

## New Hope Lutheran



Blanchardville/Hollandale, WI

# New Hope Lutheran July Newsletter



### Service Times Change in July

Remember that starting  
**Sunday, July 6th**  
service times at Hollandale and  
Blanchardville change.\*

8:30am—Blanchardville  
10:30 am — Hollandale

*\*For July, August, September*

### COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP



### Join us on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Pastor Chris holds a monthly "*Coffee with the Pastor*" on the 1st Thursday of every month, from 8:30am to 9:30 am in Blanchardville at "Bistro on Main".

This coffee hour is meant to be a time of informal fellowship — anyone who wants to stop by for coffee & conversation is welcome!



### Congregation Photo Directory

We'd like to get a current photo of you and/or your family.

Please send your photo with the names of all family members to the church office.

If you provide a hard copy, we will scan and return it.

If you had a photo in the 2019 directory and would like us to use that one, please contact the church office.

### Share Your Memories

Do you have fond memories or stories about the first 10 years of New Hope Lutheran?

Please write them down and email them or bring them to church. We'll compile and share as part of the celebration.

Please submit Pictures and Memories  
no later than  
Thursday, July 10th

# From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Chris Strohm

Happy July Everyone!

July always begins with a celebration. This year we get to end it with a celebration. Ten years as New Hope, can you believe it? We give thanks to all our predecessor congregations that have laid down roots in our two communities, that have grown and changed, worked and played, have provided a safe place for worship and community building and eventually came together as New Hope.

We all know that New Hope rose from the ashes of the Pecatonica Parish breakup. As with all breakups there is a time of grieving. A time of soul searching. A time of sifting through the pieces to find that which is salvageable. This is hard work. I give thanks to all those on the various councils, especially the presidents, as they did all the hard work to rise from the ashes. This was not an easy task and I understand the meetings were long and hard and at times not very friendly. You kept showing up, you persevered, and you came out on the other side establishing a whole new congregation called New Hope because that is what you envisioned and aimed for. New Hope not only for the Lutherans but for both communities of Hollandale and Blanchardville. Again, Thank you for all that hard work.

The 10th anniversary of our church is more than a celebration of its history; it is a celebration of its people, its mission, and the enduring faith that unites us all. As we gather to rejoice in this milestone, let us remember that our journey is just beginning. With God's grace and the collective efforts of our congregation, the next ten years hold infinite possibilities. Here's to a decade of blessings, and to many more to come.

God's Peace,

Pastor Chris

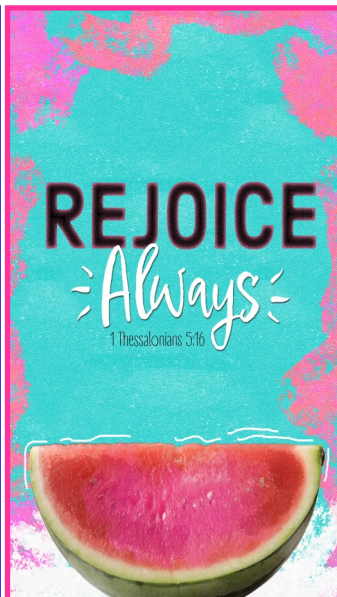


**The Pastor  
Will Be Away**

## **Pastor Chris will be Gone**

Sunday July 27th (pm)  
through Thursday, August  
6th to attend *Church  
Wide Assembly* in  
Phoenix and  
*Moses Project Classes*  
in Des Moines.

So there won't be *Office Hours* on  
Monday, July 28th or August 4th, or  
*Bible Study* on Tuesday, July 29th or  
August 5th.



## **Praise Worship Service**

**Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Blanchardville site  
9:45- 10:15am

*There will be a  
patriotic theme as we  
celebrate our  
nation's birthday.*

Save this date for the  
next praise worship service:  
**August 3**

# Sunday Worship 8:30 in Blanchardville and 10:30 in Hollandale

## July 2025

### Worship Assistants

#### July 6

**Greeters/Ushers:** (B) Duane & Beth Kundert (H) Flo Griffiths

**Communion:** (B) Beth Kundert (B) Flo Griffiths

**Readers:** (B) Sarah Saether (H) Kandi Lockard

#### July 13

**Greeters/Ushers:** (B) Duane & Beth Kundert (H) Gary & Andy Whitford Holey

**Communion:** (B) Beth Kundert (H) Gary & Andy Whitford Holey

**Readers:** (B) Becky Johnson (H) Gary & Andy Whitford Holey

#### July 20

**Greeters/Ushers:** (B) Duane & Beth Kundert (H) Bryan Lisser

**Communion:** (B) Beth Kundert (H) Bryan Lisser

**Readers:** (B) Ellen Syse (H) Lisa Toay

#### July 27 — 10th Anniversary Celebration

**10:00am, McKellar Park, Blanchardville**

**Greeters/Ushers:** Duane & Beth Kundert

#### Musicians:

Bev Lien  
Becky Johnson  
Cinda Hittesdorf  
Marlys Hittesdorf

#### Altar Committees:

(B) Becky Kesler  
(H) Jean Christen



Choir will be singing for the 10th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, July 27 and you are invited to join us!



Rehearsal will be  
**Wednesday, July 23, 7:00 pm** at the  
Blanchardville site.  
***Come sing!***



Pastor Chris invites you to  
**3rd Annual Fireworks  
Watching Party**  
at the parsonage in  
Hollandale

Saturday, July 12th from  
7 to 10pm.  
Bring your own chair,  
beverage, snacks, etc.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

### Save the Date

**"God's work. Our hands." is Sept. 7, 2025!**

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

### WHAT IS ACH GIVING?

It is a system for automatic withdrawal from your checking/savings account and deposited automatically into the church account. ACH (automated clearing house) forms are available in the church office and online. Monthly withdrawal options are available. Ask the office for more details!



Something  
*grrrrreat* is  
coming!



**Vacation Bible School**  
**Saturday, August 2nd**  
**Stay Tuned for Details**  
**Volunteers Needed**

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#### Mission Monday Summer Hours

During the Summer, *Mission Central* will remain open every Monday from 1pm-3pm as usual.

Also, the room is always open for anyone who wants to drop in and work on their own.

***Invite a friend, all are welcome!***



#### ***Remember .... Hunger doesn't take a Holiday .....***

The **Pecatonica Food Pantry** will be open on the July 4th Holiday weekend: **Saturday, 7/5 10-11am**

As well as these days and times in July:

**Wednesday, 7/9 5:30-7pm**

**Saturday, 7/19 10-11am**

*At the Blanchardville Church site*

Donations can be dropped off anytime at either church site. If questions, please contact Tiffany Bethke at 608-212-9028 or Jean Christen at 608-574-1175 or email [pecatonicaareafoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:pecatonicaareafoodpantry@gmail.com)

# PRAYER

## list...

If you know someone who'd like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the office at 608-523-4239

We remember our members & friends, the sick and the homebound, those recovering or grieving: especially Maggie Cernek (daughter of Sara & Matthew Cernek), Mary Gobrecht (mother of Kim Watrud), Jamie Belstra, Doris Haldiman, Marilyn Torkelson, Steve Eastman, Ruth Vamstad, Lynette Stansfield, Sue Anderson, Rick Fredrickson, Jim Herbert (Pastor Chris's Brother in-law), Roger Strohm (Pastor Chris's Dad), Stuart Vamstad, Josalyn Riha, Katie Herbert (niece of Pastor Chris), Lisa Hartz (daughter of Elaine & Marv Engelke), Bev Lien, Dave Hermanson, Karen Beecher, Vicki Hughes, Roger Kittleson, Donna Arneson, Lyle Klosterman, Mary Carr, Doris Hermanson, Carl and Patty Schneider, Richard & Peggy Gilbertson, and Carole Zweifel.



**Weekly Bible Study** with Pastor Chris every **Tuesday from 8-9 am** at the River Bend Café in Blanchardville. The Bible Study focuses on the upcoming readings for Sunday.

We'll take a look at the readings for the following Sunday and have discussion surrounding them. This is open to anyone who would like to dive a little deeper into the Bible. Bring your Bible. Bring your thoughts. Bring your questions. Readings for July are listed below.

### **Sunday, July 6, 2025**

(bible study Tuesday, July, 1)

First Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14

Psalm: Psalm 66:1-9

Second Reading: Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

### **Sunday, July 13, 2025**

(bible study Tuesday, July 8)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10

Second Reading: Colossians 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

### **Sunday, July 20, 2025**

(bible study Tuesday, July 15)

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalm: Psalm 15

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

### **Sunday, July 27, 2025 — 10th Anniversary Celebration**

(bible study Tuesday, July 22)

Gospel: Matthew 7:15-20, 24-27

## **Lutheran World Relief Donations** *The following items are needed*



**Personal Care Kits: Bar Soap and Bath Towels.**



**Baby Care Kits:** T-shirts, jackets/sweaters, caps/hats, and socks. Preferred sizes: 6 - 24 months. There is a special need for **receiving blankets, diapers, hand towels and bar soap.**



**Fabric Kits:** Neutral-colored spools of thread, general purpose 250-300 yards each. Pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits of 100% polyester). Each piece should match one of the following sizes: 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide fabric, 3 yards of 44" wide fabric, 4 yards of 36" wide fabric.

Donations may be dropped off at either church site.

***Thank you!***

# **The Trumpeter**

South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization  
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**The Trumpeter** is the quarterly newsletter for Women of the ELCA and is emailed to churches, leaders and individuals in the synod. The Trumpeter is available FREE of charge by email. Send your request to: [welcatrumpeter@gmail.com](mailto:welcatrumpeter@gmail.com). A link can also be found under the **News Section** on the New Hope Lutheran website: [newhopelutheran.info](http://newhopelutheran.info). The current copy includes information and registration for the these upcoming events:

- 2025 Biennial Convention and Gathering, Sunday, October 4, 2025, New Heights Church, Mazomanie
- 2026 Women of the ELCA Gathering "i am worthy", July 16-29, 2026, Des Moines

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT 6/9/25****Minutes taken by Micah Busser**

Attendees: Pastor Chris, Micah Busser

**VBS**

We have a group to lead VBS this year. Thank you to those lead volunteers!

**Confirmation**

Pastor Chris is working to revise Confirmation this year. Tentative plan is to start mid-September with Confirmation - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays would be classroom time; 2nd Wednesdays may be an opportunity to work on service projects (i.e. mission projects), travel to other places of worship, etc.; 4th Wednesdays Pastor may consider a small worship service. More information to come!

**Gathering Expedition**

We would like to put together a list of students interested in attending the Gathering Expedition at Lutherdale October 31st - November 2nd. More information to come!

**Fundraising Opportunities**

- Considering local brat sale outside Kunderts.
- Reaching out to BCPI to see if there are any available Thursday nights to sell bbq meals at Music in the Park.
- Micah is reaching out to a Wisconsin based company to learn more about fundraising campaigns they offer.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEE REPORT 6/9/25 (Blanchardville Site)****Minutes taken by: Chuck Meyer**

Present: Pastor Chris, Neal Klassy, Dan Hittesdorf, Chuck Meyer

- Blanchardville cleanup scheduled for Saturday, 8/23
- Pastor scheduled someone to clean splits at parsonage on 7/2
- Discussed future replacement of rear fan in Hollandale.
- Jay Massey painted doors at Hollandale
- Talked about replacing front entry at parsonage (this is needed)
- Discussed church property lines.
- Discussed ongoing capital projects

**NEW HOPE LUTHERAN FINANCIAL REPORT May 2025****Submitted by: Becky Johnson**

God's glorious abundance allows us to continue providing helpful ministries like Sunday worship, Bible Study and Mission Monday. Our recent resources for continuing these ministries include:

- May's income of \$19,017.90 and expenses of \$22,185.52 – a need of \$3,167.62
- YTD Income of \$85,322.19 expenses of \$93,327.03 – a need of \$8,004.84

**10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REPORT 6/5/25****Submitted by: Dawn Doran**

Attendees: Marlys Hittesdorf, Judy Watrud, Dawn Doran

- Paper products for the meal were donated by Woodford Bank
- Formal invitations for Bishop and Reverend Elfers and presidents of Hollandale and Blanchardville who serviced at the time of the creation of New Hope Lutheran are being sent
- Invitation that will go into the July visitor, on our church social media and website along in the Pecatonica Valley Leader, 2 weeks has been created
- Pictures have been taken at both sites, and the office has received some as well. The deadline for photos to come into the office will be Thursday July 10th.
  - \* A reminder via email will be sent to provide pictures to the office
  - \* Phone calls will be made to those members without email addresses
- Committee is working on gathering group, mission and youth photos
- Day of celebration
  - \* Sound system, musicians and service has been planned
- The meal has been ordered

- Becky Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were Dan Hittesdorf, Jay Massey, Neal Klassy, Marcie Domini, Judy Watrud, Lisa Toay, Michele Kittleson, Pastor Chris and Chuck Meyer.
- Pastor Chris led devotions based on Jesus calming the sea. In these turbulent times, He is still a calming presence in our lives.
- Dan moved to approve the minutes of the May 19 Council Meeting. Jay seconded the motion and it carried.
- Becky presented the treasurer's report through May 31.
- Committee reports were reviewed. The trustees received a letter from a member regarding painting the lectern at the Hollandale site. This is referred back to the trustees to make a decision.
- Pastor gave his report. He will be officiating at a wedding at the Blanchardville site on September 13 with a rehearsal on Friday, the 12th. Hollandale Homecoming is scheduled for September 6 and the Women's group will be serving a dinner as in previous years. He will be a Synod representative to the Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix the last week in July. The Assembly will be electing a new bishop and secretary of the ELCA. He will also be attending a Continuing Education course, The Moses Project, in Des Moines, Iowa, the first week of August. He is planning to visit all of the nursing homes where we have residents residing this week.
- Thank you notes were received from the recipients of the Helping Hands scholarship fund.
- There were no transfers or new members to approve.

**No New Business**

**Old Business:**

- Chuck Meyer reported on the progress of the Capital Project. The awning on the parking lot side has been replaced and will need to be shingled. The soffit on the south peak is completed and the east side is being worked on. Dave Gerber and Neal Klassy have been helping with the project. In inspecting the brick work, the tuck pointing needs replacing and the bats need to be eliminated. Thus far, the projects (boiler and fellowship floor) have totaled \$71,000 of the \$150,000 approved by the congregation.
- Judy reported on the Anniversary Celebration. Dawn Doran and Marlys Hittesdorf are organizing. The food will be obtained locally. Woodford State Bank is paying for all of the paper products. Marlys and Judy will be meeting with Michele to organize the picture directory. Marie Leafblad, Associate to the Bishop, will attend from the Synod office.
- Dan moved to move the next meeting to the last Monday in August. Marcie seconded and the motion carried.



**Your love is on the way! LWR mobilizes response to neighbors in Midwest and South**

Catastrophic weather has devastated our neighbors in the South and Midwest for weeks. Tornadoes and flash flooding have caused dozens of weather-related deaths and billions in damages. Many of those in the region are still reeling from the deadly tornadoes, wildfires that left staggering damage in March.

**Because of faithful supporters like you, Lutheran World Relief is already mobilizing a multi-state emergency response.** We are working with local partners to provide emergency assistance to more than **10,000 vulnerable people through direct financial support and distribution of essential supplies, including LWR Quilts & Kits.**

Thank you for everything you do in service of others.



# JULY

*birthdays & anniversaries*

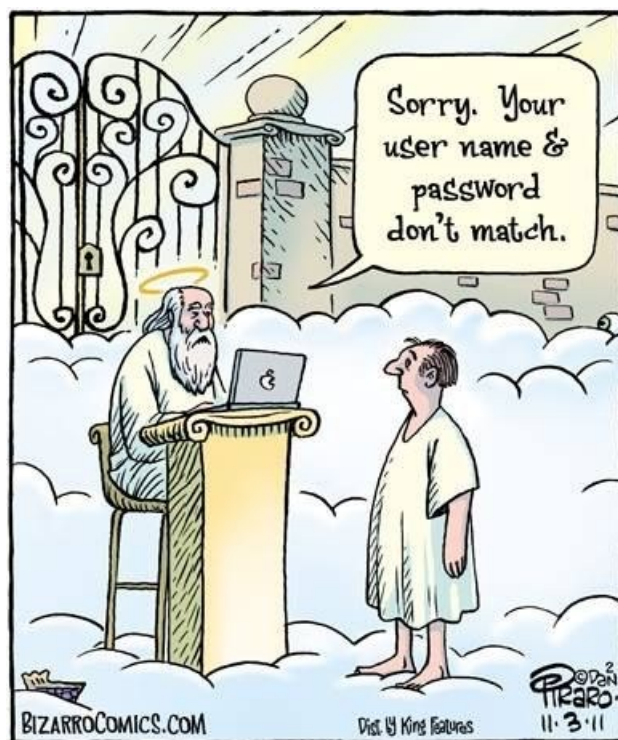
Richard	Hendrickson	July 1
Tina	Steiner	July 3
Amy	Thronson	July 3
Ginny	McNeill	July 6
Brad	Burkeland	July 7
Scott	Kleppe	July 9
Stephanie	Zimmerman	July 10
Linda	Dieckhoff	July 10
Roland	Trumble	July 12
Kyra	Chrostowski	July 13
Steve	Zimmerman	July 14
Lakyn	Busser	July 15
Kathryn	Kammerude	July 16
Kaye	Gilbertson	July 17
Teri	Green	July 18
Ruth	Vamstad	July 19
Anthony	Bedward-Pearson	July 20
Margie	Barnes	July 23
Barbara	Lien	July 25
Marcie	Domine	July 26
Michael	Berg	July 27
John	Thronson	July 27
Frederick	Barnes	July 13
Baylee	Peters	July 15
Henry	Terrill	July 22
Abram	Hughes	July 23

Ronald & Ellen	Syse	07/26/1975
Ronald & Cherie	Kurschner	07/19/1981



Please submit  
information for the  
**August  
Visitor**  
to the church office by  
**Monday July, 14<sup>th</sup>.**

## Heavenly Humor



*The birthday and anniversary list is run  
from a report showing active members.*

*If we've missed a birthday, or  
anniversary, please contact the  
office at [newhopeoffice@tds.net](mailto:newhopeoffice@tds.net) or  
608-523-4239*