



HIGHLANDS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Highlands Messenger

Highlands Messenger

June/July 2016

Looking Ahead...Happening at Highlands This Summer

Saturday, 6/11 at 4:00pm, HLC Moms' Group Family Potluck at Sloan's Lake Playground

Monday, 6/13 at 6:15pm, HLC Council Meeting NO MEETING IN JULY

Tuesday, 6/14 at 12:30pm, Elderberries meets for lunch and fun in the fellowship hall. NO MEETING IN JULY

Friday, 6/17 at 6:30pm, the Bookies Book Club at Ken Wiig's house.

Sunday 6/19 at 10:00am, Father's Day Bluegrass Worship on the Lawn

Saturday, 7/9 at 10:00am, HLC Moms' Group at Sloan's Lake Playground

Sunday, 7/10 at 10:00am, Sunday in the Park

Recurring Events:

Every Saturday at 6:30am, Highlands Hunters Men's Group. Contact Ken Wiig or Jerry Haselgren for more information.

Looking Ahead...Fall Events:

God's Work. Our Hands.

Watch for more information to come on the events planned for God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday **September 11th**.

Second Annual Kids Stuff Sale

Saturday, **September 24th** - drop your donations off on the stage from now until early September.

The Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday **September 25th**, we will again hold a service on the lawn, weather permitting, to bless the animals. Please put this date on your calendars; invite your friends and neighbors to do the same.

Crop Hunger Walk

In October, HLC and HCC will participate in the North Denver Annual Crop Hunger Walk. Watch for more information later this summer.



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Worship Ministers for June and July

June 5

Usher Team 4: Lorraine & Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren, Erick Santiago

Reader: Paul Lundberg

Assisting Minister: Sue Wittkopp

Chancel Ministry: Sara Milius

Birthday Celebration: HLC and HCC

June 12

Usher Team 1: Lynn Cooper, Joe Milius, Martin Brotherton, Rick Wittkopp

Reader: Nicole Jobin

Assisting Minister:

Chancel Ministry: Sue Wittkopp

Coffee Hour Host: Sara and Joe Milius

June 19

Usher Team 2: Lorraine & Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren, Erick Santiago

Reader: Andy Lubansky

Assisting Minister: Mary Williams

Chancel Ministry: Marsha Reynolds

Coffee Hour Host: Robin Lockwood

June 26

Usher Team 3: Lynn Cooper, Joe Milius, Martin Brotherton, Rick Wittkopp

Reader: Carrie Olgeirson

Assisting Minister: Pam McClune

Chancel Ministry: Mary Williams

Coffee Hour Host: Maren Markus

July 3

Usher Team 4: Lorraine & Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren, Erick Santiago

Reader: Sue Wittkopp

Assisting Minister: Tyler Starkweather

Chancel Ministry: Pam McClune

Birthday Celebration: HLC and HCC

July 10

Usher Team 1: Lynn Cooper, Joe Milius, Martin Brotherton, Rick Wittkopp

Reader: Wendy Haselgren

Assisting Minister: Ken Wiig

Chancel Ministry: Judy Sims

Church & Potluck in the Park

July 17

Usher Team 2: Lorraine & Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren, Erick Santiago

Reader: Mary Williams

Assisting Minister: Sue Wittkopp

Chancel Ministry: Sara Milius

Coffee Hour Hosts: Wanda & Martin Brotherton

July 24

Usher Team 3: Lynn Cooper, Joe Milius, Martin Brotherton, Rick Wittkopp

Reader: Elizabeth Smith

Assisting Minister: Mary Williams

Chancel Ministry: Sue Wittkopp

Coffee Hour Hosts: Mary Williams

July 31

Usher Team 4: Lorraine & Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren, Erick Santiago

Reader: Carrie Olgeirson

Assisting Minister: Tyler Starkweather

Chancel Ministry: Marsha Reynolds

Coffee Hour Hosts: Andy Lubansky

Highlands Messenger

From the Pastor

Dear Congregation,

We finally have a gorgeous summer weather and I know that many of you take some time off to travel and visit with family or just places in our splendid country. May your journeys be blessed!

Here at the office we are wondering how much information you need from us and how best we can reach you without overwhelming you. Since we now have a weekly *Highlands Happenings* where we inform you about all that is going on at church and in our neighborhood, we are going to shake things up a little bit with our Newsletter!

We would like the current Newsletter to be a different kind of communication with the congregation. Here are a few ideas:

- change the name to THE HIGHLANDS MESSENGER (HM) and
- take off the word "Newsletter".
- the HM would cover two months at a time;
- it would be mailed to the entire congregation since it is going to be published only 6 times during the year;
- it will have a new, more "meaty," content focused on deeper issues of faith and its intersection with life;
- it will have an educational component, like a series of articles on the seasons of the church, about the liturgy and its significance, about faith in the 21st century, to name just a few subjects;
- it will contain a faith-formation series chosen by the pastor, written about consistently over the year.
- it will have information about the wider church's vision for our future as the ELCA.

- it will have stewardship and financial information articles and discussions;
- it will report on major HLC events in pictures;

We are looking for your input and suggestions. Send an e-mail to Anna or to me and let's re-imagine together a document that will inspire you enough to take time to read, even when busy!

Looking forward to hearing from you all,

God bless, pastor Liliana

Summer Services on the Lawn with HCC

Bluegrass Service

Sunday **June the 19th** we will celebrate Fathers' Day with our Highlands Christian Church friends in a Bluegrass service on the church lawn.

Church in the Park

Don't forget that **July 10th** is our "Picnic in the Park". Following the outdoor service, we will have our annual barbecue. We will worship and eat together

with Highland Christian Church. The churches will provide tableware, hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, and beverages. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come join us for a lovely gathering in the beautiful world that God made.

God's Work. Our Hands.

Sunday **September 11th**. Watch for more information to come on the events planned for God's Work. Our Hands.

The Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday **September 25th**, we will again hold a service on the lawn, weather permitting, to bless the animals. Please put this date on your calendars invite your friends and neighbors to do the same.



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Outreach at Highlands

Beinvenidos

Thank you for your May donations, including canned fruit and baked beans. We are especially grateful to Betty Strauch for donating canned goods when she moved.

In June, we will be collecting canned fruit and “Chef Boyardee” canned pasta meals.

To better tie our delivery of food to the Bienvenidos Food Bank schedule, we are now blessing food on the first Sunday of the month, for delivery later that week.

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry – You and our neighbors are making a difference.

Do you have extra?

We often have phone calls or visitors who need a little help with groceries or personal care items. A **grocery gift card** can make a lot of differ-

ence! We would like to keep this effort going throughout the year, so please consider buying a gift card. You can put it in an envelope and add it to the offering plate. These cards will become part of the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund to help those who come to our door.

Habit for Humanity

Our next Habitat opportunity is coming up on **June 24th** at 4260 Fillmore in the Elyria neighborhood. CHR program seeks to help low-income homeowners with much-needed home restoration so that they can continue to live in a safe and affordable home. The build day is from 8am-3:30pm. Participants must be 16 years old to be on the construction site. No construction experience is required and all tools and safety gear will be provided. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Ken

Wiig 303-870-1070

ken.wiig@gmail.com

Ticket to Ride – Update from Mary Williams

The generosity of Highlands Lutheran Church, and the love for all that is shared by the members of this congregation, continues to amaze me!

The program has been able to supply \$100 a month for bus tickets for those who need transportation to work or to a job interview! That is just wonderful! I wish that you could be present to see the change in attitude, the happiness that surfaces when an individual is able to make it to work on time or actually has a chance to get a job because he or she will be able to get to an interview. The best part for me is when a guest comes back to say that yes, she got the job! We take work, or re-

tirement, for granted. We know that we have enough money to put gas in our cars or to buy food or pay the mortgage or rent. For some, like our guests at St. Francis, the possibility of work makes all those other possibilities come closer. If you need a donation form for tax purposes, you can find them in the Ticket to Ride box on the table in the narthex.

Thank you all so very much for taking on this program! Thank you for your generous hearts. Highlands Lutheran is most definitely following in the footsteps of Jesus, and is truly an example of what it means to love our neighbors.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



JUNE

- 1 Paul Criley
- 2 **Nicole Jobin & Ellen Lorts (2015)**
- 5 Justin Schust
- 7 Pennie Burris
- 15 Sueanne Wittkopp
- 16 John (Pete) Harris
- 17 **Andy & Denise Lubansky**
- 23 Anna Millies
- 30 Joe Milius

JULY

- 9 **Martin & Wanda Brotherton (1988)**
John & Susan Pelikan (2011)
- 12 John Gustafson
- 13 Violet Holtzinger
- 19 Sara Milius
- 23 Loren Hanson

On the first Sunday of every month, we have a community birthday celebration with our friends in Highland Christian Church.

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Good News!

INTERFAITH NEWS

You may have never heard me say this, but I belong to and attend the meetings and events of the **Interfaith Alliance of Colorado**, together with many other pastors. What is this organization?

It is people from multiple faith traditions, grounded in their own particular faiths, open to all, and standing in solidarity to support one another. We come together in compassion, equality, respect and practical action. We focus these values into specific *Initiatives* in order to support education and advocacy in our communities through interfaith understanding. The areas of focus we are engaged in at this time are: Religious Liberty, Racial Justice & Economic Justice. Our work is made possible through Partnerships with congregations across our state. Pastor Sondra Tilsley (DOC), Mary Williams, and I have attended several meetings and we consider this interfaith partnership a valuable tool for increasing respect, understanding and peace in our

communities and in the world.

Let us know how you think and what your opinion is about this organization. Also let us know if you want to join us when there is an interfaith event in our city.

Pastor Stahlberg

REFUGEE CULTURAL EXCHANGE

HLC has had 8 people take the refugee mentoring program offered by the Lutheran Family Services. The first team made up of 4 persons, Erick, Tyler, Mary and Pastor will visit for the first time on Friday, June 10th, with the GEBREYOHANES family from ERI-TREA!

WOMEN SPEAK OUT AND STOP POSSIBLE RAPE

Monica Kenyon, Marla Saltzer, and Sonia Ulrich were at a happy hour when they witnessed a disturbing incident at a table nearby where a couple was sharing a bottle of wine. The wom-

an's companion put something into her glass of wine while she was away from the table.

Ulrich later posted "Thank you in advance to everyone who sees this and shares this and reminds each other that yes, you SHOULD say something. Even if it's awkward or weird or just uncertain if anything can be done."

5 FACTS ABOUT HARRIET TUBMAN'S FAITH

Harriet Tubman will replace Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill, making her the first African-American, the first woman in more than 100 years, and the first unabashed Christian to be portrayed on a bill. Tubman was born in slavery and died in 1913 a free woman. Here are five faith facts about the abolitionist and famed conductor of the Underground Railroad.

1. Her nickname was "Moses" because she helped lead hundreds

of slaves to freedom along the Underground Railroad. This nickname was due to her faith in God.

2. She believed she had visions. Because of a blow to her head that caused seizures, she believed that the vivid dreams she had came from God and relied on them to help lead herself and others from slavery.
3. Her favorite hymn, sung at her funeral, was "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."
4. "The Lord" told her to go on a hunger strike for \$20, to help raise money for her parents to escape slavery in Maryland. She staged a sitdown hunger strike and while she slept, people slipped \$60 into her pockets.
5. Her dying words referred to heaven. At the end of her life, Tubman was active in the AME Church of Zion. According to her obituary, her last words were ones of faith: "I go to prepare a place for you."

Being a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

We, as the Highlands Lutheran Church, invite all into the fullness of God's love. This invitation is inclusive of all humankind, national origin, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, physical or mental ability, sex, or station in life. We pledge to use our differences as gifts for our work together.



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Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our new members: Brian and Chris Stopps; Ana and Ben Nielsen and children Jackson and Maria; and Jason and Stacie Hanson, and children Ellery and Hadley. Their stories follow below:

Brian and Christine (Chris) Stopps were married in Denver on June 7th, 30 years ago, shortly after their graduations from the University of Denver. They raised their two boys in Castle Pines, and moved to LoHi 2 years ago. Their oldest son, Will (22), just graduated from Montana State University and is living in Bozeman, MT. Their youngest son, Eric (20), is attending University of Northern Colorado. They also have a wonderful Chocolate Labrador – Ruby, who is 9. Brian is a real estate broker and Chris is the Chief Financial Officer for Yes Communities. They were both raised as Lutherans, and really like the traditional and contemporary feel of Highlands Lutheran. “We felt very

welcomed when we first started attending, and we like being part of a congregation that welcomes ALL to worship and belong to the church.”

Ana, Ben, Jackson and Maria Nielson.

Our family feels blessed to be welcomed into the Highlands Lutheran Church family. HLC is the place that helps keep our spiritual tank full, helping to keep us centered on what’s most important in our daily lives – God and family. We are a busy bunch. Ben is a civil engineer for Merrick and Company. He specializes in white water design, creating river kayaking and surf waves, along with river revitalization and fish passage projects. Ben is an outdoor enthusiast, so the work suits his passion. Ana is a journalist with CNN, which means frequent travel across the country to cover the stories making news and important issues of our time. Ana loves the opportunity her job provides to meet new people and have an impact on the communities and world in which we live. Jackson is our energetic, social 4 ½ year old.

He has a healthy imagination fueled by his joy of reading and lego-building. Jack recently became a big brother and takes great care of his baby sister, Maria. Maria was born in January. She constantly reminds us of life’s simple pleasures when she smiles or when she sleeps through the night! We feel fortunate to all have good health and lots of family nearby (Ana is a Colorado native) who provide unconditional love and support. We look forward to getting to know you and your families.

Jason, Stacie, Ellery and Hadley Hanson

have lived in Denver for 11 years and began attending Highlands a couple years ago with Stacie’s parents, Nancy and Dennis Lintvedt. They have two children, Ellery (5) and Hadley (3). Jason works as the Deputy State Historian for History Colorado, and Stacie is a social worker currently enjoying some time at home with the kids. They are excited to be an “official” part of the Highlands family!



On June 5th, Brian and Chris Stopps; Ana and Ben Nielsen and children Jackson and Maria; and Jason and Stacie Hanson, and children Ellery and Hadley became members of the HLC family.

Thoughts on Stewardship — from Living Lutheran

Originally posted Oct. 14, 2011. Republished with permission of the author, Christine Iverson.

The central biblical concept of stewardship is about how humans are to relate with each other and to the whole of creation that God has put into our hands. The core of that concept is care for the poor, the weak and nature itself.

According to the Old Testament, the monarch would have habitat and the poor would have food; “you shall not reap to the very edges of your field... you shall not strip your vineyard bare... you shall leave them for the poor” (Leviticus 19:9-10)..

There is also the concept of the year of Jubilee when liberty is proclaimed for all people and for the land. At its base is an under-

standing that the land belongs not to people but to God and, therefore, we cannot claim ownership in perpetuity nor are people to be dealt with unfairly or a few to retain dominion over others.

The biblical concept of stewardship calls us to mindfulness that we are the caretakers not the owners and that God’s wish is for mercy and to look after all people.

This is not “stewardship lite” in the way that contemporary church talk has reduced stewardship to a once-yearly focus on how much money you need to give to “the church” or “to God.”



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Happening at Highlands

Thank You, Thank You

Marsha has planted the open area on the east side of the church. We look forward to the beautiful growth to come! Thanks also to **Ken, Ray and Brian** have cleaned and painted the steps to the basement to ensure higher visibility. **Pr Sandra** would like to thank everyone who purchased candles to raise money for the HCC summer campers.

Moms' Group

The Moms' Group Thanks You! Thank you to everyone who donated to the diaper drive! We were able to make a fantastic donation to Mile High Diaper Bank because of you.

A BIG thank you to everyone who has donated to the new flooring fund drive for the Fellowship Hall!!!! What an amazing success this venture has been. Let's keep the momentum going with the next step: construction. Please email Maren Markus if you can help in the next phase, or have experience in renovations. We still need your help! marenmarkus@gmail.com

Our next meeting will take place on **Saturday, June 11th** at

4:00pm for a family potluck at Sloan's Lake Playground.

Elderberries

Come on **Tuesday June 14th at 12:30pm** and enjoy a lunch of pulled pork sandwiches with all the trimmings—including root beer floats! There will be a game of croquet set up on the front lawn, and adult coloring books and colored pencils and other activities in the fellowship hall. Instead of food please bring a donation to the new floor fund,

The HLC Bookies

The Bookies will be meeting on **June 17th at 6:30** at Ken Wüig's house. They are going to discuss [*The Good, Good Pig*](#) by Sy Montgomery. Bring a snack and be ready to share your thoughts about the book.

Olgeirson Annual Independence Day Celebration/Memorial

Yes, we're still celebrating... Gunnar wouldn't have it any other way....

As you might imagine, our favorite holiday celebration will be taking on a whole new meaning this year.

There will still be the near pagan amounts of food and beverage, and as long as we keep getting some rain I can assure you there will be exploding things. But we'll also be raising the flag in Gunnar's honor, sending up balloons, and toasting our ever-supportive friends and family with a shot of Gunnar's favorite whiskey.

When: Monday, July 4, 2p-ish til midnight-ish. You are welcome to swing by for an hour, or stay all day.

Where: 3275 Dudley Street, Wheat Ridge, 80033

Who: Friends, Family, Friends of Friends/Family. *Note that we have two dogs who have some anxiety about other dogs and loud noises, so please leave your four-legged friends at home.*

What To Bring: As always, we will provide all the meats and lots of beverages; we ask that you bring sides, snacks, or desserts to share. Don't worry about fancy plating, as serving staff will be re-plating and returning containers to you on arrival. If you have a particular beverage you like, feel free to bring it.

Want to Help? Many people have suggested that this year we accept offers of assistance in preparing for this shindig. While we are hiring serving/bartending staff again, there will be some weekend and pre-party "chores" we would be willing to hand off to others. We always plan enough food for an army, so there is no particular need to RSVP. If you have questions, want to volunteer, or need more information you can contact us at: carrieo888@hotmail.com, 303-519-6496 (Chris's cell), or 303-589-4214 (Carrie's cell).

GRAND IS COMING!

Grand is a new monthly meet-up geared toward parents, kids, and retirees. It's a mid-week play group for kids and a coffee fellowship for adults. We invite the church & surrounding community from GRANDparent age to

Would you like to be added to the Prayer Chain?

Contact Maren Markus at marenmarkus@gmail.com



Prayers of the People

Paul & Marilyn, Helen and Jack, her dog; Sophia, Catherine, Pam, Patty, Robin's friend Tara, Steven, Tobi & Logan; Kyle & Shannon, Anne & Ellison Cannady, Betty Strauch, Desiree, Jan, Sue, Rev. Rick Thompson, Jessie, Wolfgang, Patty, Martin, Maren, Peter, Charlotte, Felicia & Marius, Deidre, Kevin, Roger, Trisha, Millie, Ryan, Gale, Tyler & Erick, Justin, Kyzer, Ashley & Daniel, Donna & Mike, Michael, Bev, Jay, Matthew, Sandy, Jim, Andy, Ashley, Drew, Melissa, Lucas, Annette, Trisha & Emma, Kathy, Eric, Amy, Chris, Betty, Tina, Jeff & Jane, Loren & Patty, and all family members and friends serving in the military or in harm's way.

June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 pm Worship and Music	2	3	4 6:30 am HH 10 am Church Clean-up Day
5 10 am Worship 11:15 Community Birthday Celebration with HCC	6	7	8	9	10	11 6:30 am HH 4:00 pm Moms' Group Family Potluck at Sloan's Lake Park
12 10 am Worship 11:15 Coffee Fellowship	13 6:15 pm Church Council	14 12:30 pm Elderberries	15	16	17 6:30 pm The Bookies	18 6:30 am HH
19 FATHER'S DAY 10 am Bluegrass Worship with HCC on the Lawn 11:30 Lunch	20	21	22	23	24	25 6:30 am HH
26 10a m Worship 11:15 Coffee Fellowship	27	28	29	30		

July 2016

NOTE: MOST REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED FOR JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 6:30 am HH
3 10 am Worship 11:15 Community Birth- day Celebration with	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 2-ish Olgeirson Annual Independence Day Celebration/Memorial	5	6	7	8	9 6:30 am HH
10 SUNDAY IN THE PARK 10 am Worship in Pferdesteller Park	11	12	13	14	15	16 6:30 am HH
17 10 am Worship	18	19	20	21	22	23 6:30 am HH
24 10 am Worship 11:15 Coffee Fellowship	25	26	27	28	29	30 6:30 am HH
31 10 am Worship 11:15 Coffee Fellowship						