

June 2026 Newsletter



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Special points of interest:

- Pastors Ponderings by Pastor Carl Billings
- Fair Stand
- Community VBS July 27-30, 2026
- LCMC Annual Meeting
- Sundaes on Mondays
- Fair Stand Time!!
- Blood Mobile at HC

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Pastors Ponderings By Pastor Carl

Paul's confidence in the Church in Philippi reflects my confidence in the believers here at Holy Cross. God will complete the work he has started at Holy Cross.

So far, we have accomplished a great deal as we have traveled through this interim period. We have honestly assessed ourselves as a congregation through the cottage meetings and have started to come to terms with our past. We have started to discover our new identity as a congregation. New leaders are starting to step forward in the congregation. In other words, we have taken significant steps in the first three developmental tasks of an interim period. Those first three tasks are: coming to terms with history, developing a new identity, and leadership changes. I have written about all three of these tasks in previous newsletters.

Part of that New Identity is that Holy Cross is no longer a congregation of the ELCA but of the LCMC. Learning to connect with the LCMC is the next developmental task — Renewing Denominational Linkages.



Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ (LCMC) has a very different structure from the ELCA or the Missouri Synod. We strongly believe that ministry happens in the local setting, not in a Synodical or National office. Consequently, our national staff is minimal. It consists of seven people, not seven bishops, or seven departments, no seven people.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3-6

This flat structure gives each congregation both a great deal of freedom and a burden of responsibility. The way we say this in LCMC is "We are free in Christ and Accountable to one another." So,, how does a congregation connect to the greater LCMC?

Here are three quick suggestions:

- Financial support LCMC, A specific mission of our choice and the Augustana District
- Pray for the congregations in the LCMC. We have prayer lists on the usher table.
- Attend the Annual Gathering

Finally, my presence as your Intentional Interim is a connection point to LCMC. I was not assigned by a Synodical bishop, nor appointed by a District president. Rather, I think the Holy Spirit guided April Goodwin and me to connect. Like the Apostle Paul to the Philippian Church, it is an honor to share in the Gospel with you.

Next month, we will be discussing the fifth developmental task: commitment to new directions in ministry.

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong, God's Got This

Pastor Carl

WOW (Women of the Word)

WOW update

We can finally cross off on our agenda the refrigerator.

The new one will be installed on Friday and the old one moved to the fair stand.

WOW Reminder

there will be a WOW meeting for all women of the church on Thursday, March 28, 1:00 pm.

God's blessing on a safe Memorial weekend..

CEIBA VIDA's SCHOOL GUATEMALA By Joan Bartz



Liberty Christian Academy is CEIBA VIDA's primary outreach project in Guatemala.

We are an all-girls school based in Pamoca – a village on San Raimundo, Guatemala.

We provide the most vulnerable girls in our area with quality Christian education, nutrition, counseling and family support through a variety of hand-up programs.

Our vision is to create a community of strong, independent, service-minded Christian women who are equipped with the education & skills

needed to emerge out of abuse and poverty.

Our mission is to provide young girls an excellent and challenging educational experience—to help them know, love, and practice what is true and good, while preparing them to live purposefully and intelligently in service to God and their community.

Liberty Academy is a refuge for healing. We provide students with counseling,, a safe place to grow & thrive and a community of people who love them.

This is our growth plan – to add a new grade each year to grow with our students and welcome a new class of pre-kindergarteners. This allows us to grow at a pace that is consistent and sustainable. The most important thing we want to maintain is quality – **quality of education and ministry.**

WHY A GIRLS SCHOOL?

In Guatemala, the average years of schooling per student is 4.1 years – only 3 years for Myan indigenous women. 25.5% of the population is illiterate, with illiteracy rates up to more than 60% in the indigenous population.

Education is a huge need for both girls and boys.

We started with a girls school because there are more obstacles to overcome for girls on the journey to emerging out of abuse and poverty.

For example...

Guatemalan boys have a higher chance of receiving an education. If a family can't afford to send all their children to school, the boys' education is prioritized.

1 in 3 Guatemalan girls are married before the age of 18. The union is arranged by their family. Primary reasons are tradition and poverty. It means one less mouth to feed. Oftentimes an older man will marry a young girl and leave when he tires of her. Typically she is left with several children, no way to provide and is barely 18.

Young girls face the potential of being sold into sex trafficking. Poverty runs deep. Many desperate families unknowingly sell their daughters into the hands of sex traffickers under the guise that they will work in the United States as maids.



Council Meeting 5/11/2026

Council Meeting Minutes 5/11/26

Pastor Carl Billings
Chair April Goodwin

Present at the meeting: April Goodwin, Joan Bartz, Wes Booth, Barb Eliason, Angela Logghe, Anna Mewis,
Via Zoom: Pastor Carl Billings & Melanie Hill.

The Mission of Holy Cross is:

"Called by the Holy Spirit to come, to grow, to live as disciples of Jesus Christ."

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President April Goodwin

Adoption of Agenda with additions, Anna made motion, Angela 2nd, all in favor.

Approval of Secretary's Report -April, Joan made motion, Wes 2nd, all in favor.

Approval of Pastor's Report, Wes made motion, Barb 2nd, all in favor.

Old Business:

- Electronics-continuing to work on exploring updating our AV equipment. Will be looking for potential donors.

New Business:

- Transition update-looking for potential Sunday School options.
- Insurance - will sign on with Ohio Mutual insurance at price quoted,
 - o Barb motioned, Wes 2nd, all in favor.
- Wanda days off for summer; June 19 - 22; July 10-19; August 6-11.
- LCMC Annual Gathering October 4-7, 2026. in Des Moines IA.

Committee Reports:

⇒ **Faith and FUN Team:** Report reviewed from meeting held 5/4

- Church to donate \$100 toward the GCE field day events:
Joan motioned, Anna 2nd, all in favor
Members will also pass out waters and Ices during the event.
- High School Youth will need volunteer(s) to replace Melanie as of 6/1.
- Jill will be done coordinating confirmation at the end of the school year.
 - o Looking at options and expectations going forward.
- Sundaes on Mondays will happen, working on details.
- New Member Sunday-welcomed 4 new families/individuals.
- Son Fun-we need someone willing to get this planned.
- Next Faith and FUN meeting June 1 @ 6:30

⇒ **Property and Management**

- Estimate for cleaning out sink, sealing toilet, fix toilet, \$580.
 - o Barb made motion, Joan 2nd, with all in favor to get this completed.
- Next Property & Management meeting May 31st @ 10:15 am

⇒ **Resources**

- Accept financial report for April: Wes made motion, Angela 2nd, all in favor.
- Exploring increasing the mission support Liberty Girls School in Guatemala.
- Next Resources meeting June 8, 6:00 @ Joan's office.

Council Business

- Serving coffee hour on June 7 -Melanie will serve, others will contribute.
- Next Meeting: June 8
- 8:07 pm Wes made motion to adjourn the meeting, Joan 2nd, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Barb

These minutes have not yet been approved by the council so not yet official minutes.

lcmc 26th Annual Gathering & Convention

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

OCTOBER 4-7, 2026 | LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOPE (WEST DES MOINES, IA)
Advance registration is required. The deadline to register is September 10.

Freedom in Christ is LCMC's first core value and an essential part of our DNA, but what does being free in Christ actually mean? What are we free from, who or what are we free for, and what exactly are we free to do? Join us for our 26th Annual Gathering & Convention to find out!



Please visit www.lcmc.net for more information.

Please read Pastors article on page 1.

If you would like to attend or have questions about this please reach out to Pastor Carl or Council President April Goodwin.

Sundaes On Mondays

Free Ice Cream Sundaes

YES... WE WILL BE DOING SUNDAES ON MONDAYS AGAIN THIS YEAR. LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE HELPERS.
WATCH FOR STARTING DATE!!

Join us for the fun and flavor!



**Holy Cross
Lutheran Church**

615 Maple Street
Glenwood City, WI

*You are Chosen
and Loved*
Ephesians 1:4

50 YEARS

*Joe & Vickie
Grant*

Join us for an Anniversary Party!
Saturday, June 20, 2026
11:00 am — 4:00 pm
@ the Baldwin American Legion
410 Maple Street, Baldwin, WI
Foo provided, cash bar available
NO GIFTS PLEASE

Community VBS July 27-30th

This year's Vacation Bible School will be July 27-30, 6 pm to 8 pm. Our theme is True North! Sharing and showcasing Jesus as their unwavering guide to life. This VBS is ecumenical and community based. We are thrilled to welcome Immanuel Lutheran Church in addition to long- time friend St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. To run this program smoothly, many hands are needed. Roles such as registration table, kitchen support, decorating, and photographer are currently available. Please contact Wanda in the office if you feel led to support.



Blood Mobile at Holy Cross

Holy Cross hosted the American Red Cross Bloodmobile on Monday, May 18th. The goal was 22 and 23 total products were collected. Thanks, donors!



Pictured is Missy Klatt who has donated over EIGHT GALLONS of blood! Volunteers who helped host were Mike Cassellius, Ned Hahn, Bonnie Buttles, Cindy Munkwitz, Judy Bender, Rhonda Mastbergen, Jill and Lexi Logghe. Mark your calendar for Monday, August 8th, when the Bloodmobile will be back at Holy Cross.

Quilting By Mary Ann Ross

The April work day was a good day. We had a nice group of ladies and a super potluck. Thank you all for the cards and birthday wishes. We got several more quilts finished and a tote with more ready to sew.

Thank you for all the recent donations. Barb Jeske (Randy's wife), Sue Strehlo, Debbie Sagner, and Joan Ross all donated lots. We received fabric, blankets, sheets, so we keep well supplied with everyones generosity. It's so nice to be remembered by many. We even have people from the community who hear about our project and donate too.

It's hard to believe that Memorial Day is upon us. It's a week early so it's early. Hope everyone has a fun and safe day.

Remember we always have room for more and would love to have you join us.



Resources Financial Update By Joan Bartz

To God be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done! It is so great to see the church bustling recently with Palm Sunday, Easter, Confirmation and Senior Sunday. The buzz of excited voices, the laughter and noise of children, the hymns sounding more robust and yes, even the offering plates overflowing more than usual. While the later happens as a natural result, we rejoice and enjoy it all. As we enter the summer season when things tend to slow down a bit, we feel good that we are only \$315 off our budgeted income and we are \$581 under our budgeted expenses. As always, thanks for all of you and all that you do for the mission and ministry at Holy Cross! Your time, talents and treasure come together in such a beautiful way and we appreciate you all!



GIVING with VANCO



HOLY CROSS FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of March 31st, 2026

	Monthly	2026 YTD Actual	2025 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget
Regular Giving	\$ 13,243	\$ 29,618	\$ 29,948	\$ 28,749
Simply Giving	\$ 2,135	\$ 5,817	\$ 6,241	\$ 5,001
Misc Giving/Income	\$ 2,032	\$ 3,013	\$ 3,971	\$ 5,013
Total Income	\$ 17,409	\$ 38,448	\$ 40,160	\$ 38,763
Total Expenses	\$ 16,193	\$ 37,864	\$ 25,924	\$ 38,445
Net Income	\$ 1,217	\$ 584	\$ 14,237	
General Offering Checking Balance			\$ 52,326.99	
Restricted Funds			\$ 10,296.69	
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS			\$ 62,623.68	

Confirmation Corner By Jill Logghe



Wednesday, May 13, marked the end of Confirmation class and Wednesday evening worship. Confirmands celebrated with a “holy hike”, outdoor games and a campfire with brats, burgers and smores!



Pastor Carl " dunking" it! With Reeyce Jeske

Volunteers are needed for Son Fun!!

What is “Son Fun”?

A community service project held in June/July where our Confirmands have offered their services to assist in park cleanup (Hinman and Emerald) or neighbors in need. The afternoon is spent having fun in the sun!

Enjoy the blessings of summer...time spent with family and friends!



June Birthdays

6/2	Ciara Leehe	6/15	Tom Stack
6/3	Sharon Forrest	6/16	Carol Larson
	Alex Brigham		Sandy Kaiser
6/4	Cleo Olson		Angela Logghe
6/7	Charlette Kletscher	6/19	Steven Luepke
6/8	Jennifer Lagerstrom	6/23	James McCarthy
6/9	Jennifer Higgins	6/25	Sally Standaert
6/11	Scott Strehlo		Erik Anderson
6/12	Jean Koser	6/26	Lane Unruh
6/13	Roger Brathal	6/27	Todd Hagen
	Amanda DeSmith	6/28	Alfie Schrank
	Amy Groves	6/30	Cheryl Brathal



June

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood 6:30pm Faith & Life/FUN	2	3	4	5	6
7 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	* 8 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood 6:00pm Resources Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	9 6:00pm Threads of God's Love	10	11 10:30am Glenhaven Worship	12	13
14 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	15 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood	16	17 9-4 -Building Rental Fellowship Hall —WestCap 10:30am — WOW Bingo at Glenhaven	18 11-12 Mobile food pantry truck in back parking lot Newsletter Article Deadline	19	20
21 Father's Day 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	* 22 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood	23	24	25 8:00am Quilting 1:00pm WOW	26	27
28 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	29	30				

* Holy Communion

Assisting with Worship

Month	Altar Guild	Ushers	3rd Sunday Fellowship	Sundays
June	Luanne Flick	Luanne Flick	Luanne Flick	4 Sundays
July	Jeanne Jeske	Dan & April Goodwin	at the Fair Stand	4 Sundays

Please check kiosk in the narthex for months still needing your help.

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Please visit www.lcmc.net for
the monthly LCMC Newsletter

Please visit
www.augustanadistrict.org for
the monthly newsletter from
the Augustana District



June 2026 NEWSLETTER

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Only 50 days until the fair!

The fair this year is Wednesday July 15 thru Sunday July 19.

Our fair stand will kick off on Wednesday with walking tacos and wrap up Sunday. We are adding Sunday morning breakfast to this year. We're looking forward to another wonderful year of fellowship, fun, and fundraising for our church.

The fair is always a special time — a chance to reconnect with people you haven't seen in awhile, work alongside familiar faces you've served with for years, and get to know others in new ways.

We would love to have you participate in this important ministry in whatever way God calls you to help. We can always use lots of help Friday nights and Saturday all day. You might:

- Work a shift or two at the stand
- Bake pies or bars
- Donate toward supplies and expenses

Please know the fair stand committee truly appreciates every gift of time, talent, and financial support. This fundraiser would not be possible without YOU.



Save the dates — we'll be reaching out soon!

Thank you,

The fair stand committee

April Goodwin

Amber Hoffman

Angie Logghe

Anna and Peder Mewis

