

# Big Canoe & Highland Lutheran Churches

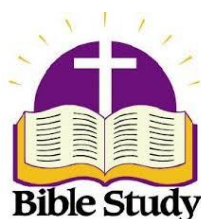
Big Canoe - 1381 Big Canoe Road – Decorah, IA 52101  
563-546-7974

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

## NEWSLETTER

### Upcoming Events

- March: Contact Pastor Becker if you would like him to bless your home during Lent
- Sun, Mar 2 (8am-noon): Winneshiek County 4-H Omelet Breakfast & Silent Auction (Fairgrounds)
- Sun, Mar 2 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Psalms) meets in the nave at Big Canoe
- Sun, Mar 2 (10am): Worship w/Holy Communion (Big Canoe) – Transfiguration Sunday (white)
- Sun, Mar 2 (after the worship service): Brief planning meeting for the Sunday School (Big Canoe)
- Sun, Mar 2 (afternoon) – Sat, Mar 8 (evening) – Pastor Becker will be with Detra in Valparaiso
- Wed, Mar 5: Ash Wed supper (6pm), choir practice (6:30pm), and worship (7pm) at St. John's, Locust
- Fri, Mar 7 (1pm): World Day of Prayer (St. Benedict Catholic Church)
- Sat, Mar 8 (9am): World Day of Prayer (Hesper Lutheran Church)
- Sat-Sun, Mar 8-9: Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Sun, Mar 9 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Psalms) meets in the Fellowship Hall at Highland
- Sun, Mar 9 (10am): Worship w/Holy Communion (Highland) – First Sunday in Lent (purple)
- Tues, Mar 11 (10am): Pastor Becker is meeting with the Finance Committee of *Lutheran Quarterly*
- Wed, Mar 12 (9am): Lenten Bible Study at Winneshiek Winery (led by Pastors Kittleson and Becker)
- Wed, Mar 12: Lenten supper (6pm), choir practice (6:30pm), and worship (7pm) at Washington Prairie
- Sun, Mar 16 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Psalms) meets in the nave at Big Canoe
- Sun, Mar 16 (9am): Children's Sunday School meets in the Fellowship Hall at Big Canoe
- Sun, Mar 16 (10am): Service of the Word (Big Canoe) – Second Sunday in Lent (purple)
- Sun, Mar 16 (6pm): Luther League meets at the parsonage for chili dinner and planning for the future
- Wed, Mar 19 (9am): Lenten Bible Study at Winneshiek Winery (led by Pastors Kittleson and Becker)
- Wed, Mar 19: Lenten supper (6pm), choir practice (6:30pm), and worship (7pm) at Big Canoe
- Sun, Mar 23 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Psalms) meets in the Fellowship Hall at Highland
- Sun, Mar 23 (10am): Service of the Word (Highland) – Third Sunday in Lent (purple)
- Sun, Mar 30 (8:45am): Bible class (on the Psalms) meets in the nave at Big Canoe
- Sun, Mar 30 (9am): No Sunday School
- Sun, Mar 30 (10am): Worship w/Holy Communion (Big Canoe) – Fourth Sunday in Lent (purple)
- --This is the fifth Sunday in the month.



### 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.

Pastor Becker • 219-916-8535 • [matthew.becker@valpo.edu](mailto:matthew.becker@valpo.edu)

#### Office hours:

Wednesdays at Highland, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thursdays at Big Canoe, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays at Big Canoe, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

While he plans on taking Mondays off, he can be reached at any time by his cell for emergencies.

## **Big Canoe Lutheran Church Council Meeting, February 9, 2025**

Council members present were: Brian Bigler - President, Steve Emery - Vice President, Deb Monson - Secretary, Laurie Emery - Treasurer, Vern Whitaker, Kathryn Thompson, Seth Ferguson - Council members, as well as Pastor Matthew Becker.

President Brian Bigler called the meeting to order and Pastor Becker offered the prayers. The secretary's notes of the council meeting of January 12 were read, approved, and placed on file. Laurie Emery gave the Treasurer's Report which was approved and placed on file. Current balance: \$4,939.81 New council member, Seth Ferguson, was welcomed.

Danny Dutka, a member of Highland, addressed the council regarding water treatment issues at the parsonage. He has contacted Kinetics from Postville and Culligan from Cresco. The current water treatment system at the parsonage is a Culligan product. The water supply at the parsonage, the custodian's residence, and the church have been known to be high in nitrate levels in the past but the water has not been tested recently. Danny contacted the DNR at Manchester, which is the regional office for this area. When the nitrate level is above 10, it is considered unsafe for drinking. In the past, there have been three times when the nitrate levels were above 10.

Concerning the nitrate levels in the water at church - a permit to operate the well would be needed if there were gatherings of more than 25 people, 60 days or more per year. The way to treat the water for nitrates is with a Nitrate Treatment System with a chlorine injection pump. The chlorine pump at the parsonage is leaking and the nitrate system is not working as it is not taking salt. A chlorination system is recognized by the DNR. The culligan distribution believes he could repair the system that is in the parsonage now.

To keep things simplified, the council made the decision to go with the water system offered by Culligan at the parsonage. Laurie advised that there are monies in the Improvement Fund to cover the cost of the new water system which is \$4,850.00. Pastor and Detra will pay for part of the Reverse Osmosis system as part of their offering, which is \$1,250.00. This leaves the remaining balance of \$3,600.00. Highland will pay for their percentage part for the cost at the parsonage only. A motion was made by Steve Emery to approve the new water filtration system as specified by Culligan. Vern seconded the motion and the motion was passed by all voting aye.

Easter Sunday services will be at 8:00 a.m. at Big Canoe and at 10:00 a.m. at Highland. There will be no Bible classes on Easter Sunday.

Reorganization of the church council: Brian was nominated as President, Steve was nominated as Vice-President, Deb was nominated as secretary. All nominations were approved by all voting aye.

Beginning in March, the sign board will be changed to read as follows:

- Big Canoe services at 10:00 a.m. the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.
- Highland services at 10:00 a.m. the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

At the annual meeting, it was decided to establish a QR code for the church so that visitors and the viewing church services online may give an offering if they choose. This system could be used by members of Big Canoe. The company providing this service charges 3% for each transaction and the remaining 97% would go to Big Canoe.

Kathryn made a motion, which was seconded by Vern, to authorize Pastor Becker, Lisa Bullerman - Financial Secretary, and Bill Stoen to work on establishing a QR code system at Decorah Bank and Trust for visitors or church members to make their offerings electronically. The motion was passed by all voting aye.

Brian adjourned the meeting. Pastor Becker and the council members closed with all reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Deb Monson - Secretary

## Highland Lutheran Council Meeting - January 26, 2025, after church services

**Call to Order:** The January 26, 2025, meeting of the Highland Lutheran Church was called to order by President, Steve Langland at 12:04 p.m. Council members in attendance: President Steve Langland, Secretary Darlene Larson, Treasurer, Dan Dutka, Gary Selness, Anna Jetson Karen Erickson and Al Erickson.

Anna led the council in a brief prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** Darlene read the minutes of the August 11, 2024 council meeting. Motion by Gary Selness and seconded by Al Erickson to approve. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balances as of January 26, 2025:

Current	\$33,056.10
Scholarship	\$ 5,290.91
Improvement	\$74,317.34

Dan provided a worksheet for us for use in preparation of the 2025 budget. We currently have \$950.00 available in our benevolence fund. We do have a commitment to give \$1000.00 to the Aase Haugen Chapel construction that the congregation approved at our last annual meeting. Motion by Anna Jetson and seconded by Karen Erickson to take the \$800 balance from our local benevolence fund 2024 and \$200 from current to pay this commitment. Motion carried.

At this time the council reviewed and discussed the 2025 budget. Motion by Anna Jetson and seconded by Al Erickson to donate \$100 to UIRC Rostered Ministries. Motion carried.

Motion by Darlene Larson and seconded by Al Erickson to approve the 2025 proposed budget. Motion carried.

### Other Business:

Ann informed us that on July 27 (Nordic Fest) there will be a joint shared ministry worship, followed by a potluck at the Highlandville School.

Karen mentioned that this year will be the 130 Anniversary of the church and inquired whether or not we would be doing something for the anniversary.

Darlene mentioned that Gary Halverson would be interested in purchasing the Coke cooler we have. Gary is the one that restored the cooler. Motion by Dan Dutka and second by Al Erickson that Gary should have the cooler at no cost and may come and take it. Motion carried.

Dan informed the council that he has a two drawer fireproof file cabinet for us. Help will be needed to get it into the church, perhaps sometime this spring and we will need someone with a bobcat to help lift off the back of the truck.

Motion by Dan Dutka and seconded by Karen Erickson to give Bill Stoen a \$100 stipend for providing video services for us from the Highland Church. Motion carried.

Anna mentioned that Pastor Becker would like some updated equipment in the church. A new TV, etc. Steve indicated that he may have some memorial monies that can be used for that purpose.

Motion by Gary Selness and seconded by Al Erickson to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:57 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Darlene Larson Sollien, Highland Secretary.

## Highland Lutheran Church Annual Meeting - February 2, 2025

### Call to Order

The annual meeting of the Highland Evangelical Lutheran Church of Winneshiek County, IA was called to order by President Steve Langland at 12:08 PM with 21 members in attendance.

**Opening Devotions** - Pastor Becker led us in prayer to open our meeting.

**Pastoral Report** - No weddings or baptisms. Two funerals, Karen Jermeland and Darlene Strinmoen (April 5, 1926 – November 15, 2024).

**Membership List:** Pastor Becker provided handout of active, associate and inactive members. Please review and if you see any changes that are needed let him know. Dan Dutka feels we need a list of voting members as well. That is separate from what Pastor Becker is looking for.

**Worship Schedule:** Pastor Becker informed us that after consideration and in consideration of getting a Sunday school started, he is leaning toward worship services every other week, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Big Canoe, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Highland. There are about 20 kids at Big Canoe for Sunday school.

Copyright of Pastor's sermons, Bible Studies, devotional writings: All Pastor's writings belong to Highland Lutheran Church. He is asking that we relinquish our right to his written materials.

Pastor Becker told us he is very grateful to be serving as our Pastor and wants to hold a spiritual retreat in June.

**Secretary's Report** - Darlene Larson read the minutes of the February 4, 2024 Annual Meeting. Motion by Mark Sollien and seconded by Karen Erickson to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Dan Dutka called attention to the printed 2024 financial report provided.

Account	Balance on 1-1-24	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Benevolence	\$325.00	\$6125.00	\$5500.00	\$950.00
Current Fund	\$17,955.14	\$54,549.67	\$41,994.90	\$17,955.14
Anniversary Celebration fund	\$375.10	.00	.00	\$375.10
Improvement Fund	\$72,084.22	.00		\$74,317.34
Scholarship Fund	\$5,238.30	.00		\$5290.91

Dan spoke on the parsonage updates and repairs that were done this past year. Dan informed us that he found an issue with our current insurance and that we should save some money because of the insurance error. The address they were ensuring was Big Canoe's address and not Highland's address. The Audit committee found the report to be in order. Motion by Louis Jetson and seconded by Gary Halverson to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried. Louise thanks Dan for all his work on catching the issue with the insurance company.

**WELCA Report** - Darlene Larson called attention to the written WELCA report contained in the annual meeting packet. We have a small but active group. WELCA needs the support of the congregation to continue to hold the ice cream social. She also asked that Thrivent members ask for their \$250.00 donations that we can use for the ice cream social or the fall bazaar.

**Property Committee Report** - Dan Dutka provided the update, indicating that the Landscaping still needs to be done and we have money for that project from the Depot. Dan indicated that we have a gutter and downspout problem on the north side of the church. Dan would like new bigger gutters and downspouts to carry the water away from the building. He estimates that it could cost less than \$2000, however he would like a motion to spend up to \$5000 to purchase new larger seamless gutters on the north side of the church.

**Joint Property Committee** - Dan Dutka provided the update, informing us that updates to the parsonage included new carpet, the basement was gutted, new basement door, all walls and ceilings were painted, central air was installed, updates to the bathrooms and about 75% of the home was rewired. Donations were also received for microwave, stove dishwasher, washer and dryer, new window coverings/treatments and light fixtures. Everything was cleaned. We now need to look at the water softener and a new refrigerator. Dan was thanked for all his hard work on the parsonage.

**Highland Cemetery Association Annual Meeting** - Motion by Gary Selness and seconded by Al Erickson to suspend the Highland Annual Meeting and convene the Highland Cemetery Association Meeting. Motion Carried.

Dennis Karlsbrotten called the meeting to order at 1:28 p.m. He called attention to the financial report contained in the annual meeting packet as prepared by treasurer Mark Selness. Dennis indicated that there were four burials this year. New flags were obtained and installed, but the big flag should be replaced now. Dennis' term is up for the cemetery committee, but he is willing to serve again. Steve Langland and seconded by Dan Dutka to nominate Dennis Karlsbrotten to the cemetery committee. Motion by Louise Jetson and seconded by Dan Dutka for nominations to cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Dennis Karlsbrotten. Motion carried. Dennis was thanked for his service on the committee. Motion by Mark Sollien and seconded by Gary Selness to adjourn the cemetery meeting. Motion Carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. Motion by Eric Selness and seconded by Dan Dutka to reconvene the regular meeting. Motion carried. The congregational annual meeting reconvened at this time.

**Auditing Committee Report** - Committee reported that everything is in order. No issues or concerns were identified.

**Nominating Committee Report** - The nominating committee presented three candidates for consideration to the council; Kristi Selness, Ed Stoen and Myron Krauskopf have agreed to serve. Motion by Louise Jetson and seconded by Dennis Karlsbrotten for nominations to cease and cast a unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Election of Council and Representative Voting Members

Nominating Committee: Steve Langland volunteered to serve. Motion by Dennis Karlsbrotten and seconded by Darlene Larson to have Mark Sollien and Virginia Karlsbrotten serve one more year. Motion carried.

Audit Committee: Louise Jetson, Judi Krauskopf and Steve Langland agreed to serve. Motion by Dennis Karlsbrotten and seconded by Mark Sollien to accept the volunteers. Motion carried.

Mutual Ministry: We can have a total of six members between the two churches. The Pastor picks three and council picks three and each must approve the choices. Item was tabled at this time and will be an agenda item for each church.

Upper Iowa River Conference Assembly: Ann Jetson, Steve Langland and Dan Dutka agreed to serve.

Northeast Iowa Synod Assembly: should be the same members as the upper Iowa River Conference Assembly.

Aase Haugen Senior Services Annual Meeting: Steven Langland, Karen Erickson and Dan Dutka will attend.

### 2025 Budget

Dan Dutka presented the 2025 budget as approved and submitted by the council. He noted several highlights in the budget. Motion by Judi Krauskopf and seconded by Mark Sollien to include \$200 in benevolence to the Spring Grove Fire Department. This will be the first payment made out of benevolence. Motion carried. Motion by Myron Krauskopf and seconded by Louise Jetson to increase the treasurer's compensation by \$500 and the financial secretary's compensation by \$200. Motion carried. Motion by Gary Halverson and seconded by Judi Krauskopf to approve the general budget at \$78,155.00. Motion carried.

### New Business

1. Copyright of Pastor's Sermons, bible studies and devotional writings: Motion by Dan Dutka and seconded by Mark Sollien to relinquish any copyrights that we have to Pastor Becker's work. Motion carried.
2. Gutters and Landscaping: Motion by Dan Dutka and seconded by Walter Langland to spend up to \$5000 from the Improvement Fund for new gutters and downspouts and to complete the landscaping (which we have monies for from a previous grant) Motion carried.
3. Worship Services. Motion by Louise Jetson and seconded by Eric Selness to approve the new worship schedule of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at Big Canoe and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at Highland. 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays will be alternate between the two churches with communion. Pastor Becker offered a friendly amendment that the new model be assessed and discussed at the joint council meeting in June. Motion carried. Motion by Dennis Karlsbrotten and seconded by Judi Krauskopf to proceed with the new worship schedule commencing on March 1, 2025. Motion carried.

Eric Selness said a load of rock is needed for the driveway.

Dennis Karlsbrotten indicated that he will continue to assess weather conditions and cancel church if warranted. Pastor Becker indicated he would be at church even if it is cancelled.

There being no further business, motion by Virginia Karlsbrotten and seconded by Dennis Karlsbrotten to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

Darlene Larson Sollien, Secretary.

Pastor Becker is working to organize a **children's Sunday school**, which will be held when worship is at Big Canoe on the first and third Sundays of each month. Sunday school will be in the fellowship hall from 9 to approximately 9:40 am. The first session will be on **Sunday, March 16**. We need parents to bring their young children to this Sunday school on the first and third Sundays of each month, and we need a group of individuals to agree to help teach on those two Sundays each month. Pastor Becker has all the materials needed, we just need people to participate! If interested in helping, there will be a brief meeting after the worship service at Big Canoe on **Sunday, March 2**. For more information, please speak with Pastor Becker, Anna Jetson, or Tammy Nordheim.

## Highland Lutheran Church Council Minutes Reorganization Meeting, February 2, 2025

Attendance: Al Erickson, Anna Jetson, Dan Dutka, Gary Selness, Myron Krauskopf, Kristy Selness, Pastor Becker, not in attendance Ed Stoen

Al Erickson called the meeting to order. Anna Jetson took notes.

### Election of Officers:

- President: Anna Jetson
- Vice President: Al Erickson
- Secretary: Kristy Selness
- Treasurer: Dan Dutka
- Financial Secretary: Virginia Karlsbrot

Motion was made, seconded and approved.

The Directory for 2025 was updated.

Council will be meeting after joint worship at Highland during the odd months on the 2nd Sunday of the Month.

Discussed that Council members typically assist with serving communion, Pastor Becker will be doing trainings.

Pastor Becker stated that will be installing both councils during worship on February 16th. Gary and Kristy are not able to attend.

Pastor Becker closed with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

**During March and April, Highland Women of the ELCA will be collecting:**

**adult-size toothbrush (in original packaging)  
sturdy comb or pick-style comb  
sturdy nail clipper (can be fingernail or toenail)  
4 oz bars of mild or unscented soap**

**There is a tote at Highland to leave donations. If you are not a shopper and wish to donate by cash or check, there is a smaller container at Highland to leave donations. Please make checks out to Highland Women of the ELCA.**

**Global Health Ministry uses pillowcases to protect kits during shipping so if you have an abundance of pillowcases that you do not use, we will take them to GHM next time we go there.**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**The Spring Cluster meeting will be held at Highland Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 5 at 8:30 a.m. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. Coffee will start at 8:30 a.m., followed by a speaker and a brief meeting.**

**Please join us for the 2025 World Day of Prayer Service "I made you Wonderful" based on Psalm 139:1-18.**

**The ecumenical service was written by the women of Cook Islands and invites us to recognize that God created each one of us with great attention and loving care. Consider joining with women all over the world praying for peace and prayerful action. March 7 at 1:00 pm is at St. Benedict's Catholic Parish 307 W Main St, Decorah, IA, OR March 8 at 9:00 am is at Hesper Lutheran Church 3794 188th Ave, Decorah IA.**

## Announcements:

We want to make our church family aware of our approximate **financial situation**. Keep in mind that offering amounts at our two churches have tended historically to be larger toward the end of each year.

Highland's offering:

- o January: \$3028 for current and \$234 for benevolence.
- o Feb 2: \$860 for current and \$60 for benevolence.
- o Feb 9: \$1075 for current and \$175 for benevolence.
- o Feb 16: \$515 for current and \$30 for benevolence.

Big Canoe's offering:

- o January: \$9643 for current and \$170 for benevolence.
- o Feb 2: \$760 for current and \$270 for benevolence.
- o Feb 9: \$1240 for current and \$110 for benevolence.
- o Feb 16: \$895 for current and \$20 for benevolence.

Please use only the **current year's offering envelopes**. People do not always have the same envelope number each year.

**In-person worship attendance:** February 16th: 35

**Online worship participants/views:** January: 1,996 views, Feb 9: 431 views, Feb 16: 555 views

**Luther League** will meet at the parsonage on Sunday, March 16, at 6 pm. Pastor Becker will be making the dinner, and we will be discussing plans for the coming year. Please RSVP 219-916-8535 so he knows how much chili to make.

The Cresco Cleaning Company has been hired to clean the Big Canoe nave, entry, and balcony. They plan to clean in late March or early April. Donations would be greatly appreciated to help pay for this cleaning project. Such donations can be given to Deb Monson, WELCA treasurer. Btw, the **Big Canoe basement will be cleaned by church members** who wish to volunteer to help, individually or as a group. Let Emma Thompson know if you are interested in helping in this way!

Contact Pastor Becker if you would like to receive his emailed **weekly devotion and list of upcoming events**.

Beware of **email and text scams**! Pastor Becker will never ask you for money via email or text!

Pastor Becker's **Sunday-morning Bible Class** begins at 8:45am each Sunday at the church where the service will take place. At Big Canoe, that class will meet in the nave of the church. At Highland, that class will meet in the fellowship hall.

**Worship planning sheets** - on the entry table at Highland by the mailboxes. Please sign up to participate as Scripture readers, communion assistants, council members, and ushers.

**Prayer cards** are available on the table in the entryway at Highland. Cards can be given to an usher, who will give it to Pastor Becker.

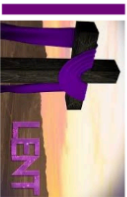
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**OR March 8 at 9:00 am is at Hesper Lutheran Church 3794 188th Ave, Decorah IA.**



# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>NOTE the change in service locations.</b> This is the first month where services will be at Big Canoe the 1st and 3rd Sundays and at Highland the 2nd and 4th Sundays. On the 5th Sunday in March and August service will be at Big Canoe. On the 5th Sundays in June and November, service will be at Highland.						1	
8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Big Canoe Communion Brief Sunday School meeting after worship	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Pastor will be in Valparaiso this week	<b>Ash Wednesday service</b> St. John's, Locust 6:00 supper 6:30 choir practice 7:00 service	<b>Hannah Circle</b> 1:30 p.m. Big Canoe.	World Day of Prayer St. Benedict Church 1:00 p.m.	World Day of Prayer Hesper Lutheran 9:00 a.m. Daylight Savings Time Set clocks ahead
Lenten Bible Study will be each Wednesday morning beginning March 12th at Winneskiek Winery, 9:00 a.m.							
8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Highland Communion	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Lenten Service Washington Prairie 6:00 supper, 6:30 choir practice 7:00 service		Gather Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Highland		
Sunday School 9 - 9:45 10:00 Worship, Big Canoe Luther League 6:00 p.m.	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Big Canoe WELCA mtg., 2:00 Lenten Service - Big Canoe 6:00 supper, 6:30 choir practice 7:00 service				
8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Highland	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Lenten Service Burr Oak Lutheran 6:00 supper, 6:30 choir practice 7:00 service				
8:45 Bible Study 10:00 Worship, Big Canoe	30	31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5
			Lenten Service Glenwood Lutheran 6:00 supper, 6:30 choir practice 7:00 service				



## Shared Ministry Newsletter March 2025



! \*To submit information for the monthly Shared Ministry newsletter, please email Linda Folsat at [linda.folsat@99signal.com](mailto:linda.folsat@99signal.com) By March 15th for the April 2025 Newsletter



All are invited to join us for **BIBLE STUDY** held at Highland Lutheran Church Friday, March 14, 2025 at 9:30 am!

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

### Bring a Friend!

Let Anna Jenson know if you are in need of a copy of the Bible Study.

If school is delayed or cancelled, Bible Study

### World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 7, 2025  
1:00 pm at  
St. Benedict Catholic Church in Decorah

Saturday, March 8, 2025

9:00 am at Hesper Lutheran Church  
Program written by World Day of Prayer Committee of Cook Islands

### Ridgeway Lutheran Parish invites you to their

#### FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at the Ridgeway Community Center  
690 County Street, Ridgeway, IA

All-you-can-eat Pancakes by Decorah Lion's Club, along with Sausages, Applesauce and Beverage.

Adults: \$10, Children 5-12 years: \$5, 4 and under—FREE  
Proceeds to the Ridgeway Parish Youth Programs.

### COME AND JOIN THE BIBLE STUDY!

Bible Study will be held at Wineshiek Winery during the Lenten season. Bible study begins at 9:00 am will be led by Pr. Randy Kittelson and Pr. Matthew Becker on the following Wednesdays:  
**March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & April 9**

Remember to bring your Bible! Refreshments will be served.

All are welcome!

### LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	PREACHING
March 5: (Ash Wednesday)	St. John's Lutheran	Pr. Matthew Rossler
March 12:	Washington Prairie	Pr. Randy Kittelson
March 19:	Big Canoe Lutheran	Pr. David Werges
March 26:	Burr Oak Lutheran	Pr. Liz Bell
April 2:	Glenwood Lutheran	Pr. Kristen Corr Rod
April 9:	Madison Lutheran	Pr. Matthew Becker

Meal at 6:00 pm ~ Choir Rehearsal at 6:30 pm ~ Worship at 7:00 pm

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Next Shared Ministry meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 9:00 am at Big Canoe Lutheran Church



Mark the date on your calendars and come join us in Highlandville on Sunday, July 27, 2025. We will gather together with members of Shared Ministry churches for a joint Worship Service, Potluck meal, and afternoon of fun and fellowship! Watch for more details in upcoming newsletters!

## Worship Services ~ March 2025

	March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
<b>Highland &amp; Big Canoe</b> Pr. Matthew Becker	Joint worship 10:00 am at Big Canoe	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland	Joint worship 10:00 am at Big Canoe	Joint worship 10:00 am at Highland	Joint worship 10:00 am at Big Canoe
<b>Burr Oak</b> Pr. David Werges Lisa Kummer-Duncan	8:30 am Worship/HC Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am Worship/HC	8:30 am Worship Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am Worship	8:30 am Worship/HC Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am Worship/HC	8:30 am Worship Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am Worship	8:30 am Worship Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am Worship
<b>Canoe Ridge</b> Pr. Matthew Rossler	8:30 am Worship/HC at Canoe Ridge 9:30: Coffee Hour	10:30 am - Worship/HC at Canoe Ridge	8:30 am worship at Canoe Ridge 9:30: Coffee Hour	10:30 am - worship at Canoe Ridge	8:30 am worship at Canoe Ridge 9:30: Coffee Hour
<b>Glenwood</b>	9:30 am—Sunday School at Glwd. 10:30 am worship at Glenwood/HC	8:30 am worship at Glenwood/HC 9:30 am Coffee Sunday School at Glwd.	9:30 am—Sunday School at Glwd. 10:30 am worship at Glenwood	8:30 am worship at Glenwood 9:30 am Coffee Sunday School at Glwd.	9:30 am— Sunday School at Glwd. 10:30 am wor- ship at Glenwood
<b>St. John's &amp; Hauge</b> Pr. Randy Kittelson	Joint Worship/HC 9:30 am at Hauge 10:30 Fellowship	Joint Worship/HC 9:30 am at St. John's 10:30 Fellowship	Joint Worship/HC 9:30 am at Hauge 10:30 Fellowship	Joint Worship/HC 9:30 am at St. John's 10:30 Fellowship	Joint Worship/HC 9:30 am at Hauge 10:30 Fellowship
<b>Ridgeway Lutheran Parish</b> Pr. Nathan Wicks	9 am: Peace/HC 10:30 am: Madison/HC	9 am: Peace/HC 10:30 am: Orleans/HC	9 am: Peace/HC 10:30 am: Madison/HC	9 am: Peace/HC 10:30 am: Orleans/HC	9 am: Joint Worship at Madison, March Madness & Games
<b>Washington Prairie Lutheran Church</b>	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am

### Websites:

[www.WomenoftheELCA.org](http://www.WomenoftheELCA.org)  
[www.bethlutheran.org](http://www.bethlutheran.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.haugelutheran.com](http://www.haugelutheran.com) Hauge/St. John's Lutheran  
[www.washingtonprairielutheran.org](http://www.washingtonprairielutheran.org) Washington Prairie

### Upcoming Events: 2025

Mar. 4: Ridgeway Lutheran Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper  
Mar. 7: World Day of Prayer/St. Benedict in Decorah  
Mar. 8: World Day of Prayer at Hesper Lutheran  
Mar. 9: Daylight Savings time begins  
Mar. 12, 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9: Lenten Bible Study  
Apr. 13: Spring Brunch at Hesper Lutheran  
May 8: Shared Ministry Meeting at Big Canoe  
June 6-7: Synod Assembly in Cedar Falls  
July 27: Shared Ministry Joint Worship/Fun Day