

THE MESSENGER

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2026

OUR VISION STATEMENT

*We are grace-filled followers of
Jesus Christ who are
Equipped, Encouraged,
and Expected to use our
Heads, our Hearts, and our
Hands to go into the world.*



Holy Communion Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the North Carolina Synod, ELCA

103 West Church Street • P.O. Box 597

Dallas, North Carolina 28034

Office 704.922.5375 email: office@hclcdallas.org

www.holycommunionLutherandallas.org

Ministers: All the Baptized of God's Family

Interim Rev. Brooks Seaford

Organist: Katherine Kast

Parish Secretary: Selina Farris

Worship with us!

Sunday School ~ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service ~ 10:30 a.m.

Congregational Meeting



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, January 11, 2026,
following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

ANNUAL Committee REPORTS

**All Organizational Presidents and
Committee Chairpersons**

Please begin preparing your
Worship Assistant list for 2026 and
Annual Report for 2025.

Email to: office@hclcdallas.org, leave in the office,
or in Selina's box.

All reports are ASAP.



Women's Group of Holy Communion

Beginning in January, the Holy Communion Women's Group will meet the last Saturday of each month in the lounge at 10:30. New officers and the devotion schedule will be discussed at the January 31 meeting.



JANUARY FOOD PANTY NEEDS
SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI SAUCE,
CORN



Church Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.



Altar Flowers

2026 Altar Flower Chart
is posted in the hallway. If you would like
to place flowers in the church, please sign
up or contact the church office. Cost is
\$61.00 from Gaston Floral



BIRTHDAY'S

- 1/7 Jamie White
- 1/10 Cheyenne Cearley Buckner
- 1/12 Terri Bishop
- 1/17 Gene Armstrong
- 1/19 Alan Cloninger
- 1/31 Ruth Cloninger

JANUARY COMMUNITY MEAL HOST

January 1	Long Creek
January 8	Dallas Methodist
January 15	St. Paul's
January 22	Holy Communion
January 29	Philadelphia



FINANCIAL REPORT



	<u>November 2025</u>	<u>November (YTD)</u>
Contributions/other	\$16,567.66	\$142,833.67
Expenditures	<u>\$14,630.03</u>	<u>\$129,692.16</u>
Net Income	\$1,937.63	\$13,141.51
Checking Balance 11/01/25	\$154,845.30	
2025 Net Income	\$1,937.63	
Checking Balance 11/30/25	\$156,782.93	



WE'RE PRAYING FOR...

Our Church family: Gene & Muriel Armstrong, Deanna Simms; Jimmy White; Mary Louise Huggins; Mary Rhyne; Eric Heavner; our church; church council; Reid Simms; Coleen Cloninger; Ann Collett; Nancy Pasour; Sandy Clemmer.

Our friends, neighbors, co-workers, and relatives of members: Robbie Cearley; Steve Freestone (health issues, friend of Jerry & Coleen); Susan Haney (Pat Heavner cousin); Shelvy Pasour; unspoken prayers; Gage Brown (Angela Collett); Our Country; Addie Singleton (11 yr old diagnosed with osteosarcoma); Brook Scoggins Cook; Chuck Denham.

Our Continuing Long-Term Members: Carla Hall, Mary Rhyne

***Please* remember to notify the Church Office
when a prayer request has been resolved**

Caroline Clemmer Black
25110 Lookout Dr.
Fort Riley, KS 66442

John Henry Clemmer
267 Carolina Way
Sanford, NC 27332



Allen Huggins
Courtland Terrace
2300 Aberdeen Blvd, Room 28 B
Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: 704-671-6875



*Congratulations to Cody and Abby Bishop at the birth of their son,
Harrison Allen Bishop on November 25, 2025.
Proud grandparents are Bobby and Terri Bishop.*



Dear Friends of Holy Communion,

Thank you for the generous Christmas love offering. I am deeply grateful for your kindness and generosity, and feel truly blessed to serve such a loving and faithful congregation. Your gift is an encouragement to my heart and a meaningful expression of Christ's love through this church. Please know how thankful I am for each of you.

In Christ, Pastor Brooks

Thank you all so much for the Christmas love offering gift! I am truly honored and touched by your generous gift. I appreciate the love and kindness you all have shown me over the years. I am truly blessed to be your church secretary! Love you all!!

Blessings, Selina

Dear friends at Holy Communion,

Thank you for the generous love offering — and not only for that, but also for the warmth and kindness you've shown George and me in the last year and a half. I am grateful to be able to share my music with you. And I hope it gives you as much joy as I've received from being a part of this congregation.

Blessings and peace in the new year, Katherine

HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH — DEC 7th, 2025, Congregation Meeting

Jeff Clemmer opened the congregation meeting.

Jeff Clemmer discussed the budget proposal for the upcoming new year. Congregation voted on the budget: Motion to approve: David Cloninger 1st, Alan Cloninger 2nd. No opposed.

Discussion: Council Member Elections: Congregation encouraged to join the church council. Congregation instructed to write down their names on the provided form if interested in serving.

Discussion: Congregation discussed selling the parsonage. Greg Carter and Jeff Clemmer discussed changes and repairs made to the property as well as cost of maintaining the property. Further discussed comps in the area as well as continuing to rent the property to continue a potential revenue stream. Alan Cloninger made motion to table to conversation for 3 months to allow him to prepare an alternative plan to selling and present it to the congregation. Jamie White 2nd. Majority agreed. Motion passed and conversation is tabled for 3months.

Discussion: ELCA guidelines. Church Council to further discuss next meeting.

Volunteers for Church Council Currently:

Reid Simms
Coleen Cloninger
Jerry Peeler
Brittany Peeler
Roxy Britton
Greg Carter
Alan Cloninger

Congregation Meeting Adjourned.

HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH—November 16, 025, COUNCIL MINUTES

Present: Jerry Peeler, Coleen Cloninger, Reid Simms, Harold George Clemmer Jr., Deanna Maxwell, Jamie White, Jeff Clemmer, Greg Carter, Roxanna Britton, Pastor Seaford, Brittany Peeler

Opening of Meeting “Opening Prayer” – Greg Carter

Approval of Agenda – Greg Carter 1st, Jerry Peeler 2nd. No opposed.

Approval of Minutes for October 2025 Council Meeting – Deanna Maxwell 1st, Greg Carter 2nd and no opposed.

Approval of Financial Reports– Jerry Peeler 1st, Greg Carter 2nd. No opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Parsonage downstairs bathroom repairs have been completed by plumber. Replaced valves and pipes. Also paid to have needed pressuring washing of the driveway, sidewalk. House should be available for sale or rent by November 15, 2025 – **DISCUSSION:** Council discussed selling the parsonage. Greg Carter went out with realtors to discuss comps in the area and potential selling price. Further discussion on if the church decides to sell where should the money made go? Motion made to sell and take the vote to the congregation: Harold George Clemmer Jr. 1st and Deanna Maxwell 2nd, no opposed. Confirmed next congregational meeting to be held DEC. 7th.
- Budget Proposal for 2026. – **DISCUSSION:** Budget will mostly be the same as last year. Only changes: Pastor’s office hours and raises for organist and secretary. Motion for approving the budget and taking it to the congregation: Jerry Peeler 1st, Roxanna Britton 2nd, no opposed.
- Congregational meeting after church on Sunday, December 7, 2025. – **DISCUSSED:** Confirmed.
- Post in bulletin requesting anyone interested in serving on the church council. – **DISCUSSED.**
- Decorating the church for Christmas. Women’s group will be in charge of setting a date. – **DISCUSSED:** Men of the church will be in charge of setting up the nativity scene.
- Holy Communion will be feeding the homeless on Thanksgiving evening, Thursday, November 27, 2025, and Christmas evening, Wednesday, December 25, 2025. – **DISCUSSED:** Council discussed meal options: ham, green beans, corn and cake vs. BBQ. Discussion to be cont.
- Rental of church Sanctuary for a wedding on May 2, 2026. Request was made by Maria Martin for her daughter. 60 to 70 guests. **UPDATE:** Maria Martin was contacted and advised of the price of \$500.00. Maria Martin made a deposit of \$100.00 on Tuesday, November 11, 2025. Date of wedding is September 26, 2026. – **DISCUSSED:** Deposit received and will need a pastor and organist. Family may come to speak with Seaford and listen to Katherine.
- Christmas Eve Service. Katherine will not be available to play on Christmas Eve due to family event. Pastor for Christmas Eve? **UPDATE:** Pastor Seaford will be available at 5:00 pm to serve on Christmas Eve. Still seeking an organist / pianist. – **DISCUSSED AND TABLED.** Greg Carter to reach out to Amy about playing.
- Discuss church website. Justin Rubow is handling our website. Issues with newsletters not being added at times and other events. Justin does a good job but understand he has a full-time job and other websites for St. Paul’s and Philadelphia Lutheran. **UPDATE:** Selina contacted Justin advising him we want to be in control of our own website. We need to meet and discuss what is needed to do this. Reid Simms recommended his grandson Richard Dyer. Selina will contact him as soon as she talks with Justin Rubow. – **DISCUSSED:** Jeff’s wife has volunteered to do this for us.

Next Meeting Greg Carter will give a report on the stocks for the cemetery.

OLD BUSINESS

- Dallas Christian will be able to use the facilities of Holy Communion until the end of the year of 2025. At that time, we will review our contract. – **DISCUSSED:** Alan Cloninger to talk with Dallas Christian Ministries. New church council will determine if they can cont. utilizing the downstairs.
- Educational building bid of \$6700.00. This amount would take care of all rooms downstairs. **UPDATE:** TNZ is the only bid received to date. – **DISCUSSED.**
- Yoga Classes will begin in the fellowship of Holy Communion on Saturday’s beginning on November 22, 2025, from 9am-10am. Cindy Clemmer will be renting the fellowship hall for these classes. Cost per student is \$5.00 per session. (paid to instructor) - **DISCUSSED.**
- Discuss the cost of a split AC unit for the church office. **UPDATE:** Waiting for a reply from Randy.
- New window A/C unit is needed for the window in the ice room. Randy Ward is checking on the price for a replacement. **UPDATE:** Waiting for a reply from Randy.

Adjournment – Group Prayer

The deacon for the month of December: Jeff Clemmer
Lay Reader is for December: James White Jr.
Next Meeting December 14, 2025, following worship service.



A Purposeful New Year



The man who goes into the new year without some priorities governing his life and without some principles guiding his behavior, is prey to the tempting, unimportant and destructive things in life.

The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better. — C. Neil Strait

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.” — *Lamentations 3:22–23*






As we step into 2026, we celebrate a fresh start and a faithful God. May this new year be filled with His hope, peace, and purpose.



Lay Reader for January
 Deacon for January
 Altar Guild

Beth Carter
 Greg Carter
 Greg & Beth Carter



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> Community Meal 6-7 pm Host: Long Creek	2	3 9:00 a.m. Yoga
4 <i>2nd. Sunday of Christmas</i> 9:30- Sunday School 10:30-Worship with communion	5	6 <i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i>	7	8 Community Meal 6-7 pm Host: Dallas Methodist	9	10 9:00 a.m. Yoga
11 <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> 9:30- Sunday School 10:30- Worship Svr. Congregational Meeting after service	12	13	14	15 Community Meal 6-7 pm Host: St. Paul's	16	17 9:00 a.m. Yoga
18 <i>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i> 9:30- Sunday School 10:30-Worship with Communion Church Council meeting	19	20	21	22 Community Meal 6-7 pm Host: HCLC	23	24 9:00 a.m. Yoga
25 <i>3rd. Sunday of Epiphany</i> 9:30- Sunday School 10:30 Worship	26 February Newsletter item deadline	27	28	29 Community Meal 6-7 pm Host: Philadelphia	30	31 9:00 a.m. Yoga 10:30 a.m. Women of the church meeting
						



North Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Ministers: All the Baptized of God's Family

PHONE: 704 922 5375

Church office email: office@hclcdallas.org

Web: holycommunionlutherandallas.org

Ministers: All the Baptized of God's Family

Interim Rev. Brooks Seaford

Organist: Katherine Kast

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 597
Dallas, NC 28034

Return Service requested