

# Highlands Happenings

June 30, 2016

## 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, 2:00p-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](mailto:carrieo888@hotmail.com), 303-519-6496 (Chris's cell), or 303-589-4214 (Carrie's cell).

## SUMMER SERVICES WITH HCC

### Summer Sunday in the Park Theme: There is Joy in Community

Don't forget that July 10<sup>th</sup> is our "Picnic in the Park". Following the outdoor service, we will have our annual barbecue. We will worship and eat together with Highlands 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, and don't forget a blanket or chair.

## MINISTRY UPDATES

### Anna on Vacation

Anna will be out for the weeks of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 10<sup>th</sup>, and will return to the office on Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Is your pledge information Up-to-Date?

A Gentle Reminder to the members and friends of Highlands Lutheran Church: As you enjoy your travels this summer; remember that your church continues its mission. Please check to see that your pledge is current. In God's service, HLC Church Council

### Bring food for the Food Bank Anytime

Thank you for your continued support of the Bienvenidos Food Bank. In **July**, we are collecting **canned fruit and "Chef Boyardee" canned pasta meals**. The canned fruit is especially appreciated. June Donations will be blessed on July 3, and the items will then be delivered to the Food Bank for distribution to hundreds of families in our Northwest Denver community.

### New Member Classes

Have you, or someone you know, been thinking about joining HLC? Send an email to the church office ([office@highlandslutheran.org](mailto:office@highlandslutheran.org)) if you are interested in attending our next new member orientation: July 24<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:15 am in the library.

### Ticket to Ride - Update from Mary Williams

It is wonderful to hear the comments from the staff at St. Francis. While many churches have volunteers who serve there, it is extremely unusual for a church to fund an entire program! You, wonderful Highlands Lutheran, are amazing!

So, thank you, again, for the generosity that keeps this program going. I have no doubt that we will be able to meet our one year commitment! It is my hope that at the end of the year, we will be able to have grant funds available to continue Ticket to Ride at St. Francis. Thank you, thank you, thank you on behalf of all those who have benefitted and will benefit from this program!

### New Flooring

We have purchased new bamboo flooring for the Fellowship Hall! We were able to take advantage of a substantial sale, and bought it for \$4,460 instead of the \$7,000 that we were anticipating. The flooring, which is strong and water resistant, will "acclimate" in the church for a month before being installed.

Thanks to the Moms' Group for their fund-raising efforts!

### GRAND is Coming Summer 2016!

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 GRANDchild to join us in this adventure co-sponsored by Moms' Group & Elderberries.

Keep an eye out for more info. Ain't life GRAND?

### Help Strengthen & Renew Your Marriage!

**Enrich Your Relationship on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend!**

**July 29 - 31, 2016**

**Circle J Retreat Center, Ten Sleep, WY - Bring Your RV!!!**

**Apply online now at [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org)**

*Contact John & Jen Pettinger at [jjpettinger@gmail.com](mailto:jjpettinger@gmail.com) or 720-635-9093 for more information.*

*Weekends fill fast and pre-registration is required - don't miss out!*

### **COMING THIS FALL**

Sunday School will be starting for 3-year-olds to Kindergartners on **September 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will begin our fall session with a service project in conjunction with "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Please attend the brief service with your children and then they will gather separately for their special project. Sunday school will be weekly, starting at 10 AM and finishing at 10:45. The children will enjoy songs, Bible stories, crafts, and a snack. They will then join their parents and the congregation for communion.

Please let Nancy know if you are interested in participating in Sunday School. We would like to get an idea of how many children will be attending so that we can order materials and make sure we have enough teachers available. We would love your help in the classroom!

### God's Work. Our Hands.

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

### The Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday **September 25<sup>th</sup>**, 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

The CROP HUNGER WALK will be on **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**, right after service. Some of us will walk, while others will be sponsors for the walkers. On **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** HLC's Moms will hold a Community Harvest Festival for HLC, HCC and our neighborhood. This will be a fun event for singles, families with kids, and people of all ages. Fair Trade vendors will entice us to think ahead and buy Christmas gifts while helping support local businesses.

**MAY CHRIST'S LOVE, GRACE and COMPASSION BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!**