

Big Canoe & Highland Lutheran Church

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Decorah, IA 52101
563-546-7974

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

NEWSLETTER

March 2022

February WORSHIP TIMES

Highland 9:00 a.m. – Big Canoe 11:00 a.m.



- Hannah Circle will meet Thursday, March 3rd. Please note the change of day.
- Big Canoe WELCA will meet March 16th. Quilting will be at 8:30 a.m., a lunch at noon, and meeting at 12:30 p.m. Hannah Circle will serve. There will not be any soup and sandwich suppers during Lent.
- Missionary for a Day is due this month.
- LWR truck will load on May 7th.
- Spring cleaning day will be decided in the circles.
- Luther League meeting is March 13th at 10:00 a.m., after church. We will have pizza and then leave for the La Crosse Trampoline park. The cost of the park is \$17.75. Contact Tammy Nordheim for more details.
- Highland Council meeting after the 9 a.m. service on March 6, 2022.
- Highland WELCA will meet March 20th after the 9 a.m. service.
- Aase Haugen Senior Services Annual Meeting Sunday, March 20th at 2 p.m. in the Great Room at Vennehjem.

Depot Outlet

I am proud to be on board of the Depot Outlet as a member of Big Canoe. We had a record year in 2021. In 2021, we gave each of our 34 affiliated churches \$3,000. Big Canoe and Highland also put in funding requests. Big Canoe received \$2,600 and Highland received \$3,000. We also voted to give each of the 34 churches \$5,000 in 2022. The question came up "how can the churches and public help The Depot?" You can help by donating good useable items, shopping at The Depot and telling others about The Depot. The Depot also can use volunteers. Volunteering takes very little training. Call The Depot for more information if you are interested in volunteering. –

Sue Darling



Lenten Services:

Ash Wednesday Joint Service
Big Canoe March 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

We have been invited to Burr Oak and Hesper Lutheran Churches for the remainder of the mid-week Lenten services in March.

Please watch the website & Facebook pages for the location & time of these services or please contact a council person for further information.



Are we up for the challenge? LWR is asking us to collect items for Personal Care Kits during Lent. The challenge is to see if each congregation can collect enough supplies to make 40 personal care kits for the 40 days of Lent. We will see which congregation reaches their goal first. Each

congregation will track the donation on the chart near the tote for donations. If you are not a shopper, there will be a container to put cash in, and the stewardship women will take care of picking up the needed items. If you wish to mail a check, please send to Deb Monson for Big Canoe OR Louise Jetson for Highland. Deb Monson 109 Monroe St, Decorah IA 52101

Louise Jetson 130 Goodview Dr, Spring Grove MN 55974

Ash Wednesday is March 2 and is the start of Lent. Update will be in bulletins and on Facebook.

Personal Care Kit includes:

- 1 light-weight bath size towel (20x40 up to 52x27)
 - 2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap in original packaging, (equal to 8 to 9 oz)
 - 1 adult size toothbrush in original packaging or multi-packs can be separated into envelopes.
 - 1 sturdy comb
 - 1 metal nail clippers (can be finger or toe clipper, attached file is optional)
-

Reminder **Items for Bremwood** are being collected through March 13th

Items needed for each bundle are:

- 1 bath towel, 1 wash cloth, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, and solid deodorant.
- Other optional items are dental floss, chapstick, lip gloss, comb and brush.
- These items will be put in a basket in the church entry way. Items must be new. Any amount of items are welcome.
- Please call Emma Thompson with questions – 563-382-4002.

Big Canoe Council Meeting, Wednesday, February 16, 2022

The meeting began at 5:00 p.m. The 2022 council members were recognized: Rita Hurd; Shelly Bigler, Vern Whitaker along with Pat O'Regan, Bill Stoen. Liz Shafer, and Rachel Hoffland.

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer and discussed making the congregation whole.

Meetings from previous meeting were read and approved:

Treasurers Report was provided by Laurie Emery. A motion was made and seconded. Current Balance is \$3445.43.

Portals of Prayer were discussed: It was decided that we order 60 Portals of Prayer, 30 large and 30 small print. Rita made a motion to approve, Pat seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Pastor presented a document regarding Lutherans on Faith Matter. We hope to have all members review the document.

We also discussed the Call Committee Mission Site Profile to include our necessary Changes and Purpose.

The Council was tasked with reviewing and submitting.

Council suggested annual bible reading, spuds and splits, involving more people in activities, creation of Financial Oversight Committee, invite a friend to church, and reach out to members who are not as active as they were in the past.

Nominations were presented, the motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

New Officers were elected:

- President: Pat O'Regan
- Vice President: Liz Phillips
- Secretary: Rita Hurd-Thomas

Rita was assigned as the co-signatory for checks in the amount over \$500. Bill made a motion, Shelly seconded, and the motion passed.

- Pat O'Regan and Bill Stoen were designated as FSA Representatives.
- Liz, Bill Stoen and the Property Committee to be on the joint committee to explore the Tuck Point Project.

We need to check the Men's Toilet to see if it needs replacement.

The Renters in the Parsonage will be leaving by 1 June. They have purchased another property,

We are asking for referrals from the Congregations of Highland and Big Canoe for Responsible Renters.

The phone tree was updated to reflect the new council members as heads of the respective calling trees.

Carol Maki was official recognized as transferring back to Big Canoe Church. Welcome Back!

Past Unfinished Business: Pastor announced that Lenten Services were to be Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. The mid-week services will be conducted at local churches. Ash Wednesday will be a joint service conducted at Big Canoe, Maundy Thursday will be a joint Service at Big Canoe, Good Friday services will be a joint service at Highland, and Easter Sunday will be services at each location as scheduled.

We are looking for input for Easter Breakfast suggestions.

Easter Lenten donations will be sent to the Decorah Food Pantry.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Pat O'Regan, President

Big Canoe Lutheran Church Annual Meeting - January 30, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Bill Stoen.

Secretaries Report: Was read and approved with a correction to the Continuing Education line which was amended to \$2,400 for the year. Rita approved the minutes with the afore mentioned correction.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie Emery reviewed the past years budget. Rita stated that the audit went well and all was in order.

- Laurie noted that worship supplies were more costly than last year.
- Benevolence income was significantly more than the previous year and once we paid all obligations we donated \$1,500 to the five families of the young men injured and killed in a recent accident.
- Amy O'Regan made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Liz Shafer seconded. Motion was approved.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Gies reported eight funerals over the past year, several baptisms and one confirmation.

- Pastor had visited all of the shut-ins over the past year and intends to see all of them once again over the next 6 weeks.

Luther League Report: Activities are once a month. Goals are set and activities are planned to include the Easter Breakfast.

- Potential for a request for funds to pay for an overnight stay in Cedar Rapids while visiting a shelter.
- Tammy reported on the cemetery. She explained the digitizing of the cemetery plots and moving moneys into new accounts.

Property Committee: A seasonal inspection of the furnace at the parsonage is needed. Moneys generated from the rental will be used for capital improvements when needed. Funds are reported in the annual report.

Ladies Aid:

- The Depot Outlet has notified us that all of the churches will be getting a \$5k grant without applying.
- WELCA reported that they had a significant success in generating funds in lieu of the Lutefisk Dinner.
- A burial pall is in the process of being donated by the Florence Crandall Family. Colleen Bigler is doing the engraving.
- A banner was presented for use during funerals. This was donated by Bob Maroushek family in memory of Phyllis.
- WELCA made over 400 quilts in addition to baby blankets and lap blankets.

Elections:

- Shelly Bigler will fill out the remainder of Nathan Borreson's term.
- Verna Whitaker and Rita Hurd-Thomas were unanimously elected to Council for three year terms.

Financial Oversight Committee: Tammy Nordheim made a motion to make a Financial Oversight Committee consisting of six or more people to manage the many accounts currently assigned to the Big Canoe Church. This was unanimously approved. Current Members obliged to be on this committee are:

- Connie Amundson
- Lisa Bullerman
- Tammy Nordheim
- Brian Bigler
- Carey Nordheim
- Bud Gavle
- Liz Schafer

The Auditing Committee.

- Connie Amundson
- Earl
- Rita Hurd-Thomas
- Michelle

Nominating Committee:

- Sandy Gavle
- Darrell Stoen
- Pat O'Regan

Conference Spring Assembly delegates:

- Bill Stoen
- Pastor Gies

Synod Assembly Delegates:

- Heather Vilardo
- Pastor Gies

Social Concerns Committee:

- Sandy Gavle
- Bill Stoen
- Mike Darling
- Amy O'Regan
- Mark Borreson
- Laurie Emery
- Tammy Nordheim

Sunday School Parish Education:

- Liz Schafer
- Lisa Bullerman
- Ashley Borreson
- Tammy Nordheim.

EWALU Delegate: TBD

Cemetery Committee remains the same.

Property Committee:

- Pat and Amy O'Regan
- Rita Hurd-Thomas
- Liz Shafer

Shared Ministry Representatives:

- Bill Stoen
- Pastor Gies

Council Meetings will be the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

New Business:

Search Committee Progress. The Call Committee has completed the packet and submitted to the Council for review. Parish Members have been invited to provide input.

Clerical Compensation. The parish will pay \$150 per trip plus mileage for a funeral.

Weddings are at the Pastor's discretion.

Liz Shafer made the motion to table discussion regards future of Big Canoe and Funding Outlook. Emma Thompson seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Emma Thompson made a motion and was seconded by Rita to send the Grindelund interest to the Decorah Food Pantry.

Services will continue as scheduled. An emphasis should be placed on more joint meetings.

There is a need to make a new call tree for notifying parishioners. (

Tammy Nordheim made a motion to approve and accept the budget of \$149,345. Rita seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Liz moved for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Pat O'Regan

Highland Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
January 16, 2022

Call to Order

The January 16, 2022 meeting of the Highland Lutheran Church council was called to order by President Joyce Bjerke at approximately 10:45 a.m. following the worship service. Others in attendance: Vice-President Al Erickson, Virginia Karlsbrotten, Mark Sollien, Lyle Bjerke, Secretary Danny Dutka, Treasurer Anna Jetson. Guest: Darlene Sollien

Reports

Due to a delay in convening the meeting due to a medical situation at the close of worship, a motion by Mark Sollien to dispense with the Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report was seconded by Virginia Karlsbrotten. Motion carried by voice vote.

There was no Pastor's Report as Pastor Gies had to leave for the worship service at Big Canoe.

Old Business

Call Committee - Virginia Karlsbrotten, a member of the Call Committee said the Ministry Site profile is being edited to reflect more positive aspects of our congregation.

Voicemail - The addition of voicemail to the telephone line is in process. Secretary Dutka stated that since he currently does both the Facebook and Webpage administrating he would set up and monitor the voicemail when it is activated. The voicemail is intended to be used for outgoing announcements and will direct callers to further contact information.

Portals of Prayer - There has been some discussion on obtaining a larger print version of the Portals of Prayer or a similar daily devotional booklet, that can be taken home and / or be given to shut-ins. The first quarter 2022 subscription (January - March) has already been paid out. A motion to discontinue getting the current small sized Portals of Prayer thru Big Canoe and subscribe to a larger print version of this or similar devotional was made by Danny Dutka. Lyle Bjerke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business

Pastoral Stipend

Pastor Gies has indicated the additional time and travel costs to perform funerals is unsustainable. There had been no clarification of such duties in his current contract. While there is usually a stipend paid via the funeral homes it is an honorarium from the family. The duties of performing a funeral would be included in a permanent pastor's call. The Northeast Iowa Synod specifies that a stipend of \$120.00 plus mileage be paid to a Supply Pastor; this has been done when Pastor Gies was not under a contract. After more discussion a motion to compensate any Pastor presiding over a funeral or wedding a stipend of \$150.00 plus mileage was made by Al Erickson. Mark Sollien seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote. This discussion suggests that the Council needs to formulate and have in place policies regarding use of church facilities and personnel that may be requested by non-current members.

Depot Outlet Grant

A grant application was submitted to The Depot Outlet for the purpose of replacing the awning style windows in the east addition as well as refreshing the landscaping by the north door. President Bjerke presented the application. Highland was awarded a grant in the amount of \$3000.00 to complete this work.

2022 Budget

Council started discussion of the 2022 proposed budget. Balances at the end of 2021 were: Current \$2608.22, Benevolence \$583.00, Anniversary Fund \$365.10, Improvement \$60,415.12, \$5859.54. Treasurer Jetson noted that she was able to transfer \$8000.00 back into the Improvement Fund from borrowing in previous years to cover Current Fund expenses.

Benevolence: Treasurer Jetson requested that the Council distribute an overage of \$583.00 in the Benevolence Fund. After discussion it was decided by consensus that \$200.00 be given to the Spring Grove Area Ambulance, \$200.00 be given to the Mabel Ambulance Service and \$100.00 be given to The 5th District Eagles Cancer Telethon. Other benevolence line items will remain the same as 2021 and be paid in the order listed as funds are available.

Pastoral Ministry: The Joint Council set this portion of the budget. Highland pays 35% of the total amount.

Parsonage and Farm: The Joint Council set this portion of the budget. Highland pays 25% of the total amount.

Administration: Council discussed that the salaries of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer haven't been adjusted for a few years. The Financial Secretary and Treasurer are currently to receive \$750.00 each per year. Currently the Financial Secretary refuses the salary and has indicated she will continue to do so. A motion to reduce the Financial Secretary compensation to \$500 per year and increase the Treasurer compensation to \$1000.00 was made by Danny Dutka and seconded by Al Erickson. Motion carried by voice vote.

Worship & Service: An additional line item amount of \$500.00 was added to allow for pastoral stipend and mileage for a funeral or wedding.

Building & Grounds, Social Security, Contingency, Anniversary Celebrations: No change from 2021.

A motion by Mark Sollien to present a 2022 budget in the amount of \$63,520.00 to the Congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting was seconded by Virginia Karlsbrotten. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mark Sollien and seconded by Virginia Karlsbrotten. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by,

Danny Dutka, Secretary

Highland Lutheran Church Annual Meeting
February 6, 2022

Call to Order

The Annual Meeting of the Highland Evangelical Lutheran Church of Winneshiek County, IA was called to order by President Joyce Bjerke at approximately 12:47 p.m. on February 6, 2022 with approximately 15 people in attendance.

Opening Devotions

Pastor Gies gave a reading and thoughts from Psalm 119.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Danny Dutka read the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting. A correction is needed in the Elections portion of the minutes, it should read Louise not Louis. Louise Jetson moved to approve the minutes with the correction, motion was seconded by Karen Erickson. Motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Anna Jetson called attention to the printed 2021 financial report provided.

Benevolence: 1/1/21 balance \$338.00, receipts \$5621.00, disbursements \$5376.00, 12/31/21 ending balance \$583.00. Current Fund: 1/1/21 balance \$2985.00, receipts \$45,866.45, disbursements \$46,244.23, 12/31/21 balance \$2608.22. Anniversary Celebration Fund: 1/1/21 balance \$355.10, donations \$10.00, 12/31/21 balance \$365.10. Improvement Fund: 1/1/21 balance \$44,899.69, receipts \$15,515.43, 12/31/21 balance \$60,415.12. Scholarship Fund: 1/1/21 balance \$5853.67, receipts \$5.87, 12/31/21 balance \$5859.54.

She further stated that the insurance was fully paid up rather than in monthly installments. Other highlights include: Monies in the amount of \$8000.00 borrowed from the Improvement Fund for general expenses in past years has been repaid. A donation from The Depot Outlet in the amount of \$3000.00 has been received, also a grant in the amount of \$3000.00 from The Depot Outlet has been received. The grant is to help with expenses to replace 3 windows and refreshing landscaping by the north door all on the east addition. Both amounts have been placed in the Improvement Fund.

President Bjerke stated the 2021 Treasurer's Report will be placed on file for any future audit.

Pastor's Report

Interim Pastor Gies stated that in addition to conducting worship services he had performed 5 funerals at Big Canoe and 3 funerals at Highland. Has taken over teaching the Confirmation Classes. He was able to visit shut-ins in December and would like help from lay people in delivering communion to them. Spoke of the deficit of available pastors in regards to the work the Call Committee is doing.

Auditing Committee

Gary Halverson stated that he and Ed Stoen had reviewed the books of the Church Treasurer and other organizations in the church and found everything to be in order.

Nominating Committee / Council Election

President Bjerke asked the Nominating Committee if they had any candidates to present for consideration for the 3 Council positions. The names of Karen Erickson and Darlene Sollien were presented for consideration. President Bjerke asked for nominations from the floor. Since there were no additional nominations forthcoming Danny Dutka moved that nominations cease, Al Erickson seconded. Motion carried. Danny Dutka moved that Karen Erickson and Darlene Sollien be elected by the congregation. Ed Stoen seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote. The remaining vacant Council position will be appointed by the Council.

Committee / Delegate Assignments

Nominating Committee

The names of Steve Langland, Gary Halverson and Joyce Bjerke as outgoing councilperson were placed into nomination by Danny Dutka. Louise Jetson seconded the nominations. Motion carried.

Conference Assembly

The Upper Iowa River Annual Conference to be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Decorah at 2 p.m. on February 13, 2022. Danny Dutka and Anna Jetson will represent us.

Synod Assembly

The Northeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA Assembly to be held June 10th thru June 12th at Wartburg College in Waverly. Delegates to be determined.

Aase Haugen Senior Services Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting to be held Sunday March 20, 2022 in the Great Room at Vennehjem. We can have 3 voting members one of which can be the pastor. Danny Dutka and Steve Langland will represent us.

Reports

Highland Property Committee

Danny Dutka stated that he is trying to contact construction companies to repair the roof leak in the area of the bell tower and replace the awning style windows on the east addition. One failed to respond to an email inquiry and another has indicated they are already booked up for the 2022 season. A landscaper has been contacted to give a proposal to renovate the area by the north entrance door, they indicated they wanted to wait more towards spring before they would do anything. Reminded the congregation that there have been sanitizing ultraviolet lights installed in the air stream of the furnaces to kill bacteria and virus particles.

Joint Property Committee

Danny Dutka reminded the attendees that there had been a new septic system installed at the parsonage in 2020 and new well pump, piping and wire installed in 2021. Currently the parsonage is rented for \$1000.00 a month which includes propane for heating and electricity. The rental rate will need to be reviewed prior to the 1 year anniversary. The clothes dryer had also quit and was replaced with a used unit. Pat O'Regan of Big Canoe has been overseeing the rental of the parsonage. There is a separate checking account for the parsonage administered by Big Canoe.

Highland Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

Motion by Louise Jetson to suspend the Highland Annual Meeting and convene the Highland Cemetery Association meeting was seconded by Mark Sollien. Motion carried by voice vote.

Lyle Bjerke called the Highland Cemetery Association meeting to order. He called attention to the printed financial report submitted by their Treasurer Mark Selness. Cash and CD's total \$216,314.48.

Steve Langland's 5 year term on the Cemetery Association has expired. Al Erickson volunteered to fill the vacancy. Motion by Mark Sollien to elect Al Erickson was seconded by Gary Halverson. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mark Sollien said that the most pressing business for the Cemetery Association is to find someone to do the mowing of the cemetery. Bob Maroushek, caretaker at Big Canoe will not be available to do this anymore. Louise Jetson said she would pass along the name of the party who does her mowing. She stated she understands they also do mowing for various cemeteries in the area.

There being no further business to discuss Mark Sollien moved to adjourn the Highland Cemetery Association Annual Meeting and reconvene the Highland Congregational Annual Meeting. Louise Jetson seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Congregational Annual Meeting reconvened

President Bjerke reconvened the Highland Annual Meeting and asked if there was any **Old Business** to discuss.

Call Committee

Karen Erickson, member of the Call Committee stated that they are in the process of editing the Ministry Site Profile. The document was discussed with the Council at an informal work session after worship on January 30. Some wording changes were suggested to be made to clarify and enhance the responses to questions posed on the Profile. The Committee is planning to meet again soon.

New Business

2022 Budget

Treasurer Anna Jetson presented the proposed 2022 Budget. She stated she requested the Council disburse \$583.00 remaining in the Benevolence Fund from 2021. The Council decided to give \$200.00 each to the Mabel and Spring Grove Ambulances and \$100.00 to the Eagles Cancer Telethon. All other beneficiaries of the Fund remain as previously budgeted in 2021.

Most items in the budget are to remain at the 2021 funding levels. The Pastoral Ministry which is part of the Joint Budget was increased in anticipation of a Pastoral Call. A line item entitled Funeral / Wedding expenses was added to the Worship & Service section. This is to be used when an Interim or Supply Pastor performs a funeral or wedding at Highland. There will be a stipend of \$150.00 and mileage paid. The Council made an adjustment to the Financial Secretary and Treasurer compensation.. The Treasurer is doing other administrative things "behind the scenes" and should receive additional compensation. The Financial Secretary will now receive \$500.00 per year and the Treasurer will receive \$1000.00 per year, previously they were to receive \$750.00 each.

2022 Budget (continued)

Motion by Mark Sollien to approve the 2022 Budget was seconded by Ed Stoen. Motion carried by voice vote.

Shared Ministry

Anna Jetson gave a brief report on recent Shared Ministry meetings. There had been discussion of having a "round robin" type of shared Lenten services. This was not able to be organized for this year, in its stead the Burr Oak and Hesper congregations have invited us and other area churches to attend their Lenten services. As part of the shared ministry group, Highland is hosting a Gather Magazine Bible study the second Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Gather Magazine is a publication of the Women of the E.L.C.A. This Bible study is for anyone that wishes to attend. A goal of the Shared Ministry group is to provide information on activities and events of area churches that are available for all to participate in. The next Shared Ministry meeting will be held after Easter at Big Canoe. Secretary's note: Please watch the newsletter, website, and Facebook page for information on shared ministry activities and events.

Lenten / Easter Worship Services

Discussion began on what we would like to do for Lenten and Easter Worship services. Pastor Gies indicated he would conduct the Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. He would provide guidance for Lay Person led services on the Wednesdays of the Lenten season. Consensus of those in attendance would be to join Burr Oak and Hesper for their services. The drawback to this is that the offerings received during those services go into the Benevolence Fund and are designated for E.L.C.A. It was suggested that there could be a special donation container placed in the sacristy area to receive these offerings. Tentative schedule is to hold the Ash Wednesday service at Big Canoe, the Maundy Thursday service at Big Canoe and the Good Friday service at Highland. All services begin at 6:30 p.m. This schedule is dependent on Big Canoe's approval.

Other

Louise Jetson stated she attended The Depot Outlet Annual Meeting. The Depot Outlet had a very good year. Each member church is to receive \$5000.00.

Adjournment

There being no other business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Anna Jetson, seconded by Mark Sollien. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Lord's Prayer was recited.

Respectfully submitted by,

Danny Dutka
Highland Secretary



Shared Ministry Opportunities March 2022

At a recent Shared Ministry Group meeting it was decided to make an informational page available for churches to distribute to their congregations. This page will include worship times, events of interest and other pertinent information.

Sunday Worship Services in March

	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27
Highland	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am
Big Canoe	11:00 am	11:00 am	11:00 am	11:00 am
Hesper	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am
Burr Oak	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am
Canoe Ridge	8:30 am	10:30 am	8:30 am	10:30 am
Glenwood	10:30 am	8:30 am	10:30 am	8:30 am
	Hauge 10:30 am	St. John 's 9:00 am	Hauge 10:30 am	St. John's 9:00 am

All are welcome to attend the "Gather" magazine Bible Study at Highland Lutheran Church on Friday, March 11, 2022 at 9:30 am. Monthly "Gather" Bible studies are held at Highland the second Friday of each month at 9:30 am

LENTEN

Mid-Week Worship

Ash Wednesday

4:00 & 7:00 pm in Burr Oak. Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

March 9th & 23 at
7:00 pm in Hesper

March 16th & 30th at
7:00 pm in Burr Oak

All are welcome to attend!

NOTE: Due to continuing Covid concerns the ELCA Youth Gathering for 2022 has been cancelled.

Future Dates:

Cluster Meeting April 23 at Washington Prairie Lutheran Church, Decorah

Lutheran World Relief truck Decorah May 7 at Olson Explosives, Decorah

Synod Assembly is June 10-11 at Wartburg College, Waverly

SWO Gathering is June 18 at St. John Lutheran, Nashua

ELCA Church wide Assembly August 8-13, Columbus, OH

Websites:

www.ELCA.org

www.WomenoftheELCA.org

www.NEIASynod.org

www.bohlutheran.org Burr Oak and Hesper Lutheran

www.bchlutheran.org Big Canoe and Highland Lutheran

www.glenwoodlutheran.org Glenwood Lutheran Church

Revitalizing Creation Care in the Synod

JOIN THE CARE FOR CREATION NETWORK

A resolution passed at the 2021 Northeastern Iowa Synod Assembly has renewed interest in reactivating the Care for Creation Network in the synod. One of the statements in the resolution rededicates the synod to care for creation, including reactivating the synod's dormant Care for Creation Network to further educate about care for creation and climate solutions in our synod. The resolution built on principles expressed in the ELCA's social policy statements, "Caring for Creation" (1993) and "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood" (1999), and ELCA Advocacy's "Carbon Pricing Basics" (2019).

In the past, the Care for Creation Network provided information and ideas to congregations and members through the synod newsletter, Synod Assembly work-shops and resolutions. Water quality, biodiversity, native landscapes, climate change and sustainable agriculture were among the topics covered.

Names of interested individuals are now being gathered to work together on the Synod's Care for Creation Network.

For more information, contact Donna Rasmussen, rdrasmussen@outlook.com or 563-735-5602. A Zoom meeting to brainstorm ideas for the network, which may also be useful for local Creation Care groups, will be held the end of February.

There are also Creation Care training webinars that can help in starting activities locally. In order to advance creation care in your congregation, it is highly beneficial to form a team/network/working group in your own congregation or in partnership with other congregations (e.g. a Green Team, Care for Creation Network, Creation Care Working Group, etc.). The February Zoom meeting may help to connect people interested in forming more local networks and provide information about upcoming training webinars.

— Donna Rasmussen
Hesper Lutheran Church

DONATE WELCOME BOXES FOR REFUGEES

Lutheran Services in Iowa has begun welcoming the first families from Afghanistan to resettle in Iowa. Congregations, families, neighbors and others can help welcome these refugees by making LSI "welcome boxes." Four categories of boxes containing items for daily living can be assembled: personal care kit, bathroom kit, meal prep kit and meal service kit.

People can donate as many welcome boxes as they like. LSI asks that the kits contain only new items placed in clear plastic tubs.

They encourage people to include a hand-written, unsealed note in each box to welcome the family. Congregations can bring the assembled boxes to the 2022 Northeastern Iowa Synod Assembly June 10-11 at

Wartburg College—Waverly. Donations are also being accept-

ed at LSI office locations throughout the state.

To learn more about LSI Resettlement Services, visit <https://lsiowa.org/resettlement-services>. To download welcome box instructions, visit <https://neiasynod.org/2021/11/personal-care-kits>.

-Reprinted from Northeastern Iowa STAR February 2022 Newsletter

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	 2 Joint service 6:30 p.m. Big Canoe	3 Hannah Circle mtg.	4	5
6 HI 9:00 a.m. Council meeting BC 11:00 a.m. Communion services	7	8	9 Confirmation at BC 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	10 Big Canoe council meeting - 6:30 p.m.	11	12 Items for Bremwood kits are due tomorrow
13 BC 9:00 a.m. Luther League Meeting and LaCrosse trip HI 11:00 a.m. Communion services	14 Newsletter items due	15	16 Big Canoe WELCA 8:30 a.m. Confirmation at BC 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	17	18	19
20 HI 9:00 a.m. Highland WELCA mtg. BC 11:00 a.m. Aase Haugen Senior Services Annual Mtg. 2:00 p.m.	21	22	23 Confirmation at BC 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	24	25	26
27 HI 9:00 a.m. BC 11:00 a.m.	28	29	30 Confirmation at BC 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	31	April 1	April 2
April 3			HIGHLAND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - custodial 6 th – Danny Dutka 13 th – Gary Halverson 20 th – Dennis Karlsbroten 27 th – Larry Lane		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Big Canoe & Highland website: www.bchlutheran.org </div>	