, Improvement fund balance of \$73,442.63 with interest, and Scholarship fund balance of \$5,301.61 with interest. Aase Haugen Commitment of \$1,000.00 per year for three years, last year used \$800.00 from Benevolence fund and \$200.00 from Current fund. Sent out \$700.00 donations from Benevolence fund in April per budget. Filed for Audit.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Becker submitted March and April 2025 reports for review.

Thank you/Communication: Mabel Food Pantry from last year.

Old Business:

- **Property Committee:** Dan Dutka and Myron Krauskopf reviewed improvements by the door, and recommend replacing the sidewalk and use tailings to fill by the church walls, until we are certain there is no water draining issues on North side of building. Dan Dutka motioned to do concrete repairs, seconded by Myron Krauskopf. Anna Jetson added friendly amendment to include two flower planters and flowers by Memorial Day, carried.
- **Review Highland's Constitution/bylaws** to see if any updates are needed. Discussion with no changes at this time.
- **How do we want to raise \$1,000 for the Aase Haugen Capital Campaign** for this year. Discussion with ideas for future fund raisers.
- **Scholarship Fund** – money market/CDs combine with Improvement fund. Dan Dutka reviewed options with council members. Dan Dutka motioned for Scholarship applicants to receive \$250.00 at end of each semester completed with proof of transcript. Scholarship applicants to receive max of 4 years of scholarships. seconded by Myron Krauskopf, carried. Motion by Dan Dutka to combine Scholarship fund with Improvement fund into one account with separate documentation for accounting, seconded by Al Erickson, carried. Motion by Dan Dutka to open CD's at Viking State Bank with a maximum of four (\$10,000.00), totaling \$40,000.00, with varying deposit/maturity dates. Seconded by Al Erickson, carried.
- **Options for Communion** (continuous/intinction/common cup). Delayed until after joint congregational retreat.

New Business:

- **Project Northside of the Church:** Reviewed during Property Committee.
- **Coffee Chats Scheduled:** Nothing scheduled for May.

Set date for joint council meeting in June. Suggested for June 29 after service with approval from Pastor Becker and Big Canoe Council.

Volunteer for devotion or closing prayer for the next council meeting. Pastor Becker to give devotion and Dan Dutka for closing prayer.

Adjournment. Motion to adjourn meeting by Dan Dutka, seconded by Al Erickson, carried. Adjourned at 12:30 PM. Closing Prayer led by Kristy Selness, The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Kristy Selness, Highland Church Council Secretary

Other Announcements:

Our current **prayer list** includes the following individuals from our circle of family and friends: Faith, Michaela, Steve G., Steve L., Steve E., Dawn, Bob M., Tara, Savannah, Linda, Hailey, Loren, Danny, Brayden, Dave, Colleen, Walter, Erik, Ellen, Mike B., Barb, Tom, and Karen. If any changes need to be made to this list, please let Pastor Becker know. (He would also appreciate receiving updates about these individuals for whom we are praying.)

Our **children's Sunday school** will be in recess for the summer. Sunday school will resume in early September.

We want to make our church family aware of our approximate **financial situation**.

The offering total for Jan-Mar at Highland: \$9,678 for current; \$938 for benevolence.

The offering total for Jan-Mar at Big Canoe: \$23,210 for current; \$1,536 for benevolence.

Highland's Offering:

April: \$3,592 for current; \$307 for benevolence.

May 4: \$445 for current; \$35 for benevolence.

May 11: \$1,033 for current; \$115 for benevolence.

May 18: \$255 for current; \$15 for benevolence.

Big Canoe's Offering:

April: \$7,061 for current; \$505 for benevolence.

May 4: \$2,473.48 for current; \$350 for benevolence.

May 11: \$350 for current; \$10 for benevolence.

May 18: \$4,155 for current; \$85 for benevolence.

Please note: **All loose offering or cash** in the offering plate goes to the church that is hosting the service that day. There are generic offering envelopes in the entryway to both churches if you wish to designate your offering to go to the other church.

In-person worship attendance:

Average attendance in March: 67

Average attendance in April: 87

May 4: 71

May 11: 35

May 18: 48

Online worship views (Facebook):

January: 1,996 views

February: 1,865 views

March: 2,158 views

April: 2,371 views

May 11: 416 views

May 18: 570 views

Highland has started 25 Global Health Ministries Hospice Kits.

To complete these kits:

- 6 bath towels
- 15 pick style combs
- 20 nail clippers
- 6 individually packaged toothbrushes
- 90 regular sized bandages
- 25 petroleum jelly (approximately 4 oz)
- 25 heavy-duty household gloves, kitchen type (size medium)

Thank you for your generosity!

Burr Oak's Laura Day Celebration 2025

Laura Ingalls Wilder Park & Museum
3603 236th Avenue, Burr Oak, Iowa 52101 • (563) 735-5916
www.lauraingallswilder.us • museum@lauraingallswilder.us



Friday, June 27

- 6:00 – 8:00 BingoBarney's Bar & Grill
8:00 – 12:00 Music.....Barney's Bar & Grill

Saturday, June 28

- 10:00 – 4:00 Tours of the Masters Hotel every half hour (will be closed for the parade 12-12:30).
The last tour of the day begins at 4:00. Admission charged. Register at the Visitor's Center.
10:00 – 5:00 Gift Shop and Visitor's Center open
10:00 Food tent opens – serving brats, hot dogs, walking tacos, pie, drinks, and more
10:00 – 11:45 Children's pioneer games, crafts, activitiesin the park
12:00 Parade down 236th Avenue, north to south
12:30 – 3:30 Children's pioneer games, crafts, activitiesin the park
12:30 "The Hard Winter of 1880-1881". This is a look at the real history of the Hard Winter of 1880,
which Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote about in *The long Winter*, along with interesting stories and
amazing photographs. Presented by Cindy Wilsonin the schoolhouse
1:30 Pie Auction followed by Announcements and Recognitions – 2025 Little Miss Laura and
Young Almanzo, coloring contest winnerentertainment tent
2:00 "The Hard Winter of 1880-1881" presented by Cindy Wilson..... in the schoolhouse
7:00 Music.....Barney's Bar & Grill

Sunday, June 29

- 10-11:00 Gospel Music Service with Brad Boice ...Barney's Bar & Grill patio. Rain location at the
Burr Oak Methodist Church 3597 237th Ave. Burr Oak
12-3:00 Tours of the Masters Hotel. The last tour of the day begins at 3:00. Admission charged.
Register at the Visitor's Center.
12-4:00 Gift shop and Visitor's Center open

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

RAIN LOCATION FOR ALL SATURDAY ACTIVITIES - BURR OAK LUTHERAN CHURCH

June

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship, Big Canoe Communion Brayden Thompson graduate Highland WELCA meeting after service	2	3	4	5	6 D-Day Synod Assembly Bien Venu Event Center, Holiday Inn, Cedar Falls	7 Synod Assembly Bien Venu Event Center, Holiday Inn, Cedar Falls
8 8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Highland Communion Pentecost Lucas Stoen graduation party after service	9	10	11	12	13 Gather Bible Study 9:30 Highland	14 Flag Day SWO Mary & Martha Summer Sharing Gathering Zion Lutheran Church Oelwein
15 8:45 Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School 8:00 Worship, Big Canoe Trinity Sunday, Baptism of Nelly M. Young Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21 Bi-congregational retreat 10am-1pm Big Canoe (including lunch)
22 8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Highland	23	24	25 Pastor Becker leads worship service at Aase Haugen 2:30 p.m.	26	27	28
29 (5th Sunday) 8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Highland Joint Council meeting after service	30					

Shared Ministry Newsletter

June 2025

*To submit information for the monthly Shared Ministry newsletter, please email Linda Folsstad at linda.folsstad49@gmail.com
 By June 15th for the July 2025 Newsletter

All are invited to join us for BIBLE STUDY held at Highland Lutheran Church Friday, June 13, 2025 at 9:30 am! Bring a Friend!

Hesper Lutheran Church
 Campfire Worship & Marshmallow Fellowship
 Wednesday, June 18, 2025
 At 7:00 pm.
 Bring your lawn chair!

SWO Mary & Martha Sharing Party
 Saturday, June 14, 2025
 Zion Lutheran Church in Delwein 8-9am check-in

LAURA DAVIS
 10:00 am ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE
 Sunday, June 29, 2025
 Burr Oak Lutheran Church
 Ingalls Museum presents Brad Boice leading worship
 "Gospel Favorites"

SHARED Ministry Meeting Highlights
 May 8, 2025 ~ 8:00 am—Big Canoe Lutheran Church

Evaluation of the Lenten Shared Ministry Round Robin was very positive. Some comments shared include:

- enjoyed singing together in the combined community choir, and
- enjoyed listening to the choir sing
- liked worshipping at various churches and meeting pastors and members
- pastors liked having the opportunity to worship
- folks were happy to see youth take part in a worship service
- were impressed by the amount special offering taken in for food pantries
- liked the structure and having a theme, and more

Lenten Bible Study at Winneshiek Wildberry Winery was well-attended and comments were positive.

World Day of Prayer, Hops & Hymns at Barneys in Burr Oak, and Campfire Worship services in Hesper & Burr Oak will take place again this year.

Watch the Shared Ministry Newsletter for information on these activities as the dates get closer.

Detailed discussion on the Shared Ministry Worship service, Potluck Dinner and Fun Day in Highlandville on July 27th. Worship is planned for 10:00 am with the potluck to follow. Hesper & Burr Oak folks will preside at the grill cooking burgers, brats & hotdogs and attendees will be asked to bring a dish to pass. Fun events for all ages are being planned for the afternoon. More details will be upcoming in bulletins and the July Shared Ministry Newsletter.

A joint calendar of events will be put together and shared with our group of churches to help inform and publicize upcoming events.

For churches needing to find insurance coverage—try visiting the website of: www.insuranceboard.org

Upcoming Events
 June 6-7: Synod Assembly at Bien VenU in Cedar Falls. Discounted registration fee of \$130 until May 1st. Final registration date is May 15
 July 27: Shared Ministry Churches—Joint outdoor worship, Potluck, Fun Day in Highlandville.
Websites: www.WomenoftheELCA.org www.NEIA.synod.org

Worship Services ~ June 2025					
	June 1	June 8 Pentecost	June 15 Trinity Sunday Father's Day	June 22	June 29
 Highland & Big Canoe Pr. Matthew Becker Website: bchlutheran.org	10:00 am—Joint worship/HC at Big Canoe Bible Class at Big Canoe	10:00 am—Joint worship/HC at Highland 8:45 am Adult Bible Class at Highland	10:00 am—Joint Worship at Big Canoe. Baptism 8:45 am Adult Bible Class at Big Canoe	10:00 am—Joint Worship at Highland 8:45 am Adult Bible Class at Highland	10:00 am—Joint Worship/HC at Highland 8:45 am Adult Bible Class. Final class on Revelation
Hesper Pr. David Wiegans Lisa Kammerer—Deacon	8:30 am Worship/HC Coffee Fellowship	8:30 am Worship Coffee Fellowship	8:30 am Worship/HC Coffee Fellowship	8:30 am Worship Coffee Fellowship	10:00 am Ecumenical Worship/at Burr Oak Lutheran Church "Laura Days"
Burr Oak Website: bohlutheran.org	10:00 am Worship/HC	10:00 am Worship New Member Sunday	10:00 am Worship/HC Danuts with Dads	10:00 am Worship	
Canoe Ridge Pr. Matthew Rossler	8:30—am Worship at Canoe Ridge	10:30 am - Worship at Canoe Ridge	8:30—am Worship at Canoe Ridge	10:30 am - Worship at Canoe Ridge	8:30 am - Worship at Canoe Ridge
Glenwood Website: glenwoodlutheran.org	10:30 am—Worship at Glenwood	8:30 am—Worship at Glenwood	10:30 am—Worship at Glenwood	8:30 am—Worship at Glenwood	10:30 am—Worship at Glenwood
St. John's & Hauge Pr. Randy Kittelson Website: haugelutheran.com	9:30 am Joint Worship/HC St. John's 10:30 Fellowship	9:30 am Joint Worship/HC Hauge 10:30 Fellowship	9:30 am Joint Worship/HC St. John's 10:30 Fellowship	9:30 am Joint Worship/HC Hauge 10:30 Fellowship	9:30 am Joint Worship/HC at St. John's 10:30 am fellowship
Ridgeway Lutheran Parish Pr. Nathan Wicks Website: ridgewayparish.weebly.com	9:30 am: Joint worship/HC at Orleans	9:30 am Joint Worship at Peace/HC	11:00 am— Ridgeway Days Community Service at the Community Center. HC. Potluck. Meat provided	9:30 am—Joint Worship/HC at Madison	9:30 am—Joint Worship at Orleans/ HC
Washington Prairie Lutheran Website: washingtonprairie.lutheran.org	10:30 am Worship/HC	10:30 am Worship	10:30 am Worship/HC	10:30 am Worship	10:30 am Worship